



SMG Online and Classroom Training is Proven to be Effective

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Safe Management Group Inc. continues to evaluate and compare the effectiveness of its online training program with the traditional live classroom version. Two-hundred and ninety-one individuals including 25 SMG Trainers, and 266 never-trained individuals completed the 25-unit online training program over the past two years. Thirty-four individuals completed the traditional “live” classroom version of the program. Knowledge testing was conducted for both programs using a 30-item multiple choice test of the course content given before and after taking the program. The individuals taking the online version of the course also completed a 10-item satisfaction survey for each of the 4 sections of the course – Risk Management, Relationship Management, Behaviour Management, and Aggression Management. The SMG Knowledge Test was found to be reliable (Cronbach’s Alpha = 0.803).The results of the test displayed in **Figure 1**, show the means for trainers and non-trainers on the pre and post-test for both on-line and live training programs.

As expected, SMG Trainers were more knowledgeable than the inexperience non-trainers on the pretest for both online (82% vs. 63% correct, $p < 0.05$, two-tailed t-test) and live participants (82% vs. 57% correct, $p < 0.05$, two-tailed t-test). **Online training was highly successful in teaching course content with a statistically significant increase in knowledge to a score of 82% correct**, no different statistically from trainers on the post-test ($p = 0.109$). Not only did the online program improve a non-trainer’s knowledge to that of someone who has had prior experience, but there was also a statistically significant difference between the post-test grades of individuals participating in the online course and classroom course.

Participants taking the online program performed significantly better than those in the classroom live program ($F(2,322) = 12.5$, $p < 0.001$).

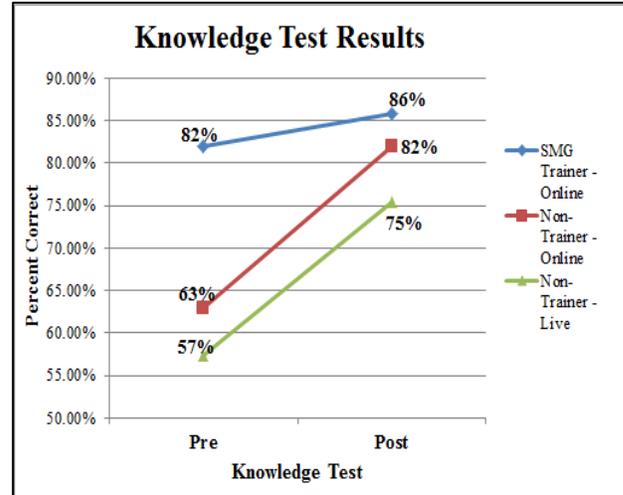


Figure 1 – Pre and Post Knowledge test results for SMG Trainers and Non-Trainers for both online and live training programs.

In addition, the participants who took the online program were highly satisfied with the course as can be seen in **Figure 2**. Ninety-seven percent rated the course overall as “good”/”very good”/”excellent.” Two-thirds rated it as “very good” or “excellent,” and **88% rated the on-line course as “good,” “very good,” or “excellent” in comparison to live training.**

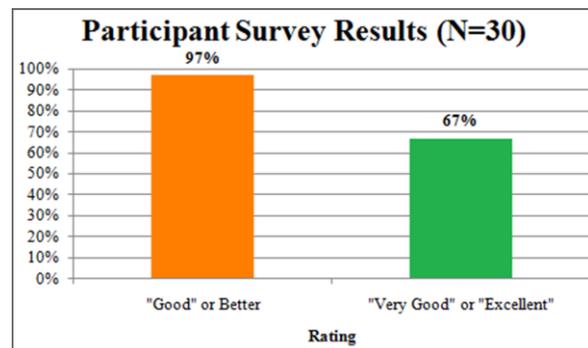


Figure 2 – Overall online course ratings; the majority of individuals rated program as “good” or better.