



Baylor University

ROBBINS COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES  
Occupational Therapy

# New Grad Preparedness for Providing Supervision: OTA to OT Transition

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## Background and Problem

- Supervision is a cooperative process between two or more occupational therapy practitioners (OTPs) <sup>1</sup>
- There is one educational standard related to supervision <sup>2</sup>
- There are no additional standards for occupational therapy assistants (OTAs) that transition to occupational therapists (OTRs) <sup>2</sup>
- There is a dearth of information related to this topic
- No current supervision requirements for new graduate OTRs
- Some therapists perceive a lack of preparedness with providing supervision

## Purpose/Aim/Question

The purpose of this capstone project was to assess the self-perceived preparedness for the role shift of being a supervising therapist after a transition from OTA to OTR.

## Method

### Setting:

- Online survey completed
- Participants found through Facebook groups with OT practitioners that have completed OTA to OTR programs

### Participants:

- 11 Occupational therapists that have completed an OTA to OTR program within the last 5 years

### Instrument Used:

- Google Forms
- Self-developed survey with 16 yes/no and open-ended questions

### Procedures:

- Participants completed a survey in Oct. 2024
- Survey link was posted in Facebook groups with OTRs that had completed an OTA to OT program

### Data Analysis:

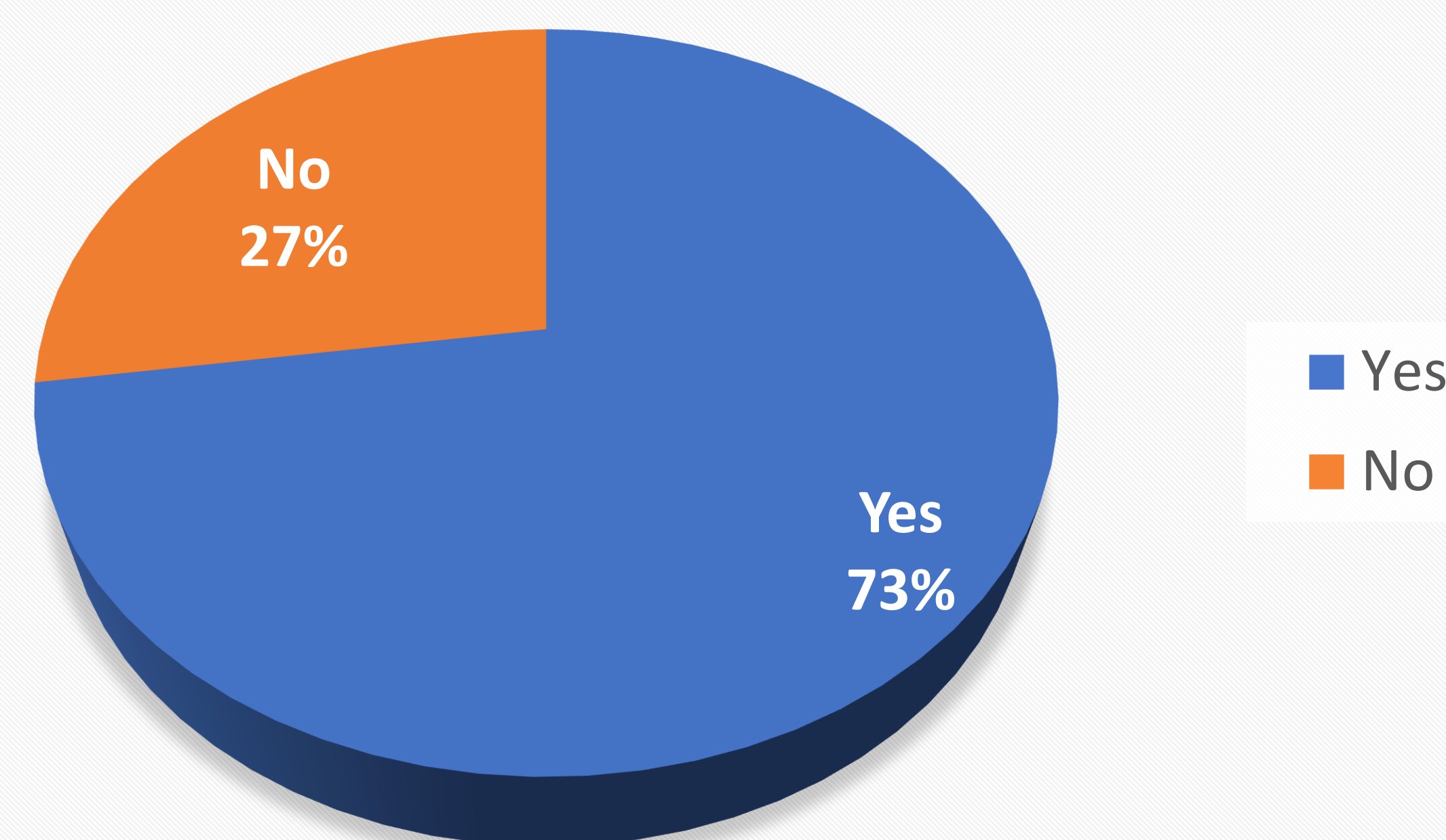
- Thematic analysis was used to analyze the data

## Results

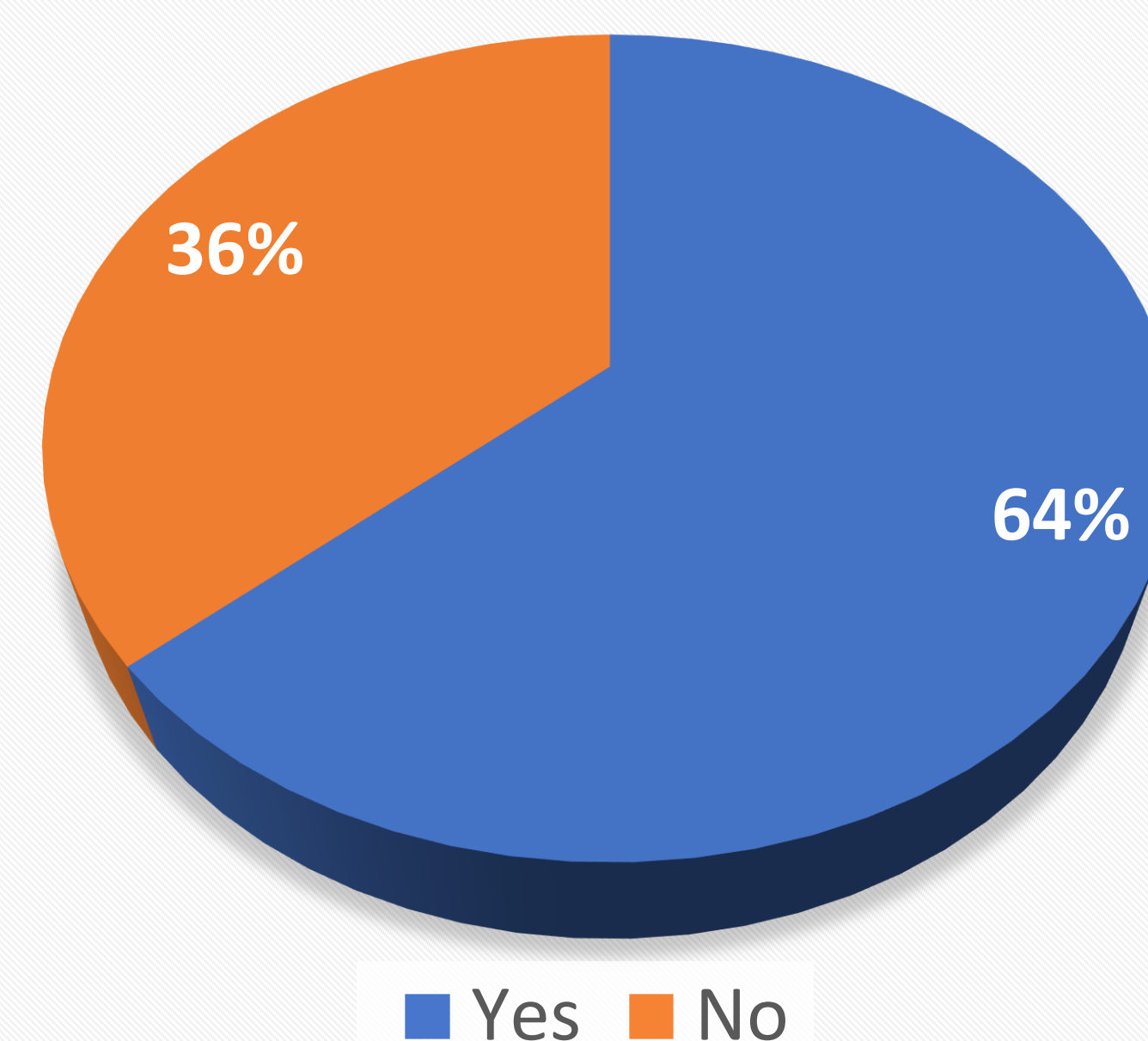
Three themes were identified during the analysis of the survey results:

1. Positive experiences and examples of supervision can lead to higher self-perception of preparedness to provide supervision
2. Programs discussing the mindset shift of OTA to OTR can lead to a high self-perception of preparedness to provide supervision
3. Experience alone is not a sole indicator of self-perceived preparedness to provide supervision

Did the program discuss the mindset shift?



Did you feel prepared to provide supervision?



## Conclusions

### Conclusions:

- Feedback from respondents made it unclear whether programs truly discussed the mindset shift vs supervision as a whole
- Questions on survey were unclear and different questions should have been developed
- Some felt prepared to provide supervision while others were not

### Limitations:

- Lack of detail in the answers by respondents
- Lack of detail in questions on the survey

## Implications for Occupational Therapy

- Programs for OTAs to transition to OTR should ensure that a clear discussion is held in relation to making the mindset shift from receiving supervision to providing supervision
- Additional research is needed to assess job satisfaction in relation to preparedness to provide supervision

## References

- 1 American Occupational Therapy Association. (2020). Guidelines for supervision, roles, and responsibilities during the delivery of occupational therapy services. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 74(3) 7413410020. <https://doi.org/10.5014/ajot.2020.74S3004>
- 2 Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education. (2023). 2023 Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) Standards and Interpretive Guide. <https://acoteonline.org/accreditation-explained/standards/>