BEST LONG-TERM SUSTAINABLE CHANGE

TEACHING PAEDIATRIC CLINICAL SKILLS AND PERIOPERATIVE PRESCRIBING TO SURGICAL JUNIOR DOCTORS:

ENHANCING THE CARE OF CHILDREN ADMITTED UNDER SURGICAL SPECIALTIES

NHS Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

1. Introduction

Background

- Surgical junior doctors at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital (GRH) are involved in the care of children and are expected to perform cannulation and venepuncture in ages >6 years.
- Teaching on this is not included in local induction
- Potential to impact juniors' confidence and competence, and place pressure on the paediatric department to support.

Aims

➢ To assess surgical junior doctors' confidence and competence in paediatric perioperative care.

Through delivery of a teaching session:

➢ To equip surgical junior doctors with the basic skills required for the care of children admitted under surgery.

➢ To improve their confidence and competence in paediatric perioperative care.

2. Method

- A pre-teaching questionnaire and single best answer (SBA) quiz to assess confidence and competence in paediatric perioperative care
  - ➢ **9 surgical foundation doctors.**

Small group teaching session:

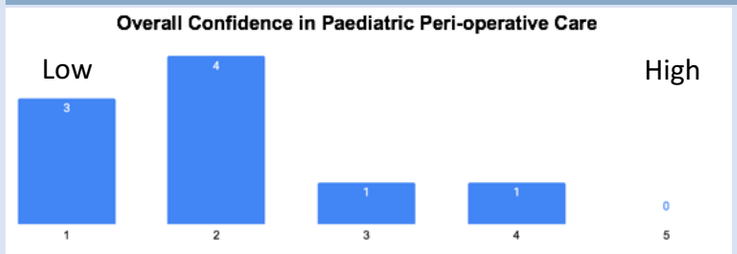
- 1 hour session
- Basic paediatric clinical skills
- Common perioperative prescribing including
  - ➢ **7 surgical foundation doctors.**

Venepuncture & cannulation 30 mins	**Perioperative prescribing** 30 mins
• Dummy arm • Paediatric bottles/equipment • Vein finder • Cold spray/cream	• IV fluids • Analgesia • Anti-emetics

- Confidence and competence reassessed after teaching using a similar questionnaire
- Clinical scenarios were altered to avoid memory bias.
- Session feedback was also gathered

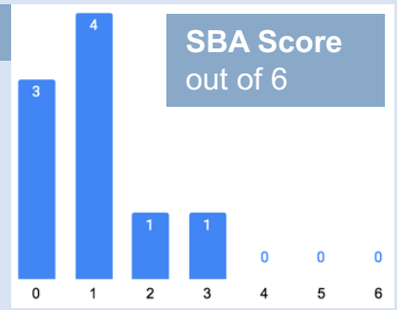
3. Results

Before Teaching:

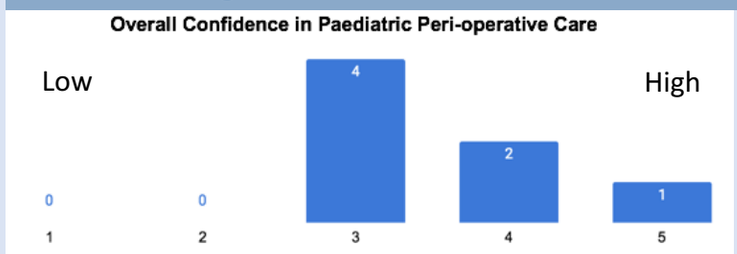


Confidence:
7 of 9 ≤2 / 5

Mean SBA Score:
1.00 out of 6

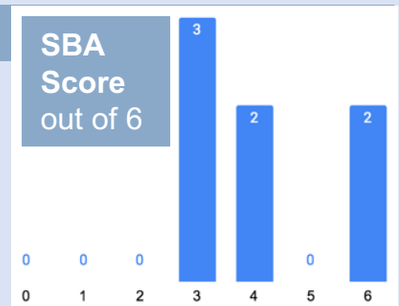


After Teaching:



Confidence:
All rated ≥3 / 5

Mean SBA Score:
4.14 out of 6



4. Conclusion

➢ **Competence** and **confidence** in paediatric perioperative care **were poor** amongst surgical junior doctors at GRH

➢ **Both** of these **improved greatly** after teaching.

➢ The session has since been **integrated into local induction** programme for junior doctors attached to surgical teams - **General Surgery, T&O, ENT**

➢ Following feedback, a quick reference, **flashcard-style resource for lanyards** as also been produced.

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