

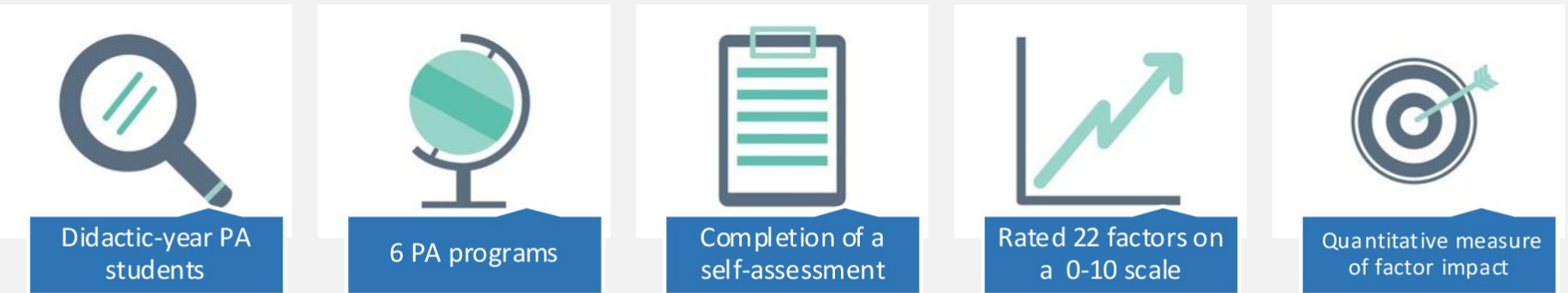
# Key Factors Driving Academic Challenges Among PA Students

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## Background & Purpose

- The PA curriculum requires mastery of medical knowledge, critical thinking, and clinical skills within a relatively short timeframe.
- Some PA students face significant academic challenges that can hinder their progress and success in the PA program.
- Identifying the issues affecting academic performance is essential.
- This study aims to identify the key factors impacting academic performance among didactic year PA students.
- By gaining a deeper understanding of the issues affecting academic performance, PA programs can design support strategies and targeted interventions to help ensure successful student outcomes.

## Methods



## Conclusions

- Students in medical education frequently have multiple factors impacting their academic performance.
- The results of this study provide important initial data regarding the number and range of contributing factors impacting didactic year PA student academic performance.
- The multi-program study will continue to evaluate the factors impacting the academic performance of PA students as they progress in their training, with additional data being collected near the end of the didactic year, and at similar points during the clinical year.

## Results

- One hundred fifty-nine PA students completed the self-assessment survey (66% response rate).
- The mean number of contributing factors identified by the learner as negatively impacting their performance was 15 (range 4-22).
- The mean rating of each factor (degree of impact) is shown in the chart and compared to the percentage of students rating the factor > 0.

## References

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