

Virtual Teaching Module on Clinical Assessment of Neonatal Encephalopathy

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Background

The clinical examination for neonatal encephalopathy (NE) is essential in the assessment of neonates at risk of Hypoxic Ischaemic Encephalopathy (HIE). The British Association of Perinatal Medicine (BAPM) Framework for Practice for Therapeutic Hypothermia recommends that clinical assessment is based on the modified Sarnat examination and training in this skill should be coordinated at a network level.¹ Doctors in training lack confidence, and omit key aspects, of the neonatal neurological assessment.²

Aim

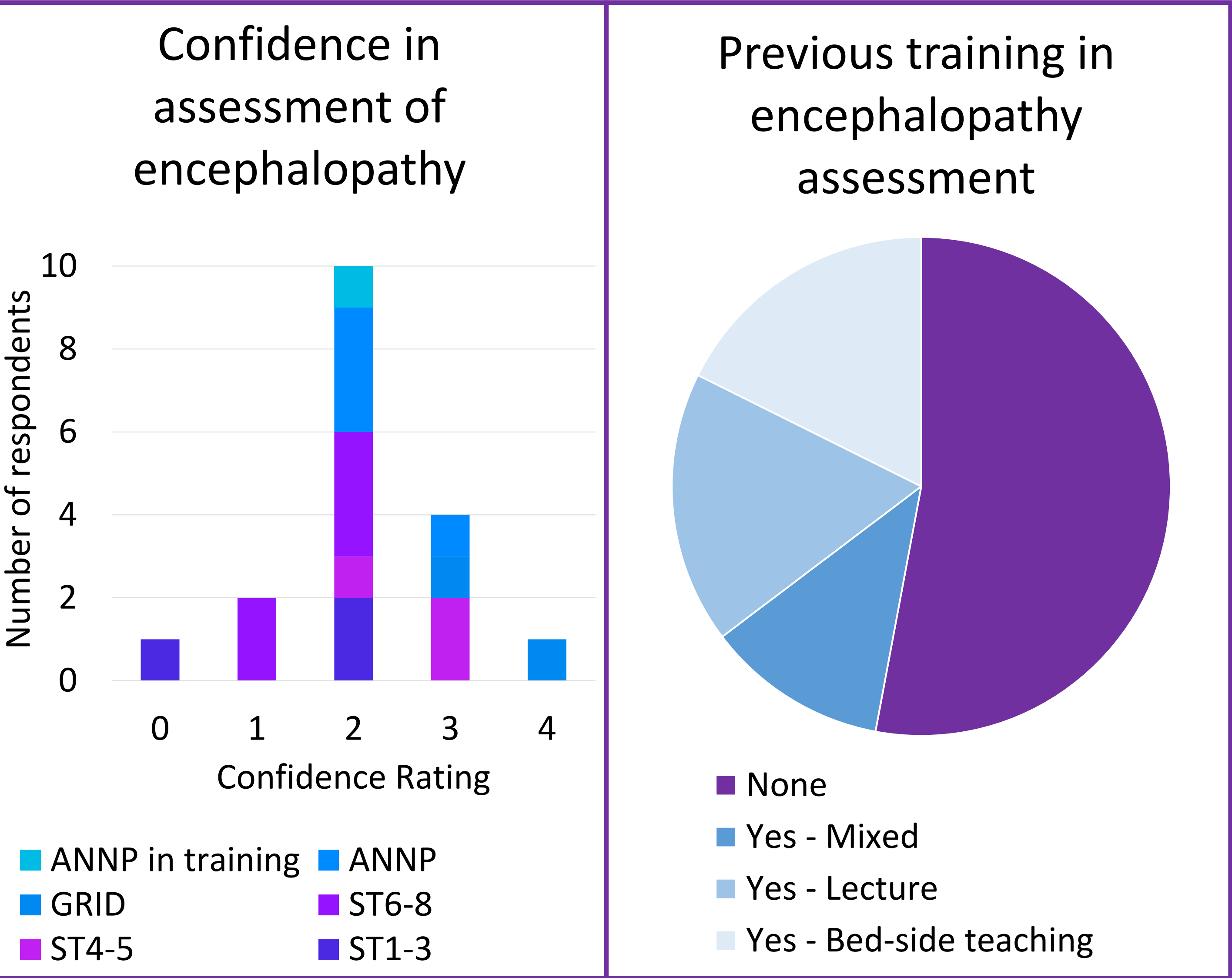
- 1. To assess current regional clinician confidence in assessment of neonatal encephalopathy
- 2. To develop a regional virtual teaching resource accessible to the multi-disciplinary team

Methods

- 1. Survey to assess confidence (0-5, least to most confident) and prior training in assessment of NE and amplitude integrated EEG interpretation
- 2. Interactive online teaching course developed by a specialist interest multi-disciplinary team with stakeholder engagement

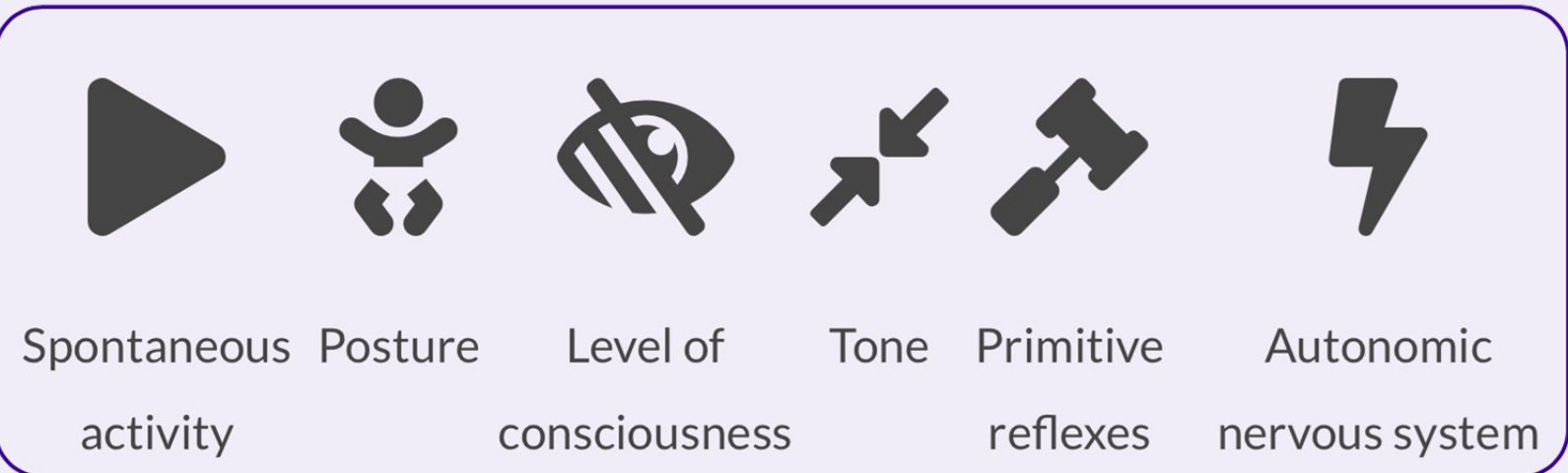
Results

17 respondents across Severn and Peninsula Deanery.
Average confidence score of 2/5 in clinical assessment of NE and 2.5/5 in aEEG interpretation



Teaching Module

- Case based learning
- Interactive videos
- Example examinations
- Expert tips

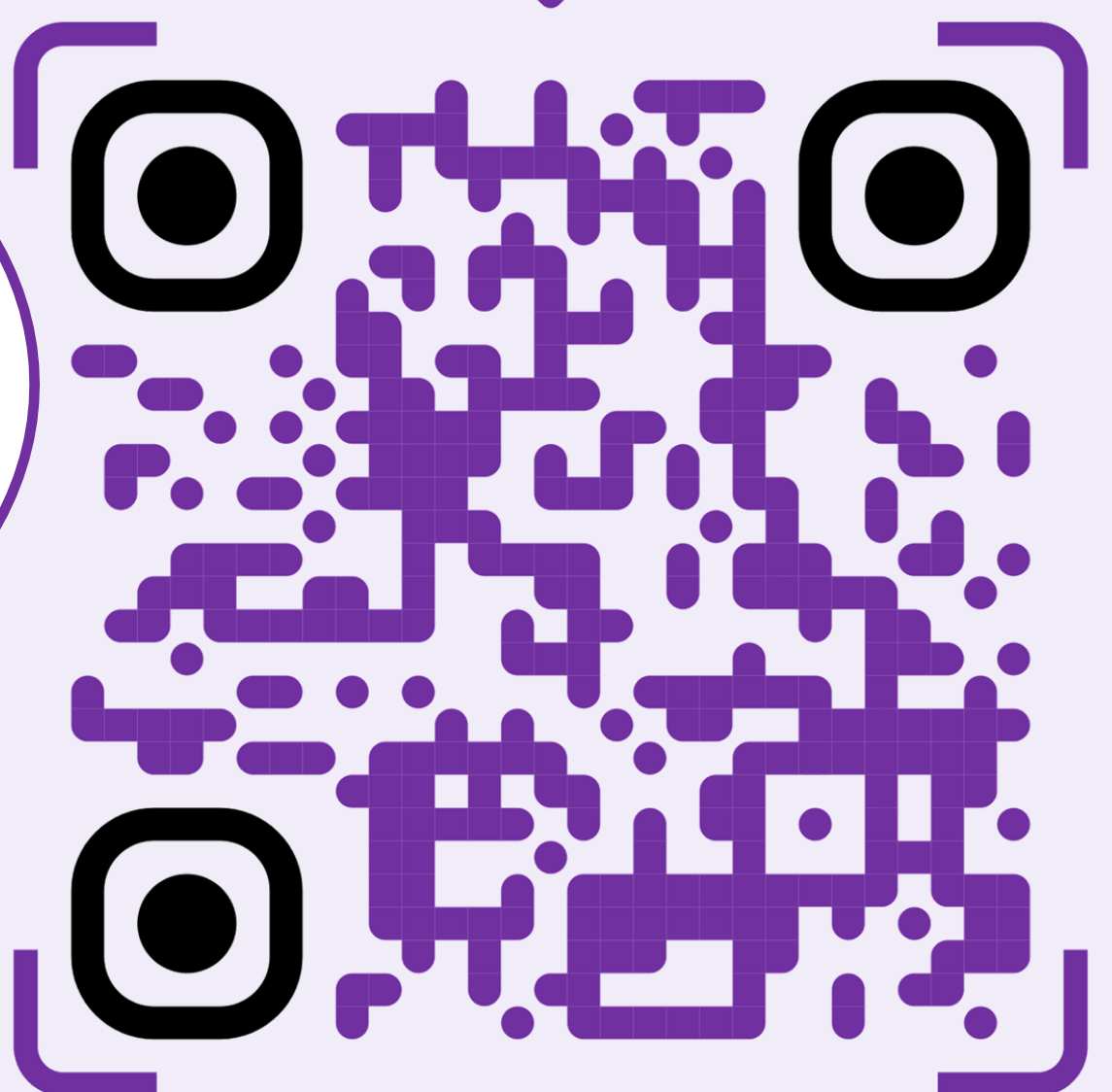


Excellent use of videos to practically display examination findings

The content was excellent and covered in a clear, systematic way

The design and usability were of incredibly high standard

Learn here



Further Development

Analysis of the pre and post-completion questionnaires
Development of an aEEG interpretation course

Conclusions

- Over half of clinicians reported no previous training in clinical assessment of encephalopathy
- Self-reported confidence in clinical assessment of neonatal encephalopathy is in need of improvement
- Our interactive online training module has positive feedback during beta testing

References

- 1. BAPM Framework for Practice Therapeutic Hypothermia for Neonatal Encephalopathy, 2020
- 2. Trainees' confidence at the neurological assessment and amplitude integrated electroencephalography in neonatal hypoxic ischaemic encephalopathy. Dr A Hart, 2017. Developmental Medicine & Child Neurology

Acknowledgements

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