

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA  
L-Università ta' Malta

# MEASURING STUDENT INTEREST AND PERCEPTION OF PHARMACOGENETICS

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## Objective

- To present a workshop on pharmacogenetic implications on use of drugs to pharmacy students
- To evaluate student interest and perception of pharmacogenetics

## Method

1 Students were asked to reflect on their knowledge of pharmacogenetics

2 Presentation on:

- Introduction to pharmacogenetics
- Implications of genetic polymorphism in the cytochrome P450 enzyme genes

3 Clinical care study highlighting how pharmacogenetic information on cytochrome P450 enzymes can help individualise patient treatment: which SSRI and TCA to use in a CYP2D6 poor metaboliser?

4 Cards activity: matching drug interactions based on pharmacogenetic information

Eg. Simvastatin  
Grapefruit juice  
CYP3A4

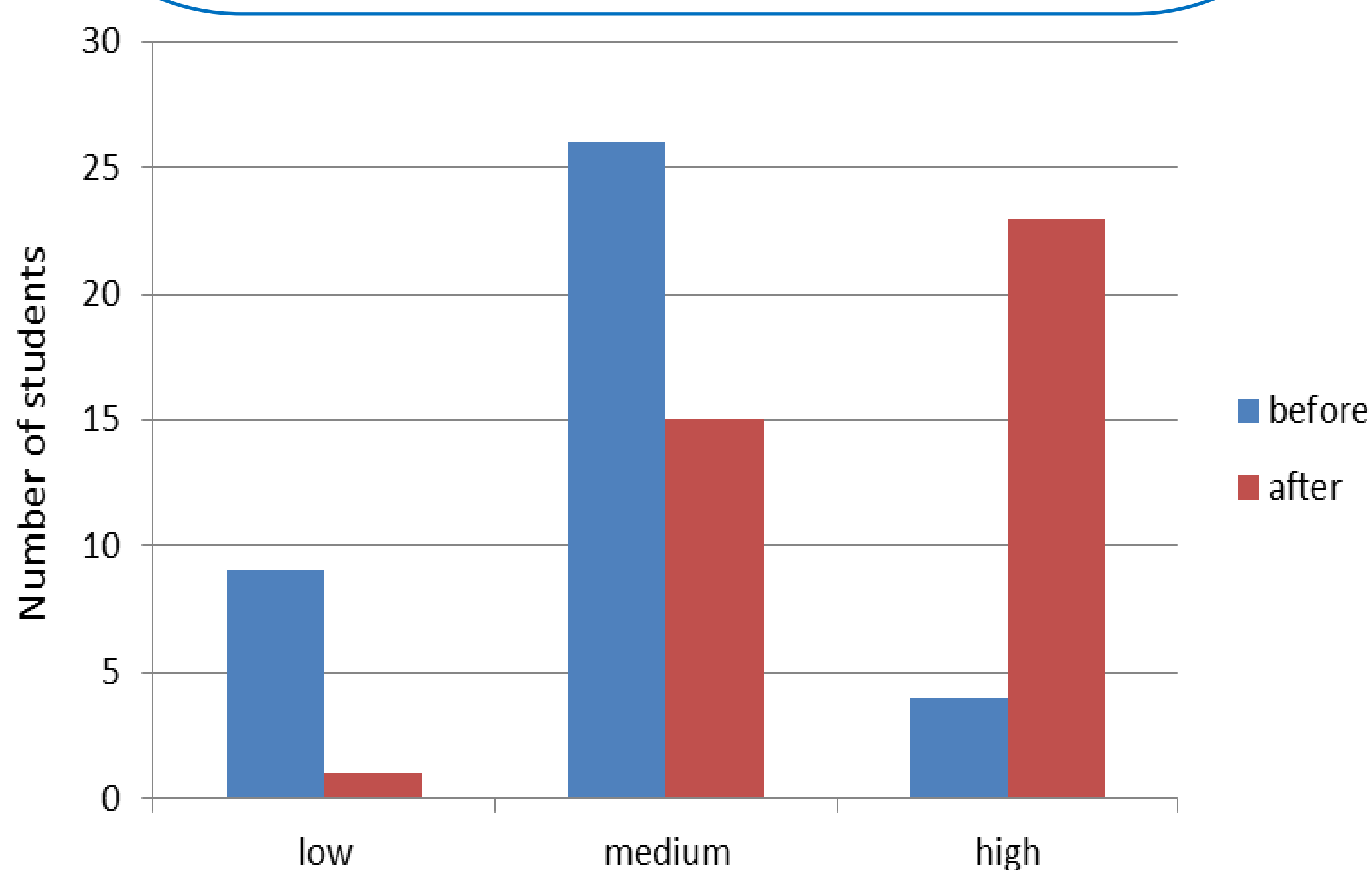


Figure 3: Interest to read more about the subject (n=39)

## Results

39 pharmacy students in their first year (9 students), second year (12 students), third year (6 students) and 10 students for whom no year of studies data was available, participated in the 2 hour workshop

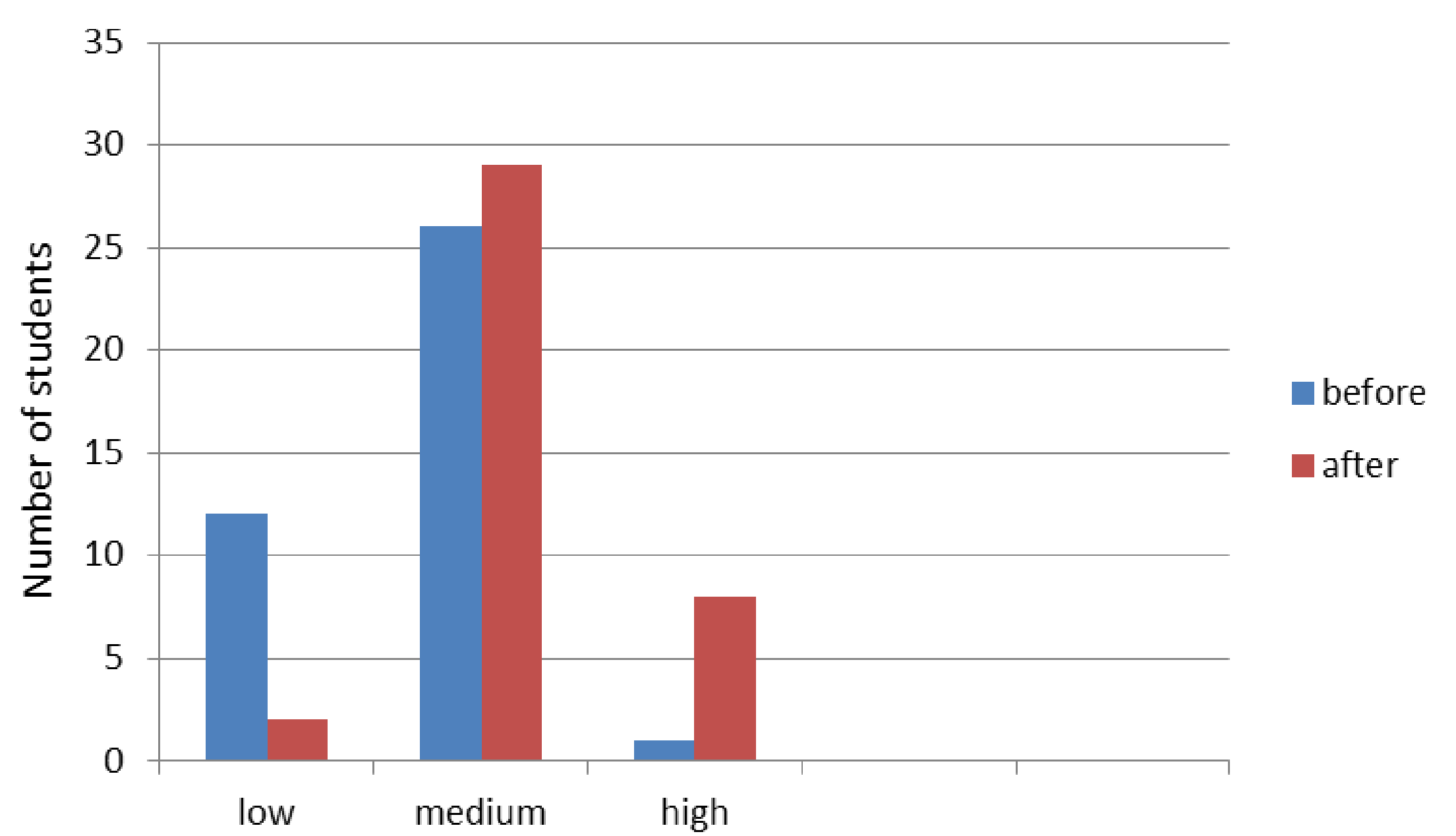


Figure 1: Understanding of Pharmacogenetics (n=39)

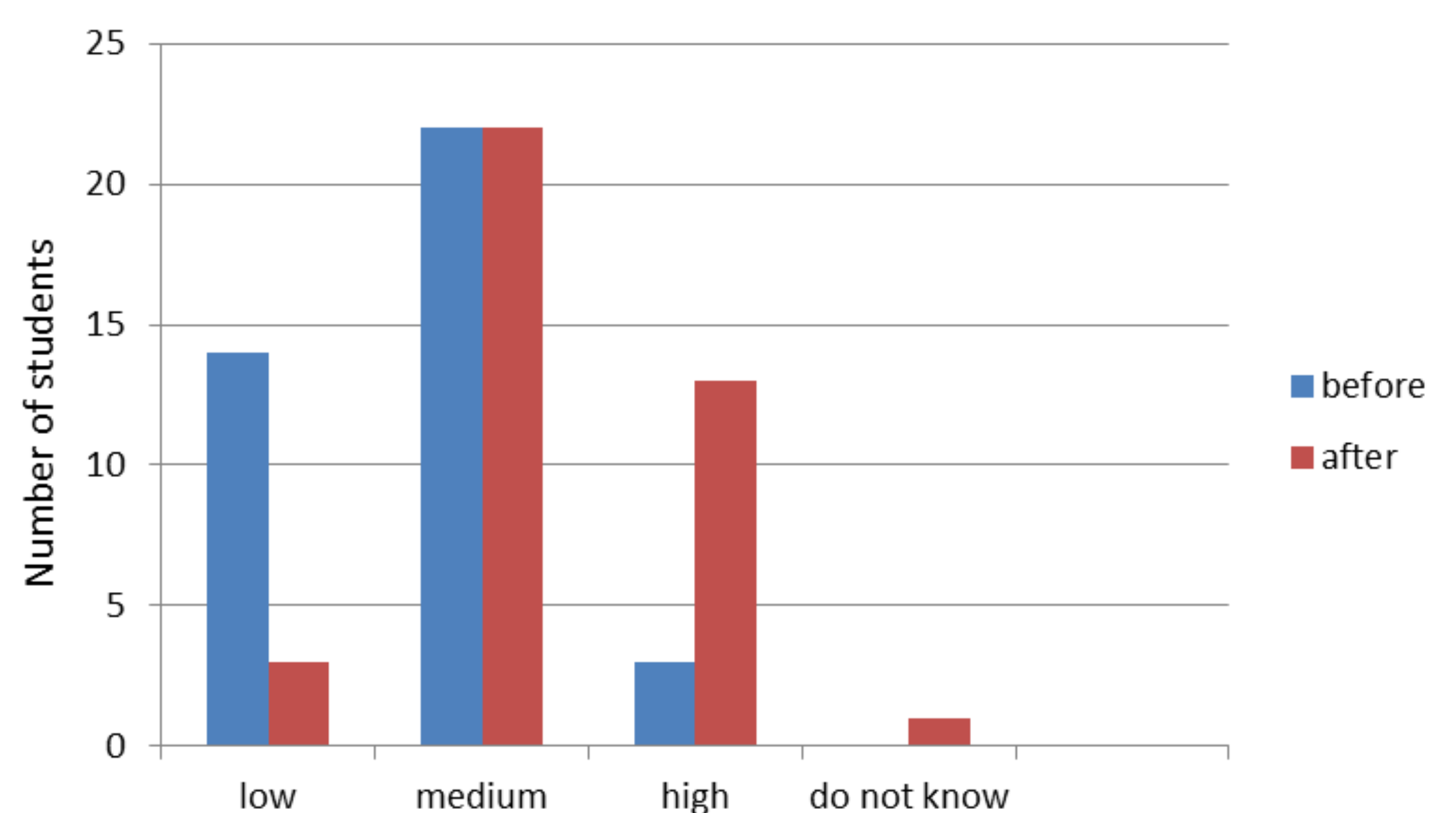


Figure 2: Perception of the impact of Pharmacogenetics on individualised drug therapy (n=39)

## Conclusion

This workshop, which was intended to present pharmacogenetics in an informal method of teaching, did provide the opportunity to the students to reflect on their interest and perception of the subject. An improvement in the interest and perception of the impact of pharmacogenetics was noted after the session.