

Make babies SMiLE 😊: timely MI support and information at ESNEFT

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Introduction

Previous research has demonstrated benefit from in-house structured medicines information learning events (SMiLE) to pharmacy staff¹. Following this success, the decision was made to extend this training to other healthcare professionals, including midwives. EAMIS receive approximately 200 enquiries regarding medicine use in pregnancy and/or breastfeeding every year².

Concerns have been raised regarding the timing of these enquiries as often the mother is in the third trimester (38% of pregnancy enquiries² from May 2017-18) or the infant is already born/mother is being induced at the time of the enquiry (66% of breastfeeding enquiries²). Urgent enquiries may place strain on medicine information departments and may impact on the quality of answer provided.

Aim

This service evaluation aimed to assess the usefulness of a medicines information teaching session to midwives for medication in pregnancy and breastfeeding enquiries.

Method

A 30-minute SMiLE training session on medicines in pregnancy and breastfeeding was presented at the trust midwife mandatory training day. Feedback regarding the session and midwife views on the MI service was sought following the session. A questionnaire was developed on SurveyMonkey® and a link distributed to all midwives who attended the session. Verbal feedback and comments made during the session were also recorded. All collected responses were anonymous.

Results

30% of midwives responded: 66% rated the SMiLE session as excellent, 100% believed it was useful and relevant to practice. 80% of midwives stated they were interested in further training. 33% were not aware of EAMIS before the training session and 50% had never submitted an enquiry. Discussion during the training session highlighted issues with current practice. For example, EAMIS include a disclaimer for all pre-birth breastfeeding enquiries which states that it is assumed that the infant will be born at term, with no health issues. If the infant in question was born prematurely, Drs were advising that the mother should not breastfeed as opposed to contacting EAMIS for further advice.

Discussion

The evaluation of the 30-minute SMiLE training was positive and has guided development of future training and improved the relevance of enquiry answers. Due to midwife demand and the aforementioned issues in current practice, EAMIS are currently developing an additional SMiLE session which will train participants on how to access and interpret freely-accessible resources for pregnancy and breastfeeding enquiries. It is hoped that the proposed training could be extended to obstetricians and junior doctors rotating through maternity services. By upskilling the workforce in this way we will help achieve the aim set in the Carter report³.

Midwife comments on training

Sessions for obstetricians/junior doctors would be useful

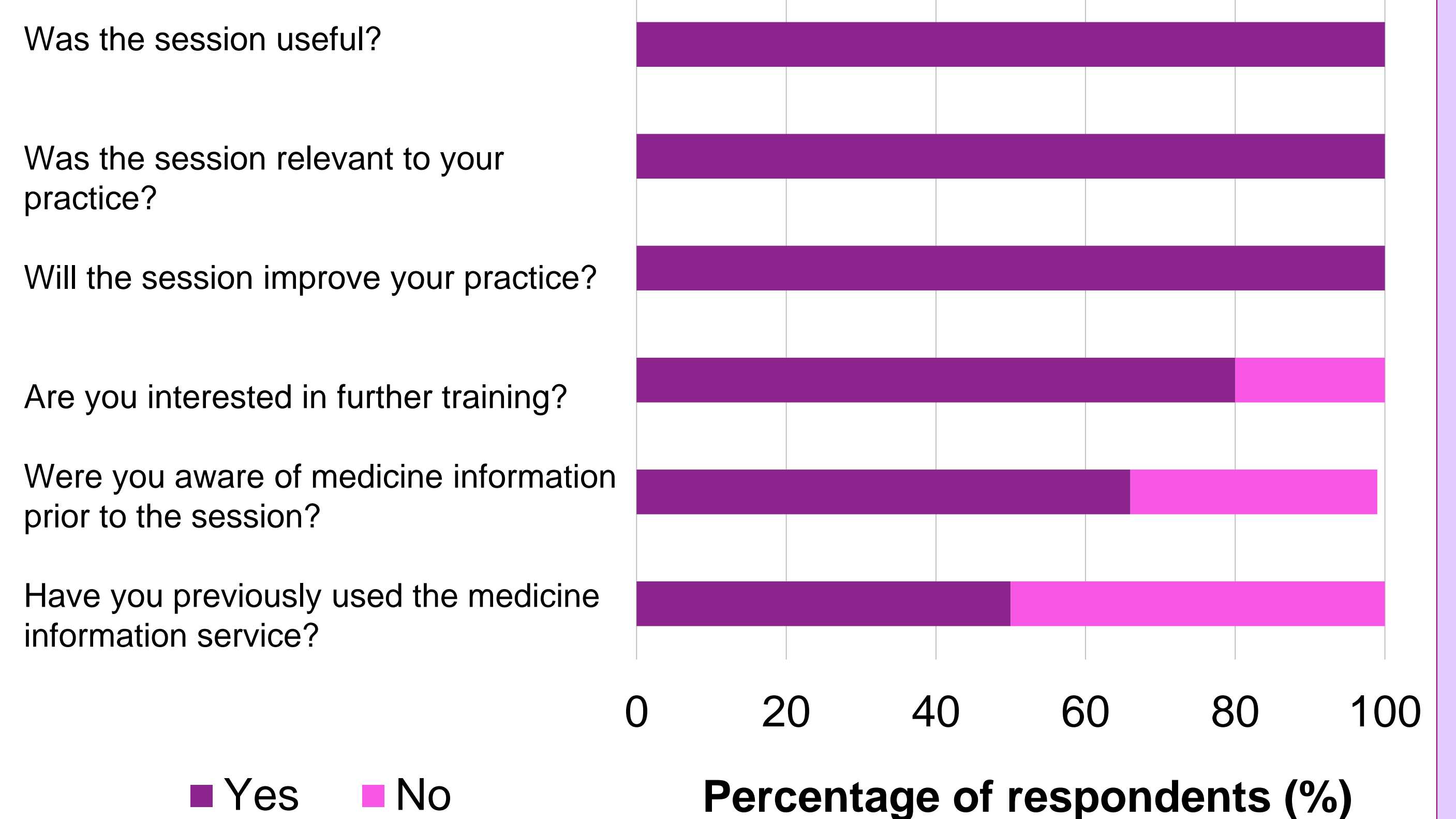
Really good session, would like to do the longer training shortly



Image from www.123rf.com

Statistics

Midwife feedback on training session



Midwife comments on MI service

More practical information regarding monitoring would be appreciated

Inclusion of a statement which guides doctors to contact you if infant is premature

References

1. Eve M, Cavanagh S, Gearing N, Meadows T, Scott A, & Sznura M. Evaluations of the SMiLE program for pharmacy staff in an acute trust. Poster presented at; 43rd Practice Development Seminar, Birmingham, 2017.
2. In-house enquiry database. Accessed 25/7/18.
3. Operational productivity and performance in English NHS acute hospitals: Unwarranted variations - An independent report for the Department of Health by Lord Carter of Coles (February 2016).

Image from www.123rf.com