

Evaluation of the Implementation of an Antimicrobial Stewardship Workbook for Nurses and Midwives

Jacqueline Sneddon (1) Gill Walker (2) Jo McEwen (3) Onyema Ibe (4)

(1) Scottish Antimicrobial Prescribing Group, (2) NHS Education for Scotland, (3) NHS Tayside, (4) Blake Stevenson

Background

An external evaluation was commissioned to seek feedback on a national antimicrobial stewardship education resource covering key topics (Figure 1) developed for nurses and midwives to:

- determine the impact it was having on practice, and
- shape further development of content.

The workbook was informed by a learning needs analysis and acknowledged the important role these professionals play in administering, managing and monitoring antimicrobial therapy. The workbook had been promoted through various communication channels and supported implementation in several NHS boards.

Method

The evaluation used a mixed methods approach to gather both quantitative and qualitative data:

- a desk-based review of relevant documents
- telephone interviews with infection control/antimicrobial teams in 13 NHS boards
- a survey of nurses and midwives to understand the views of those who had and had not completed the workbook, and
- detailed follow-up interviews with six learners to triangulate the issues emerging from the survey results and explore in more detail.

Results

Just under one third of the 214 respondents had heard of the workbook. Of these, 19 individuals had completed the workbook and a further 12 had completed part of the workbook.

Respondents expressed a variety of reasons for undertaking the training (Figure 2).

For those who had heard of the workbook, the most common reasons for not having used it were insufficient time or already having full learning commitments. When asked how to improve uptake of the workbook, the most common response was to ensure that everyone received protected study time in which to do it.

The content of the workbook was viewed very positively, with most of those who had completed it agreeing that the material was informative, the interactive activities and reflections reinforced their learning, and the examples were relevant to the context in which they worked. Suggested improvements were more case study examples to draw on and a version of the workbook for community settings.

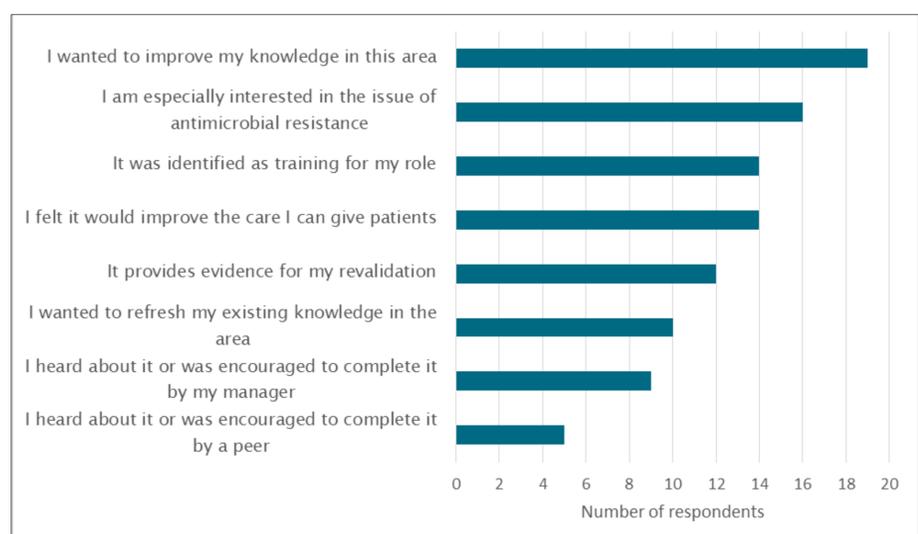
Conclusions

This evaluation confirms that the content of the workbook meets the training needs of those who responded and suggests it could have a significant impact on antimicrobial stewardship across NHSScotland. However, it has also highlighted the need to increase awareness and uptake through further promotion and local support for learning.

Figure 1: Workbook topics



Figure 2: Reasons for undertaking training (n=31)



Reference:

www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/3239839/final_antimicrobial_stewardship_workbook.pdf