



NU Division of Student Affairs Health Service

Healthcare Critical Interaction Nursing-Allergy Shot Patients



DIVISION LEARNING OUTCOMES: Cognitive and Practical Skills

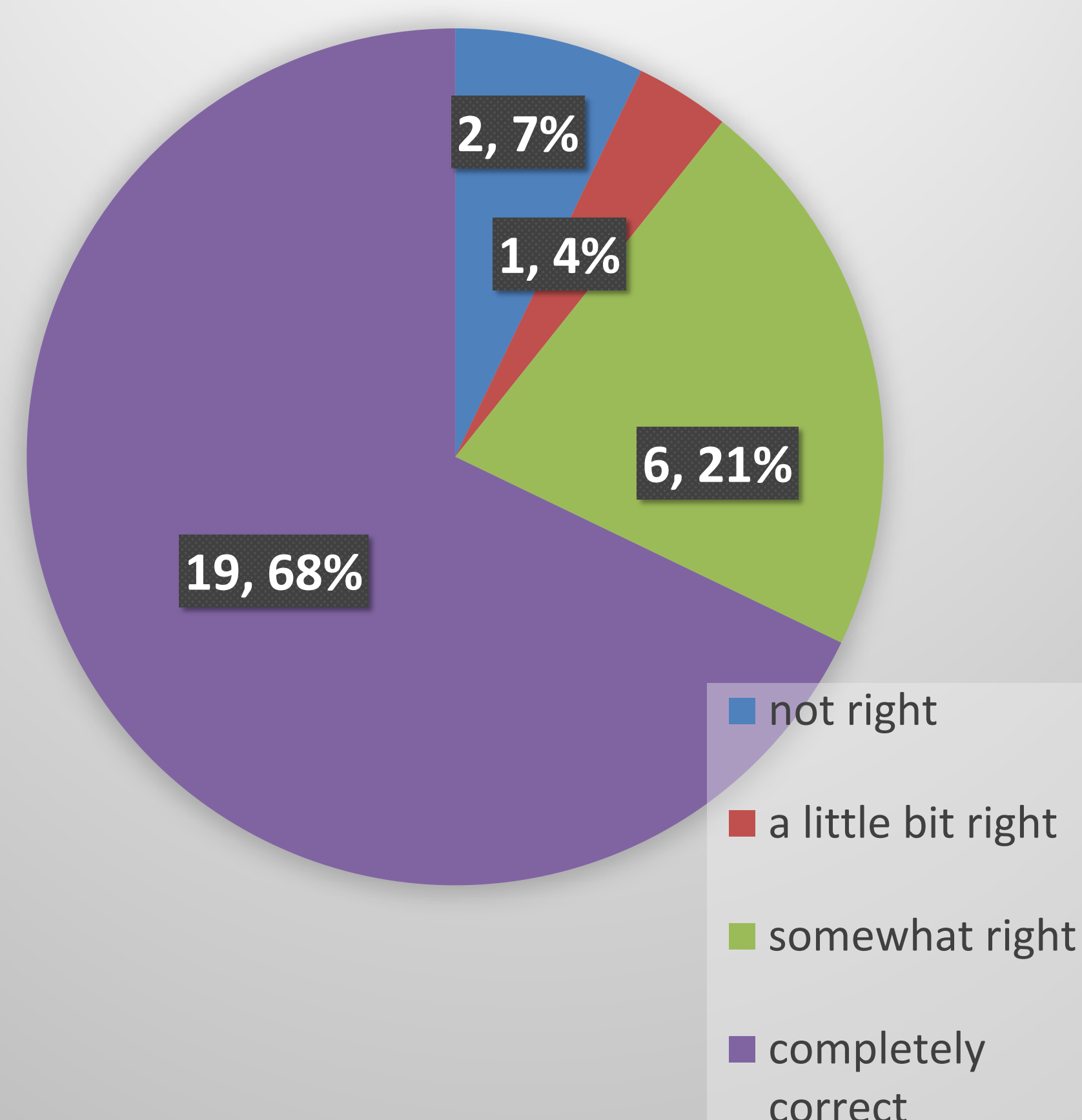
DEPARTMENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Enhance student healthcare learning

- Allergy shots identified as high-risk patient encounters.
- Adverse reactions to allergy shots can be life-threatening.
- Patient engagement in process is key to risk minimization and efficacy of therapy

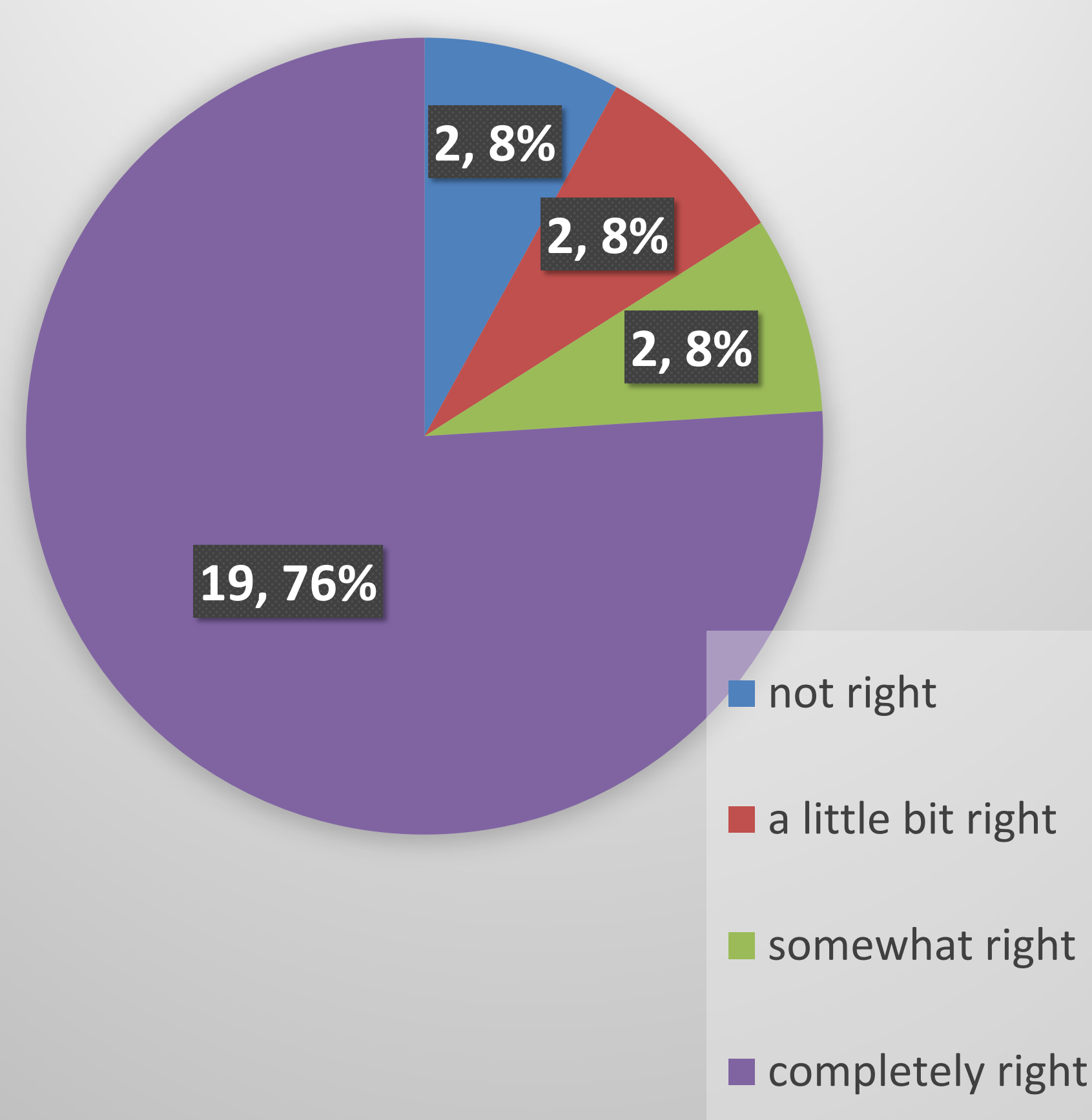
Students who receive allergy shots at NUHS will be able to:

1. Describe the risks of non-compliance with allergist's injection schedule.
2. List at least one symptom of a severe or significant allergy shot reaction,
3. List at least one symptom of a normal or expected allergy shot reaction,
4. Explain why a 30-minute wait after the shot is required,
5. Describe what to do if a reaction develops after leaving the Health Service.

Describe what to do in the event of a serious reaction after an allergy shot (n=28)



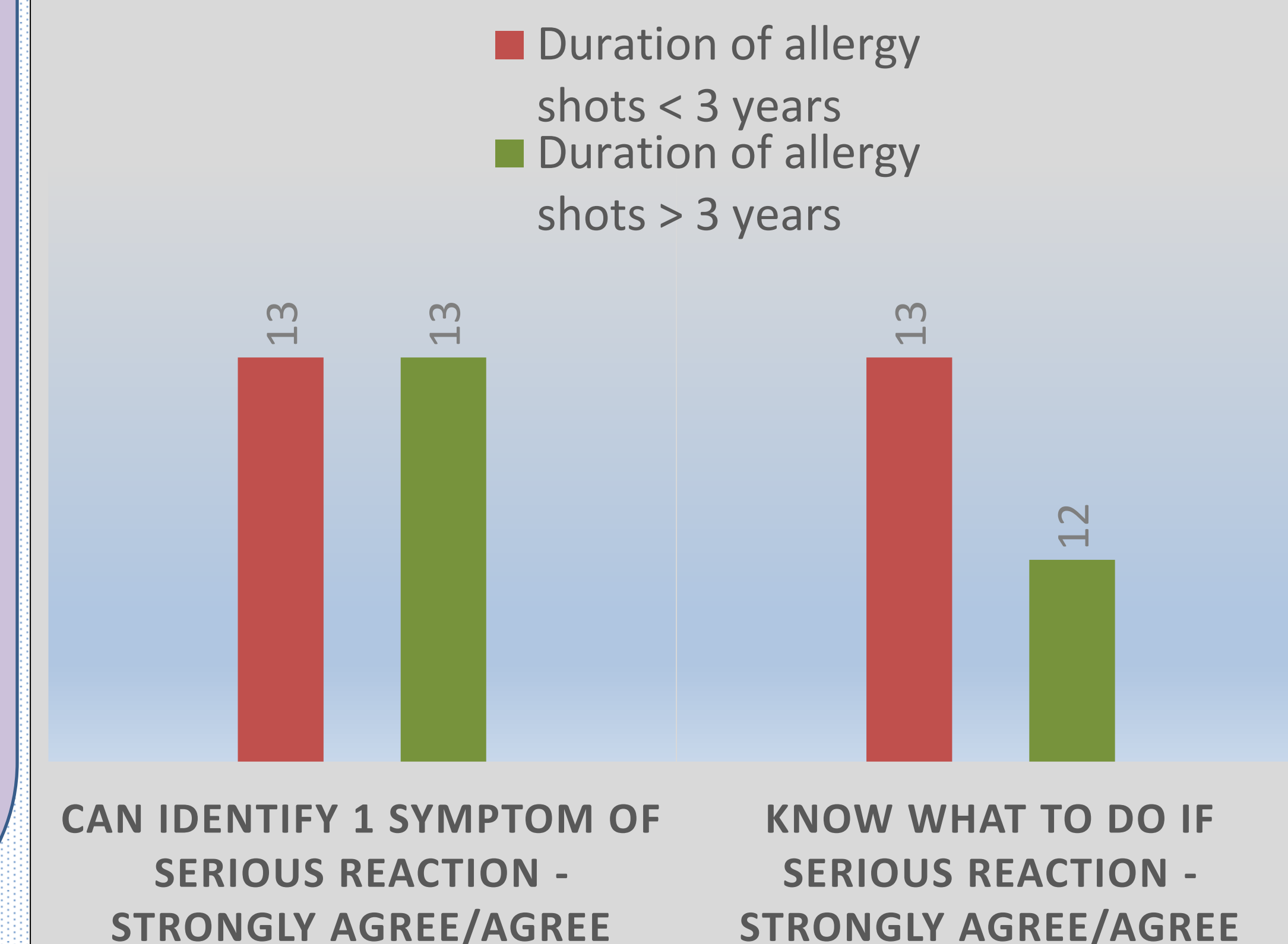
Identify one symptom of a serious reaction after getting an allergy shot (n=28)



METHOD: Teaching Strategy

- One-page teaching tool/handout with key aspects of allergy shot therapy reviewed by nurse with patient at a scheduled allergy shot nurse visit.
- Teaching was documented in medical record at the time it was performed.
- patient given copy of handout for reference at conclusion of visit.

SELF-ASSESSED KNOWLEDGE BY DURATION OF ALLERGY SHOT THERAPY



METHOD: Assessment Strategy

1. Patients were given paper surveys during Spring Quarter, 2015.
2. Patients have 30-minute wait period after shots; surveys answered and returned during this time period.
3. Surveys contained indirect and direct questions to determine knowledge level about allergy shot therapy and procedures to follow in case of reactions as was listed on teaching tool.
4. Patients identified number of years they had received allergy shots in total, and at NUHS.

Assessment:

- Patient knowledge of significant symptoms and of action to take in the event of serious post allergy shot reactions is not at a desirable level.
- We speculate that patients with some knowledge likely answered the survey, so overall patient knowledge is likely not to be above the level demonstrated by survey responses and results.

Findings:

1. The total length of time during which students have received allergy shots does not seem to correlate with their knowledge about allergy shots.
2. Length of time students have received allergy shots at NUHS does not seem to affect their knowledge about allergy shots.
3. Not all students who think they are knowledgeable about allergy shots can actually correctly describe key symptoms or appropriate actions.

Improvement Plan:

- Evaluate learning assessment activity, incidental and anecdotal information to focus on a smaller number of key learning outcomes.
- Add 'orientation visit' for students new to allergy shot practice, with attention specifically to teaching and separate from injection aspect.
- Identify ways in which patients will become invested in their role as partners in specific therapies, and allergy shots specifically.
- Consider decreased duration of teaching (keep to high risk aspects) with increased frequency of teaching.