

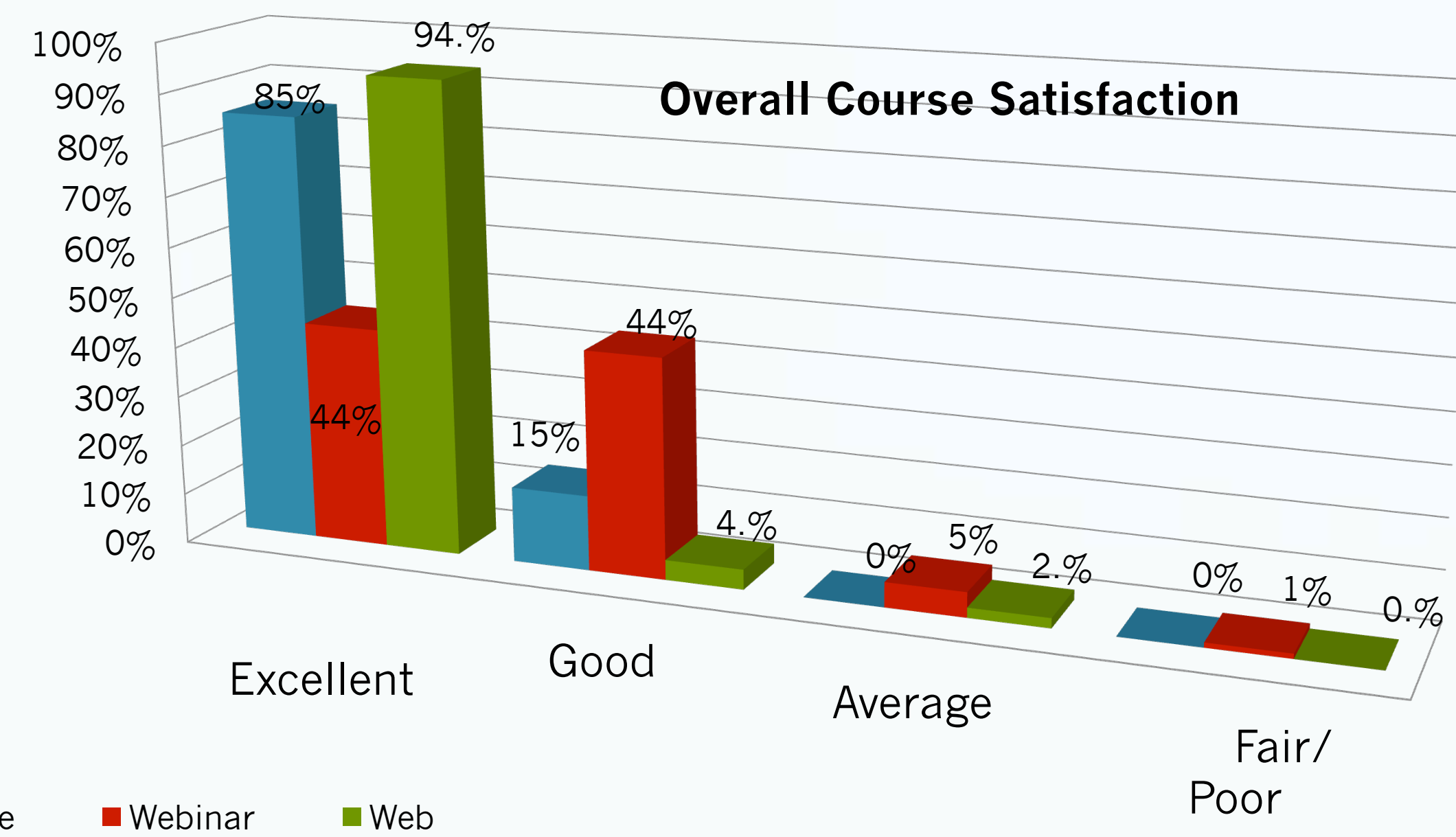
How Do Rural Healthcare Providers Learn?

An FCM Outcome Comparison of Three Learning Modalities: Live, Webinar, and Enduring Internet By Jeanette Dunn, RN, EdD, CNS

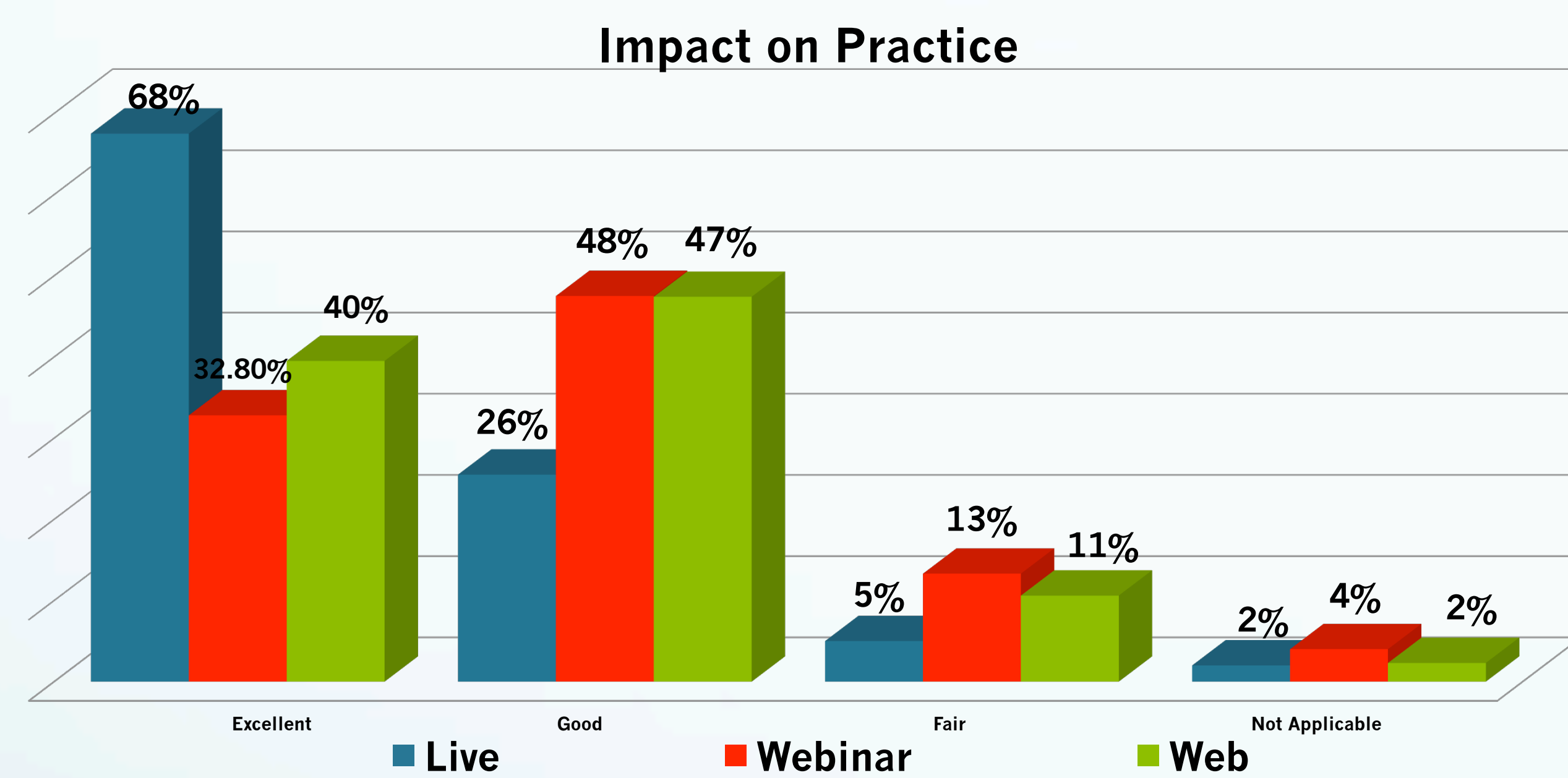
Grant support by
Pfizer, Inc.

Course: Stroke Prevention and Intervention in Patients at High Risk Due to A-fib

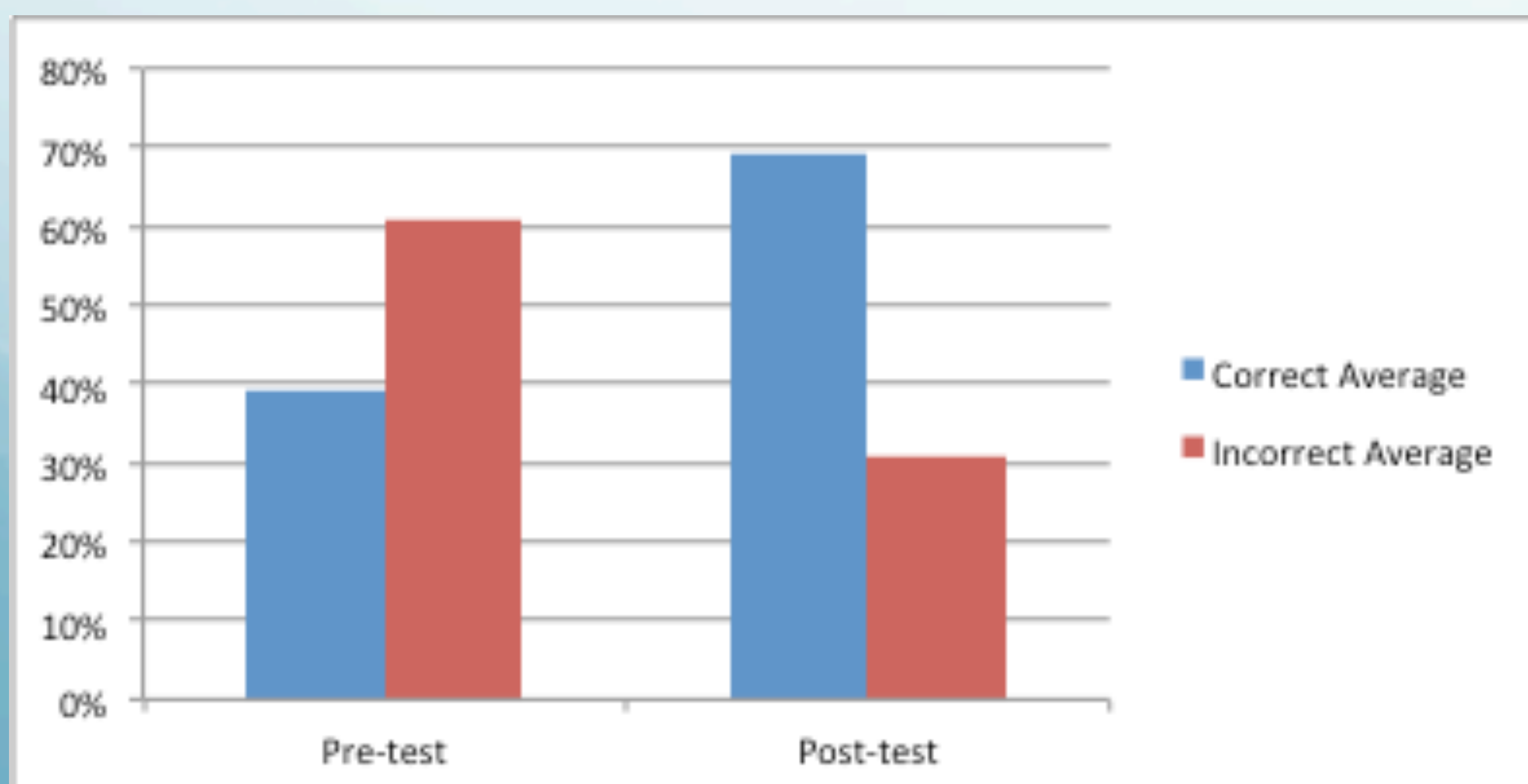
Participants: Physicians, NPs, PAs, RNs, and Pharmacists in rural Alaska, Washington and Oregon who participated in a certified educational opportunity presented in three different modalities including five live activities, five webinars, and an enduring on-line activity. Participant breakdown: 995 internet, 185 live, 162 web. Data derived from the pre and post tests, course evaluations, and outcome surveys were collated as to learning modality and analyzed to determine which modality produced the best outcomes in terms of learning, competence to perform, and commitment to change their practice.



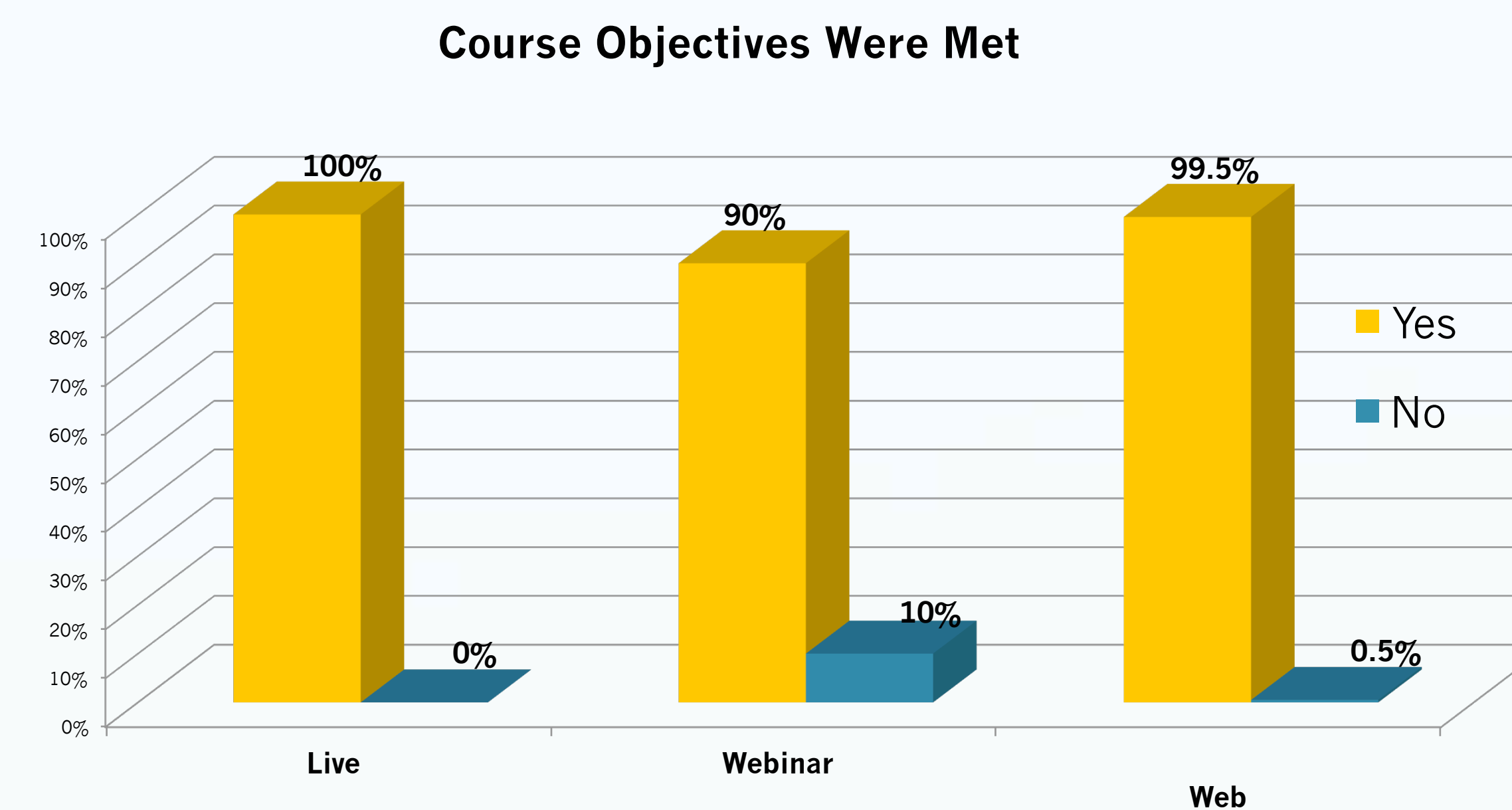
92% of practitioners in all 3 modalities rated the course as Excellent/Good



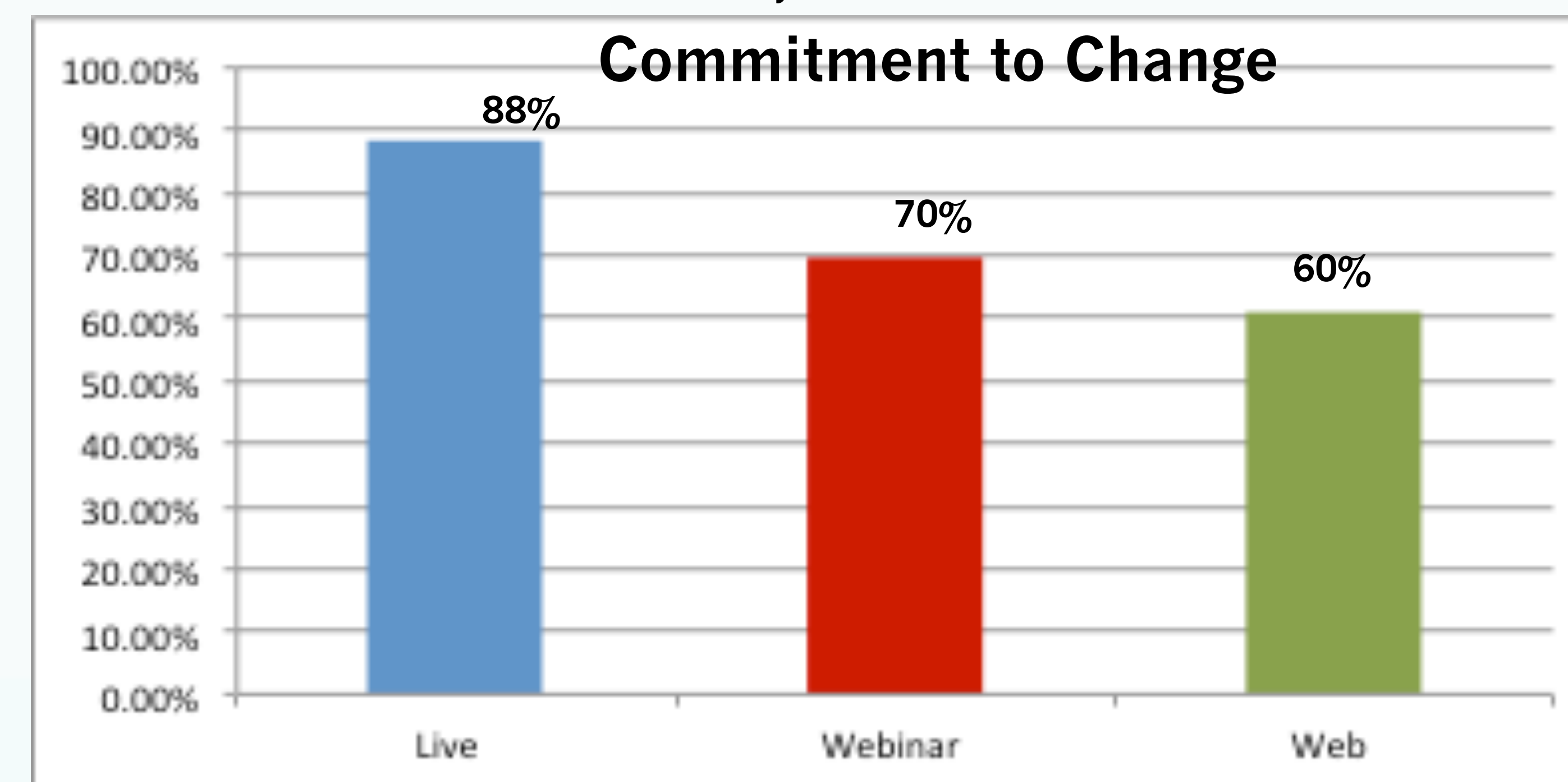
The majority reported a positive impact on their practice



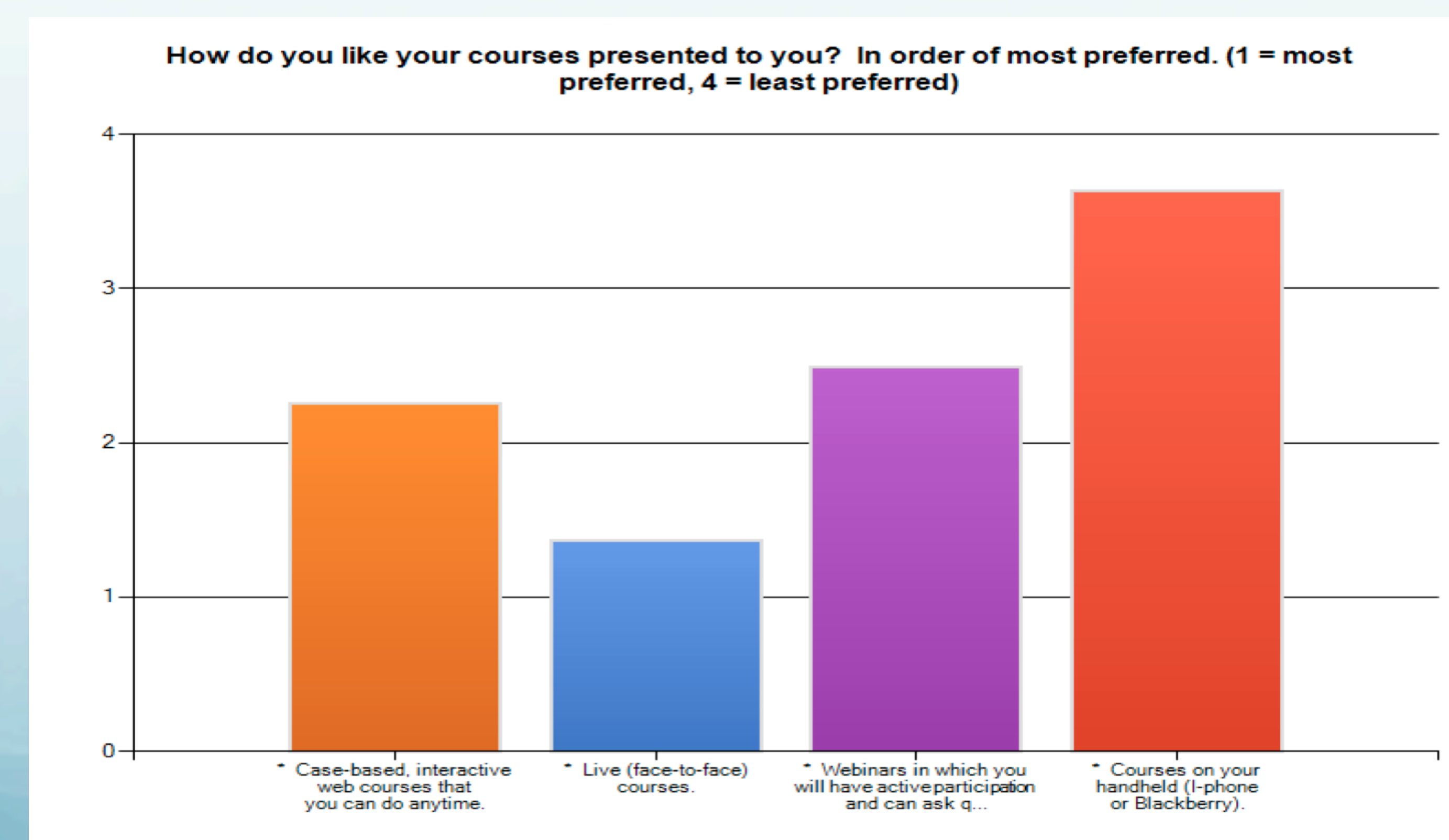
There was a 93% improvement in post-test scores



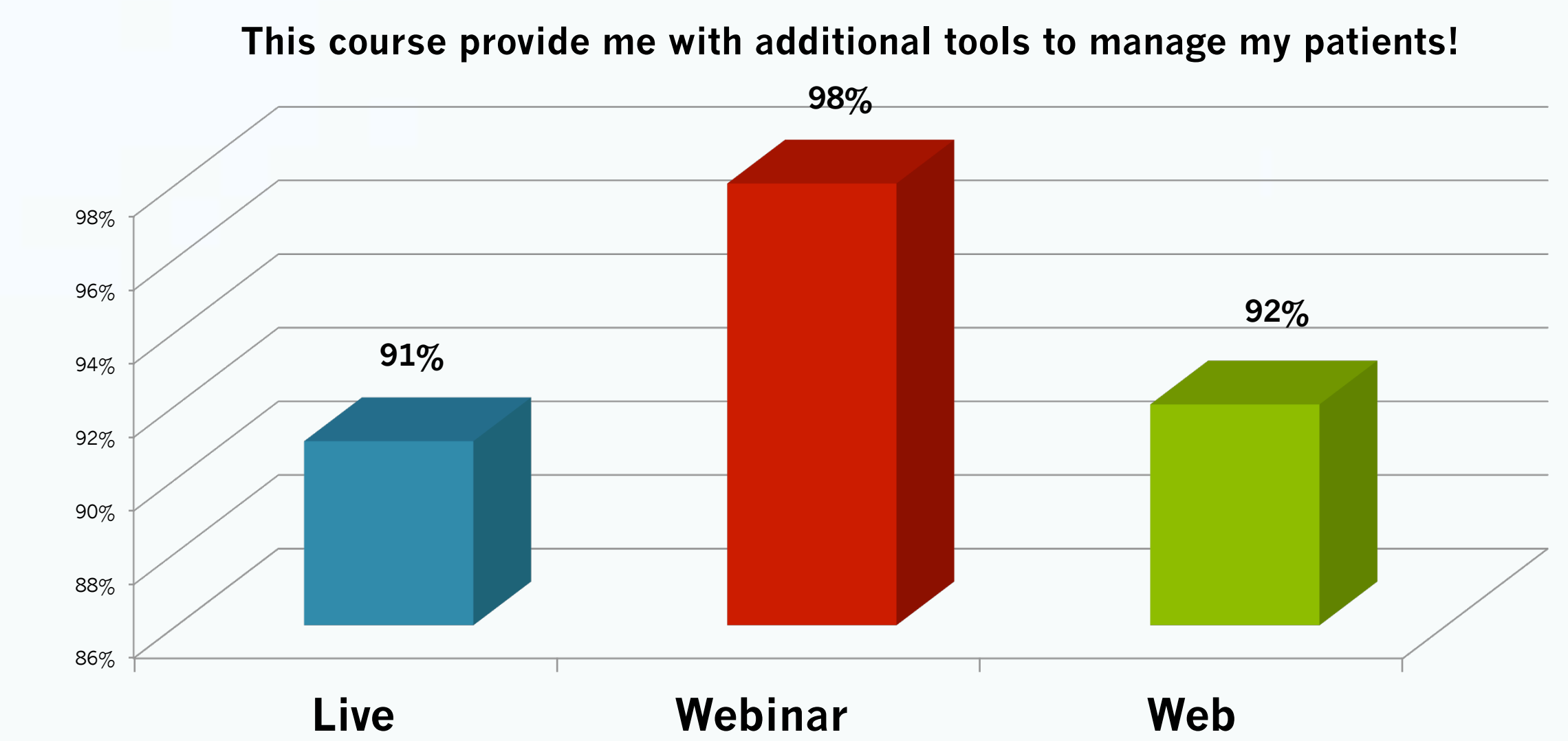
96% of participants agreed course objectives were met



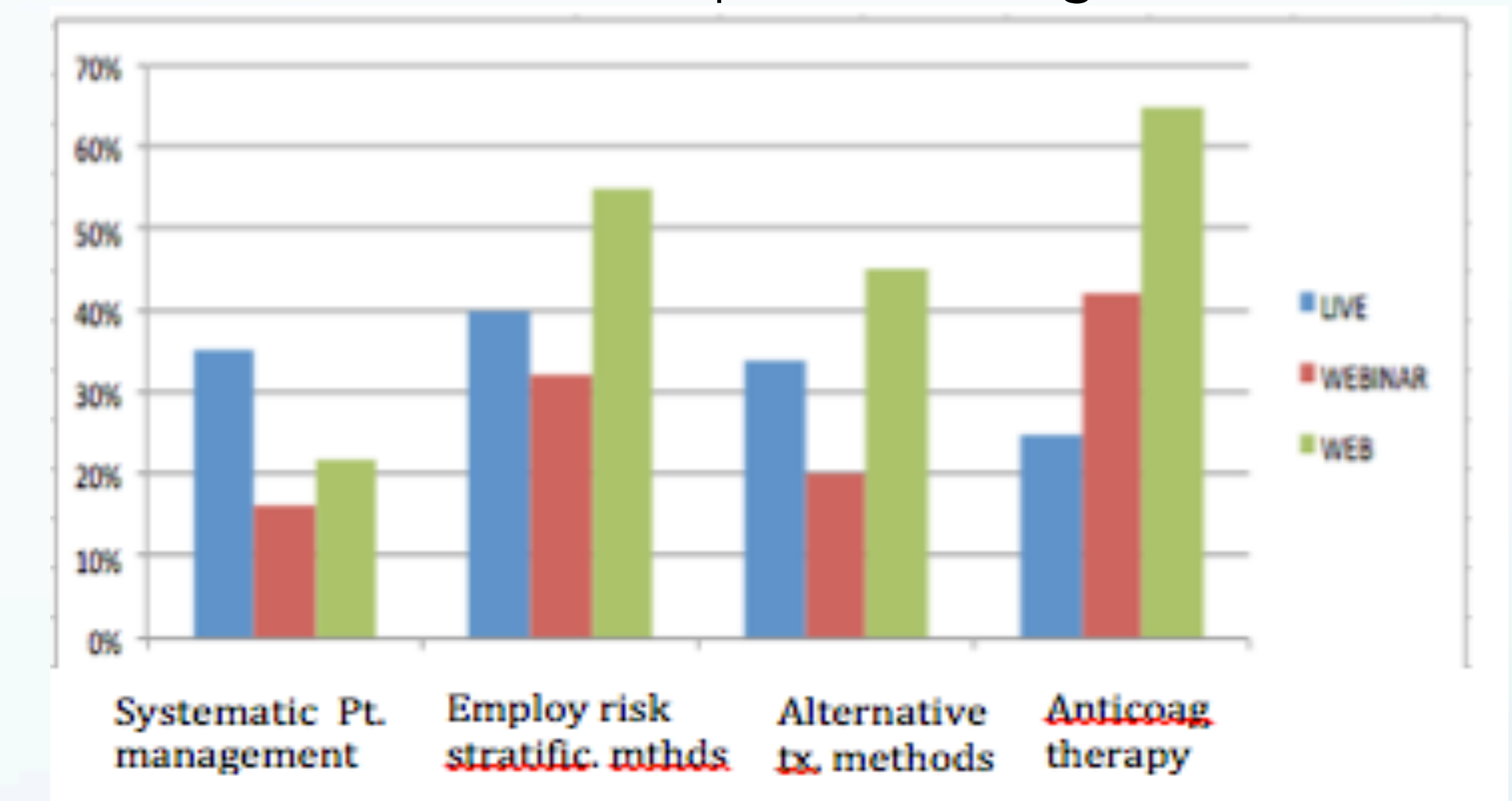
Although the greatest commitment to change came in the live programs, 72.6% of all participants committed.



1= most preferred, 4=least preferred



94% acknowledged the programs provided them with tools for better patient management



Those willing to commit to change indicated specific areas in which they would apply changes

Summary and Conclusions:

The FCM Community of Practice (rural PCPs and pharmacists in AK, OR, and WA) were surveyed to determine their preferred course modality. The majority chose live courses, followed by enduring web. The outcomes were revealing in that the strongest came from the live courses and the weakest from the webcasts. Experience with this media found that many rural areas have poor internet bandwidth that did not allow for interaction. The live activities with interaction with the experts seem to lead to better impact on practice and commitment to change.



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