

What Was the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Performance of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Fellows on the In-Training Exam?

STUDY DESIGN

Retrospective study including all **pulmonary and critical care medicine fellows** between **April 2015 and July 2022** who completed the **in-training exam** to evaluate impact of pandemic on scores

Three time cohorts identified:

- **Prepandemic**
- **First COVID-19 wave**
- **Second COVID-19 wave**

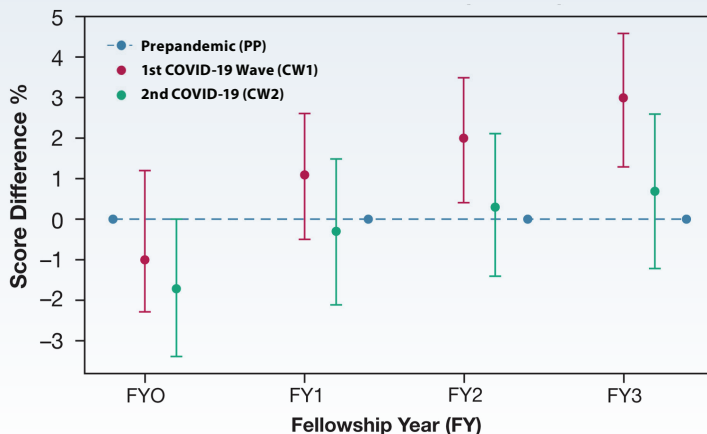
RESULTS

First COVID-19 wave compared with prepandemic

Mean score for FY0 and FY1 were similar

↑ Mean score in FY2 2.0% (95% CI, 0.4%-3.5%) and FY3 2.9% (95% CI, 1.3%-4.6%)

Total In-Training Exam Score Differences vs Prepandemic (With CI)



Mean pulmonary score ↑ for FY3 during first COVID-19 wave: 5.3% (95% CI, 1.5%-9.1%)

- No difference for other trainees during either wave



Mean critical care score similar for FY1, FY2, and FY3 across all time periods

- FY0 ↓ during both COVID-19 waves

The findings of this study suggest that pandemic impacts on in-training exam performance were minimal, possibly buffered by enhanced self-study opportunities among trainees.