



PROBLEM:

Corneal foreign body is the commonest eye presentation to the Gloucester Emergency Department but despite this, there is great variation in how this presentation is managed.

ASSESSING THE BASELINE:

Measuring against gold-standard criteria, current practice showed large heterogeneity of how professionals treated this condition across grades within the department. Data collection showed that only 12% of patients were receiving "perfect" management according to criteria in November 2015. Due to this we sent out a survey to identify the root cause of this spread.

BEST PRACTICE:

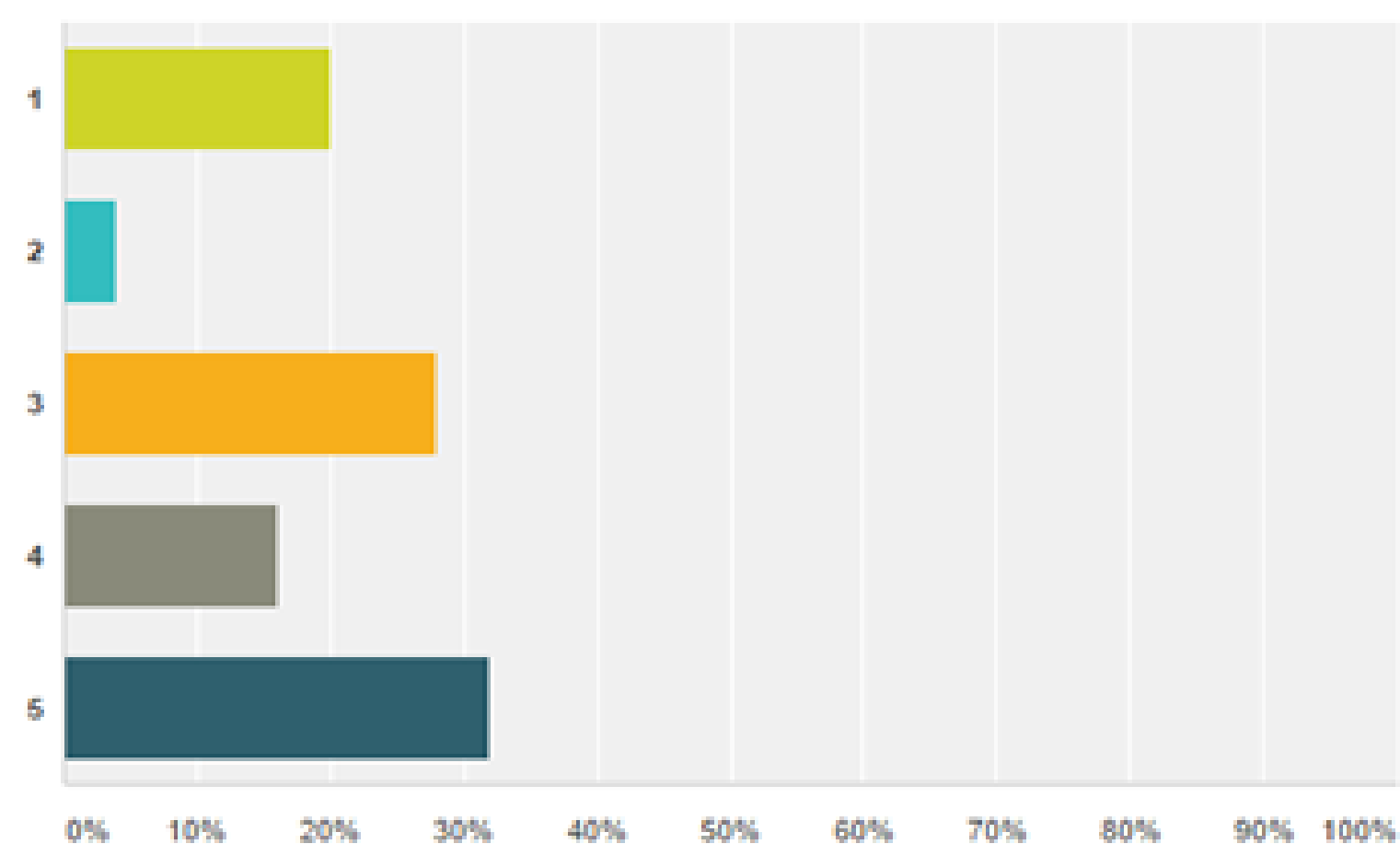
Guidance taken from world renowned Moorfields hospital, we ascertained there are four key points to managing the corneal foreign body:

1. Use of Fluorescein
2. Eversion of the eyelid
3. Provision of antibiotics
4. Use of a slit lamp

ANALYSIS - Pre-Intervention Survey

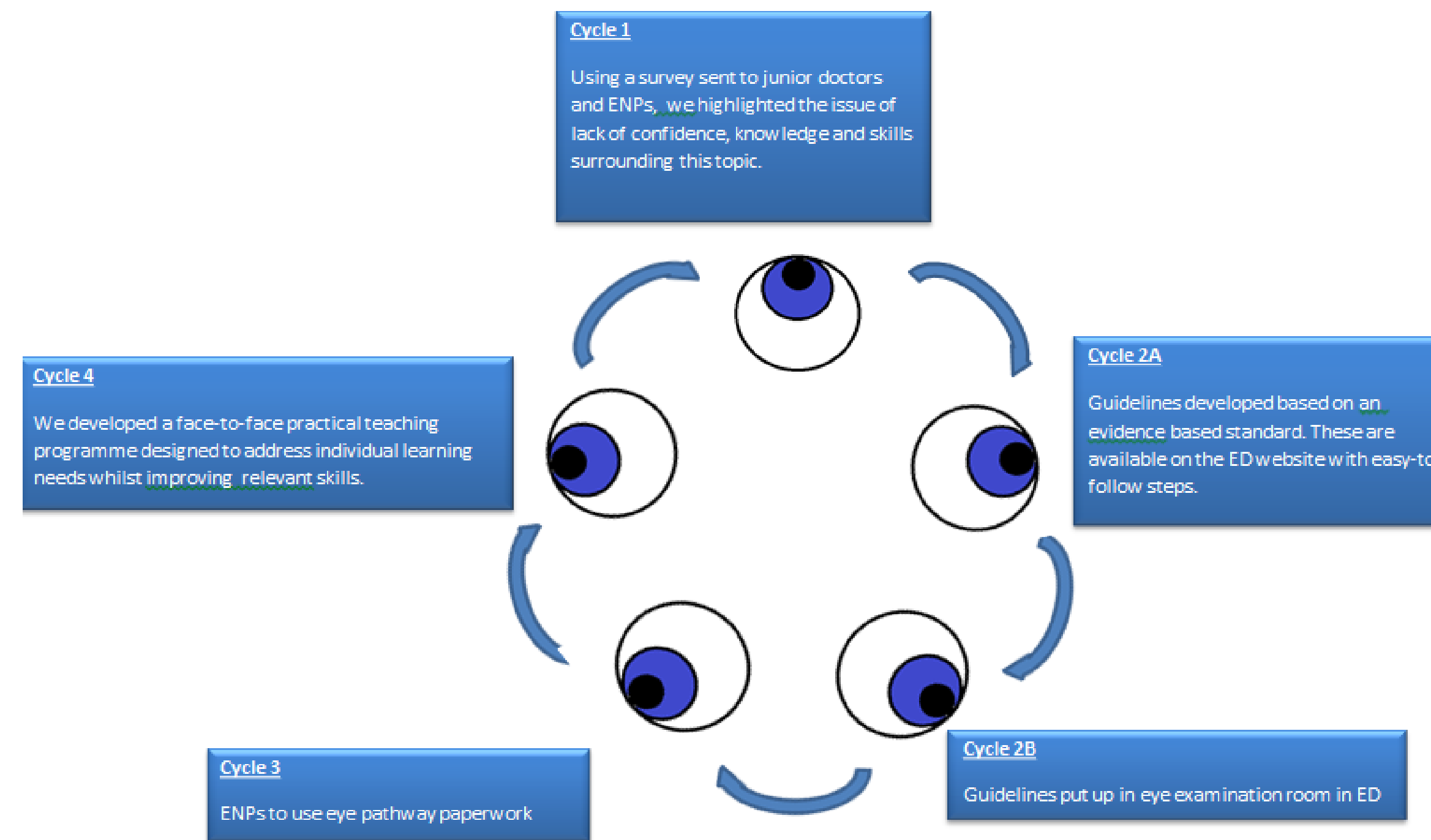
How confident do you feel at managing corneal foreign body in the eye? 1 = not at all confident, 5 = very confident

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



RUN CHART - Demonstrating Results

INTERVENTIONS



RESULTS:

Initial data collection showed spikes of improvement with each intervention, which rapidly tailed off. Despite the short effects of each change, the baseline did slightly improve.

The guidelines have shown the greatest single improvement, as professionals are able to supplement any knowledge they lack.

Initial data from teaching has shown significant improvement, and in light of this, we have engaged an ENP to continue teaching so this improvement can be maintained.

IMPORTANT LEARNING POINTS:

- Thorough assessment and appropriate management of corneal foreign bodies is vital in the prevention of complications which can be sight damaging.
- With appropriate education and guidance, all areas of gold standard treatment can be achieved.
- Confidence and knowledge are the two greatest limits to effective care.
- There is a need for ongoing reinforcement and education to maintain improvement.

THE FUTURE:

- Teaching session for ENPs
- Re-Survey Emergency Department staff
- Leaflets - produced in conjunction with the Ophthalmology Department
- Ensuring a sustainable teaching programme led by ENPs for future trainees
- Involve Cheltenham Emergency Department
- Continue to re-audit each intervention

