

A Survey of UK Critical Care Pharmacists Research Involvement and Associated Barriers



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INTRODUCTION

Pharmacist research provides evidence of impact of safe, effective and economical advanced pharmaceutical care. National professional bodies in Australia¹, New Zealand² and UK³ have identified pharmacist research as an essential component of practice and pharmacist development. The experience and access to research opportunities of critical care pharmacists (CCP) in the UK remains unknown.

AIM

To describe barriers, facilitators and research experience of UK Critical Care Pharmacists

METHOD

Electronic Survey (Survey Monkey®) was designed, piloted and revised by investigators.

Survey was distributed to all subscribers of the UK Clinical Pharmacy Association Critical Care Pharmacists message board 30th January to 13th March 2020

Participants provided:

1. Demographic data
2. Research activity / output in preceding 2 years
3. Statements of perceived barriers
4. Research roles & activities they would like to participate in.

Quantitative data were collected and analysed using Microsoft Excel®

REFERENCES

- [1] New Zealand Hospital Pharmacists Association - Hospital Pharmacy Career Structure [www.nzpha.org.nz/media/21589/appendix4pharmacist_profile.pdf]
 [2] The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia, Standard of Practice in the Intensive Care for Pharmacy Services <https://doi.org/10.1002/jppr.1718>
 [3] Royal Pharmaceutical Society Consultant Curriculum 2020 [www.rpharms.com/portals/0/Consultant/open_access/RPS_Consultant_Pharmacist_Curriculum2020_FINAL.pdf]

RESULTS

We received a 24.0% (n=61/254) response rate. As illustrated in Table 1, most respondents were located in England (n=51, 83.6%) and majority (n= 36, 59.0%) had more than 5 years of critical care experience.

Table 1. Demographic data for Survey Respondents

Characteristic	Respondents, n (%)
University-affiliated hospital	42 (68.8)
District General Hospital	14 (22.9)
Other – Specialist / Private/Health board	5 (8.19)
Location	
England	51 (83.6)
Jersey	1 (1.64)
Northern Ireland	1 (1.64)
Scotland	2 (3.28)
Wales	6 (9.84)
Critical Care Experience (years)	
< 1	6 (9.8)
1-2	4 (6.5)
2-5	15 (24.5)
5-10	14 (22.9)
> 10	22 (36.1)
Postgraduate Qualification	
Postgraduate diploma in Clinical Pharmacy / Pharmacy Practice	52
Master of Research / MPhil	3
Master of Science	19
Professional Doctorate, PharmD	1
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)	1

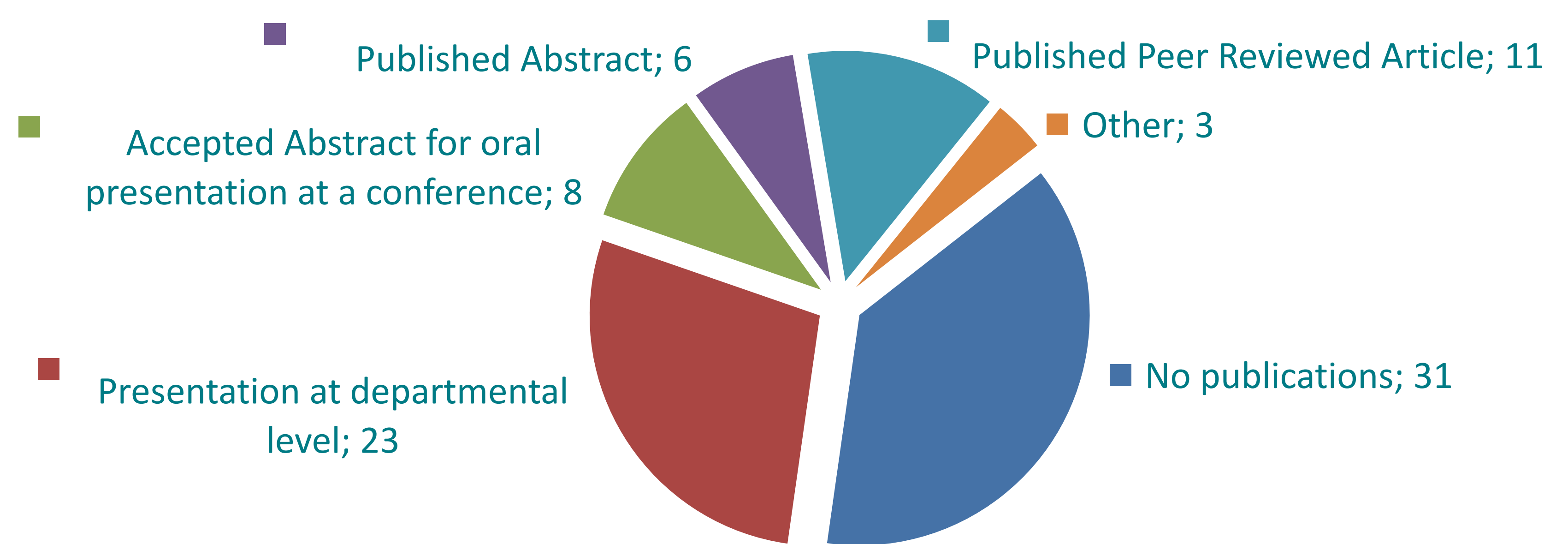


Figure 1. Types of Research Activity Reported

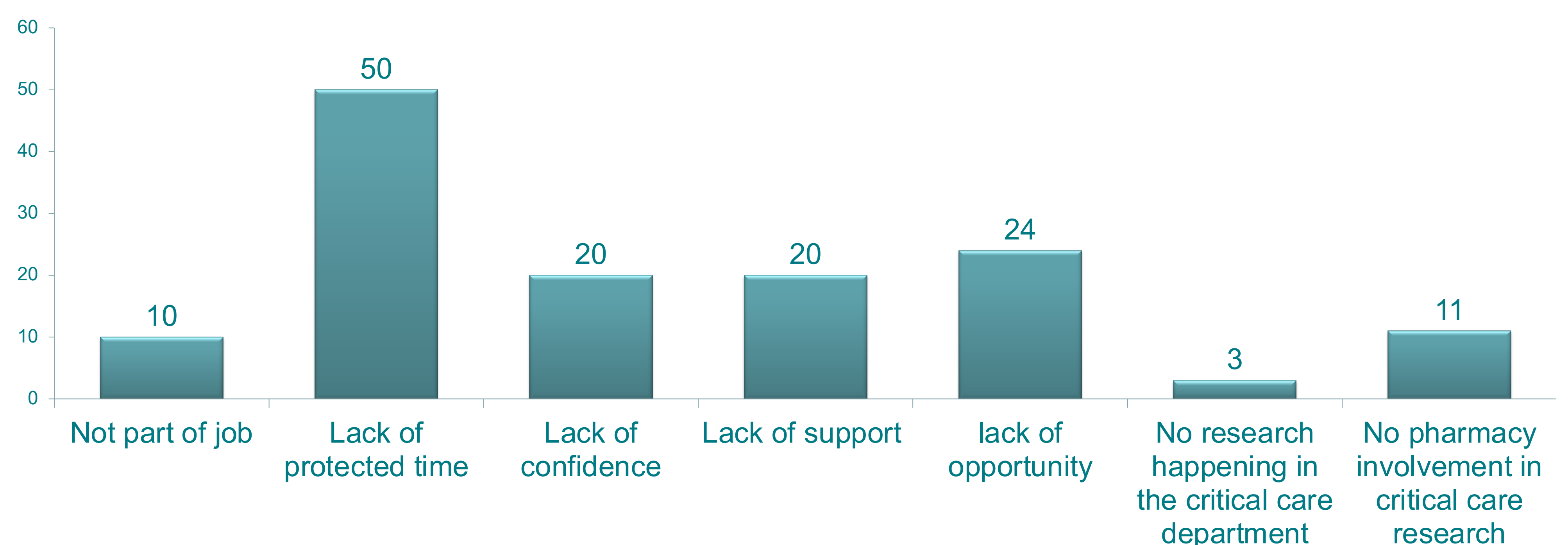


Figure 2. Barriers to Research Activity

CONCLUSION

An encouraging number of CCP reported research qualification and involvement, (including) leading research activities despite reporting not having allocated time for research activities. Low response rate limits generalisability of the findings as such further studies are warranted.