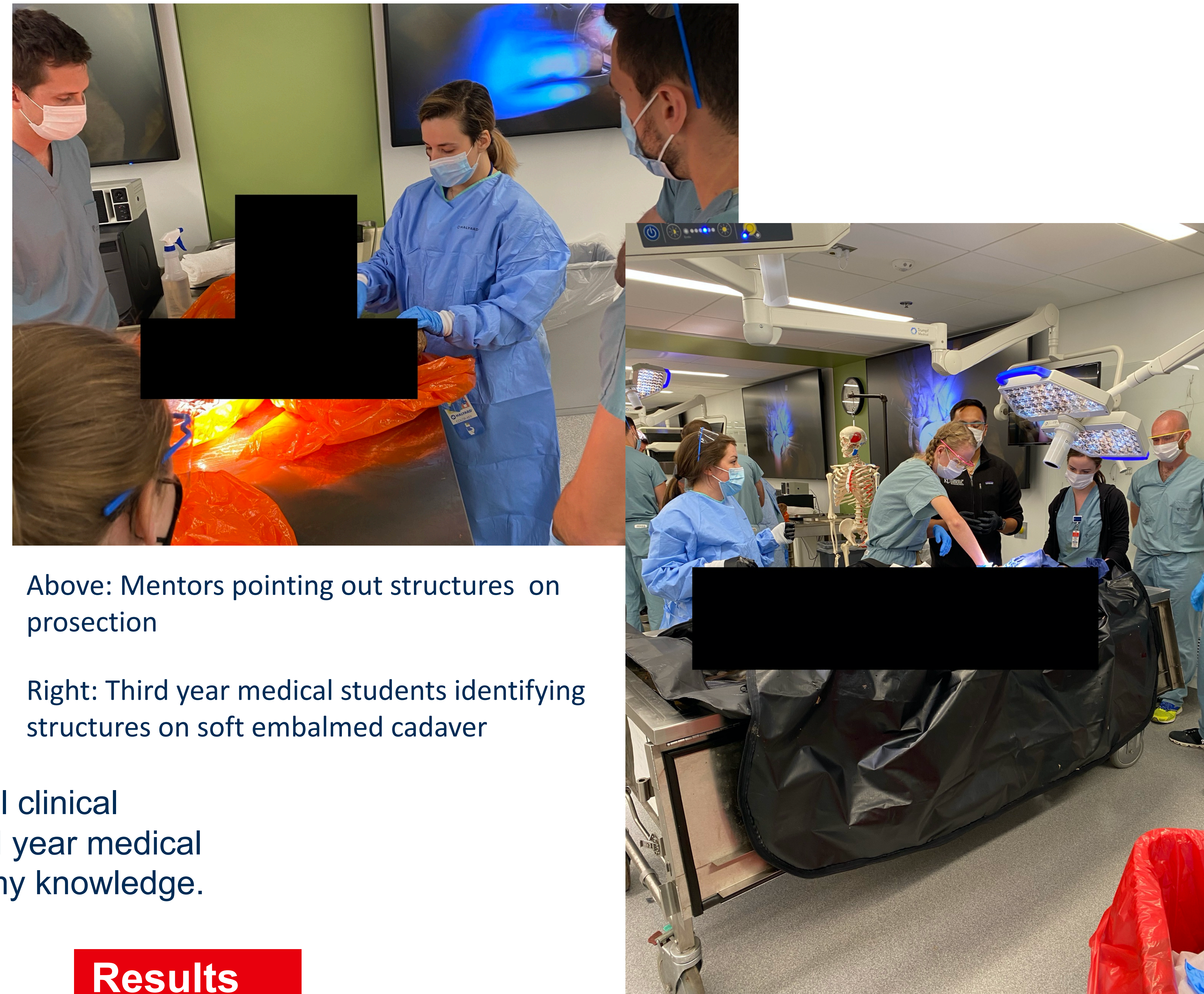# Clinical anatomy mentorship program influence on OB/GYN anatomy knowledge: a pilot study

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Background

- Recently, The University of Kansas School of Medicine re-structured their anatomy education as a result of the implementation of a new curriculum.
- Anatomy education during pre-clinical years has minimal focus on surgical manipulation. Thus, it can be challenging for medical students to feel prepared for the operating room during their surgical clerkships.
- To increase preparedness, near-peer teaching of a hysterectomy was instituted.

Research Questions

To analyze the impact of the inaugural clinical anatomy mentorship program on third year medical students' gynecologic surgical anatomy knowledge.

Methods and Materials

A convenience sample of 19 third year medical students entering the OB/GYN clerkship underwent tutoring by fourth year students including a presentation and anatomy visualization on soft-embalmed cadavers and prosections. Students took pre- and post-mentoring quizzes. A two sample, two tail t-test was performed, as was a chi square analysis on passing rates defined as 65%.

Above: Mentors pointing out structures on prosection

Right: Third year medical students identifying structures on soft embalmed cadaver

Results

- 18 pre- and 19 post-quizzes were analyzed; 1 incomplete pre-quiz was excluded.
- Pre- and post-test averages were 62.96% (SD ±0.19%) and 68.00% (SD ±0.17%), respectively, t(35)= -0.7687, p=0.44.
- Nine students passed the pre-test and fifteen passed the post-test, χ^2 (1, N=37) =0.0984, p >0.50.
- 100% indicated the workshop was helpful.

Conclusion

- The new anatomy mentorship program did not result in a statistically significant increase in anatomy quiz scores. However, student perception of the workshop was extremely positive indicating it to be a useful educational tool.
- This study was limited by a small power, which may miss a statistically significant increase in quiz scores.
- Next steps include continuing to teach and obtain data in future clerkships to increase the power of the study.

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