The provision of safety net advice to parents of febrile children:
Do Interventions at Induction improve adherence to evidence based guidelines?

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Aims

- To compare the adherence to NICE Fever guidelines of two different rotation cohorts of junior doctors across two years

- To determine Junior Doctor perceptions on the role evidence based guidelines in their practice.

Table 1 Traffic light system for identifying likelihood of serious illness

	Green – low risk	Amber – intermediate risk	Red – high risk
Colour	• Normal colour of skin, lips and tongue	• Pallor reported by parent/carer	• Pale/mottled/ashen/blue
Activity	• Responds normally to social cues • Content/smiles • Stays awake or awakens quickly • Strong normal cry/ not crying	• Not responding normally to social cues • Wakes only with prolonged stimulation • Decreased activity • No smile	• No response to social cues • Appears ill to a healthcare professional • Unable to rouse or if roused does not stay awake • Weak, high-pitched or continuous cry
Respiratory		• Nasal flaring • Tachypnoea: – RR > 50 breaths/minute age 6–12 months – RR > 40 breaths/minute age > 12 months • Oxygen saturation ≤ 95% in air • Crackles	• Grunting • Tachypnoea: – RR > 60 breaths/minute • Moderate or severe chest indrawing
Hydration	• Normal skin and eyes • Moist mucous membranes	• Dry mucous membrane • Poor feeding in infants • CRT ≥ 3 seconds • Reduced urine output	• Reduced skin turgor
Other	• None of the amber or...		

Box 3 The safety net should be one or more of the following

- Provide the parent or carer with verbal and/or written information on warning symptoms and how further healthcare can be accessed.

- Arrange a follow-up appointment at a certain time and place.

- Liaise with other healthcare professionals, including out-of-hours providers, to ensure the parent/carer has direct access to a further assessment for their child.

To understand and improve
the experience of parents
and carers who need advice
when a child has a fever
(high temperature)

Funded and Commissioned by
Department of Health

RESEARCH REPORT

March 2010

81% of parents recalled receiving safety netting advice
(i.e. told what to do if their child got worse / there was a change /
didn't get better).
Parents who did not receive safety netting advice were more likely
to seek another contact than those who did (52% vs. 35%; p=0.01).

Method

▸ All paediatric emergency department presentations were selected between July and August 2009 and July and August 2010

  - Presented with/had a history of a fever
  - Were under 5 years old

▸ Demographic and Physiological Data Recorded

▸ Disposition and documentation of provision of safety net advice recorded.

▸ Induction intervention with questionnaire

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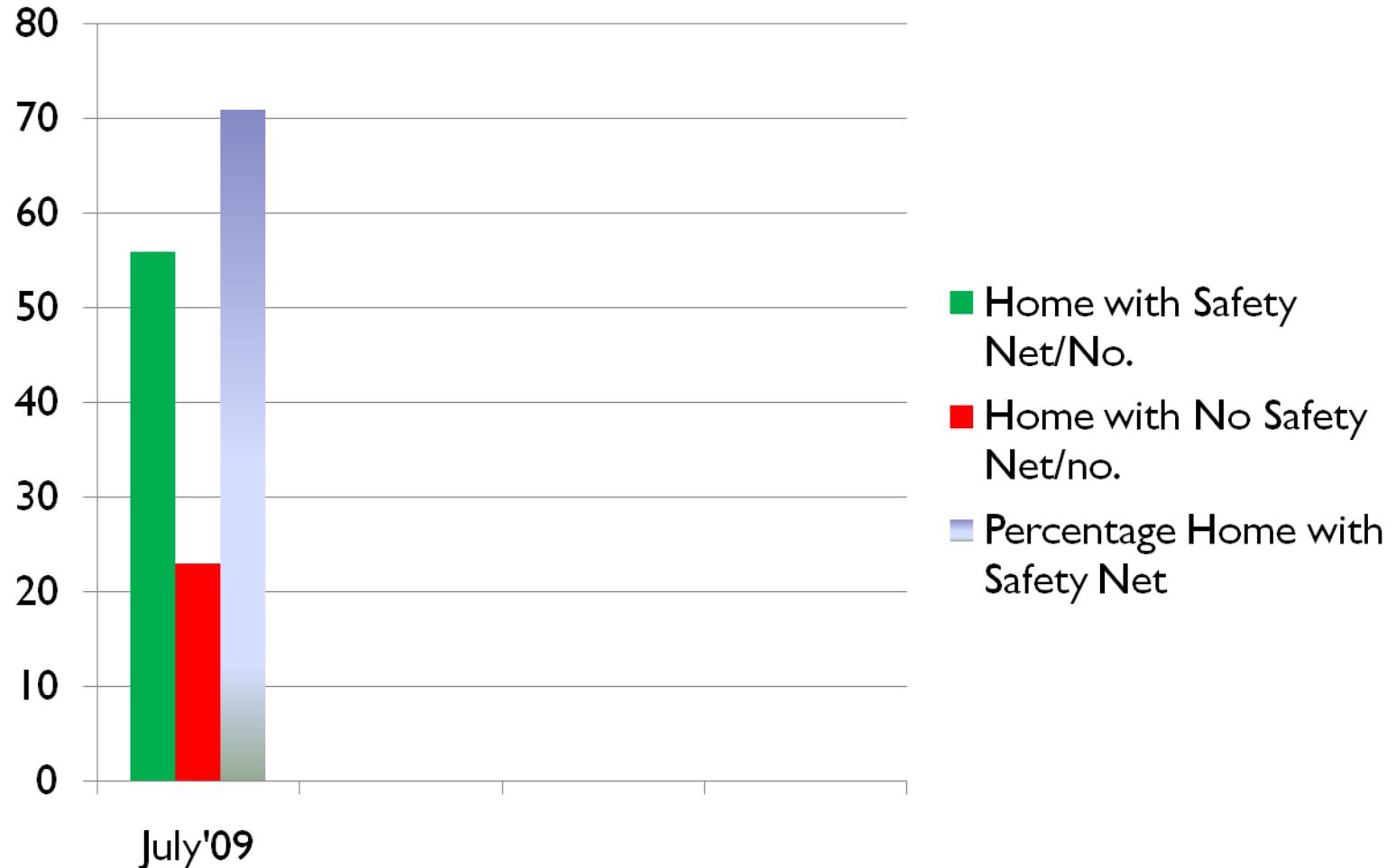Classifieds, Competitions, Internet Cafes, On Site

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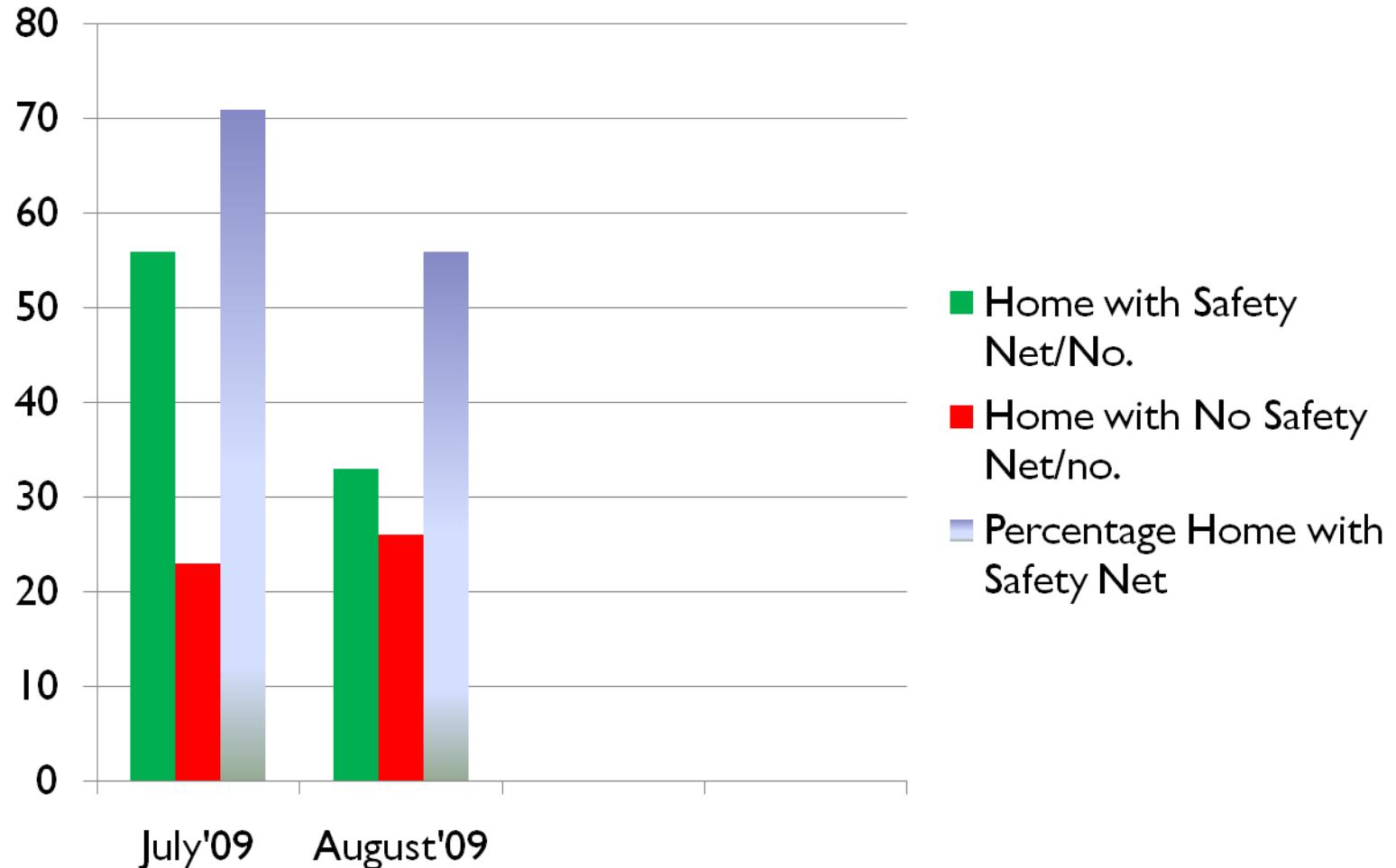
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Results

Legend:
- Home with Safety Net/No.
- Home with No Safety Net/no.
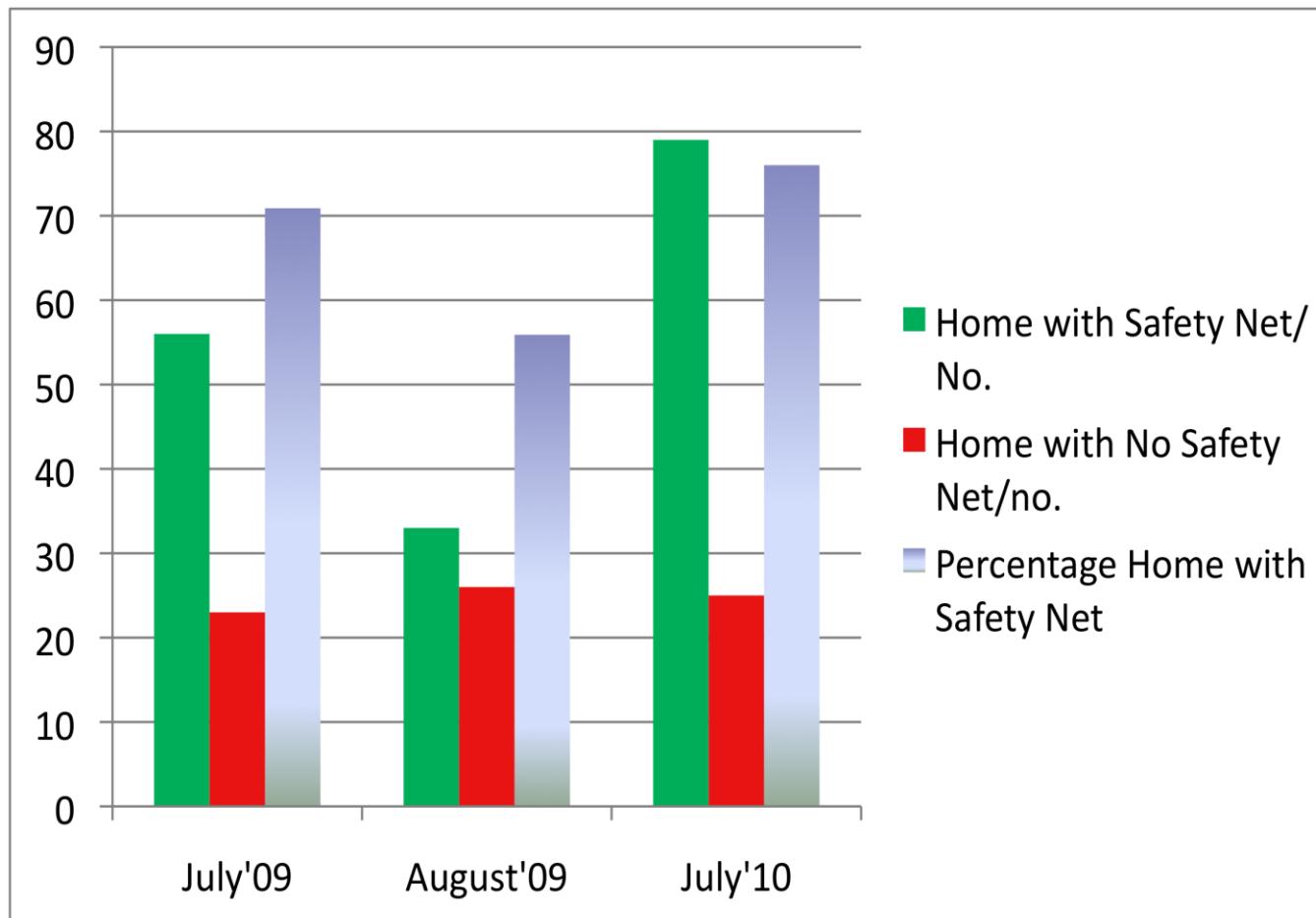- Percentage Home with Safety Net

Results

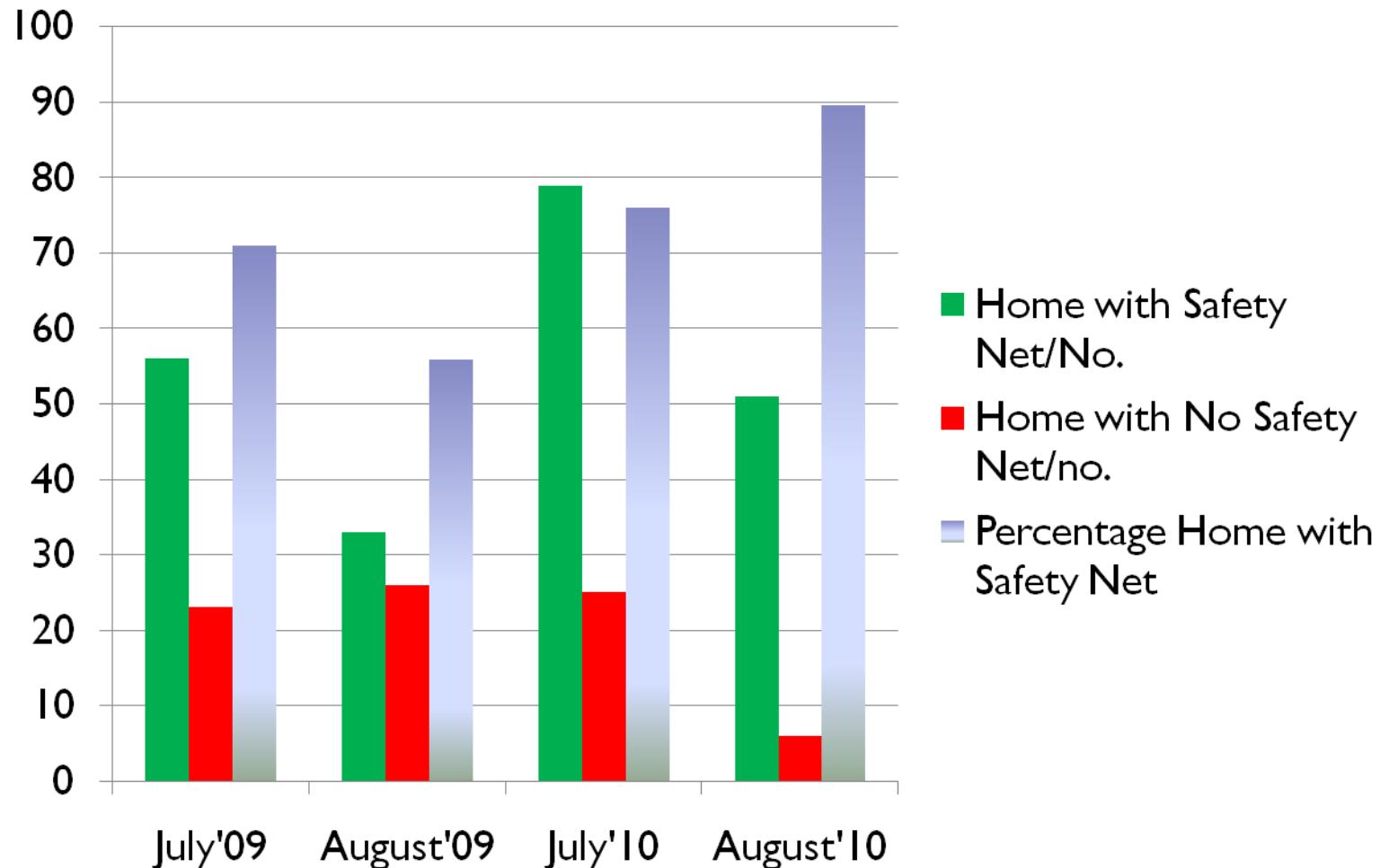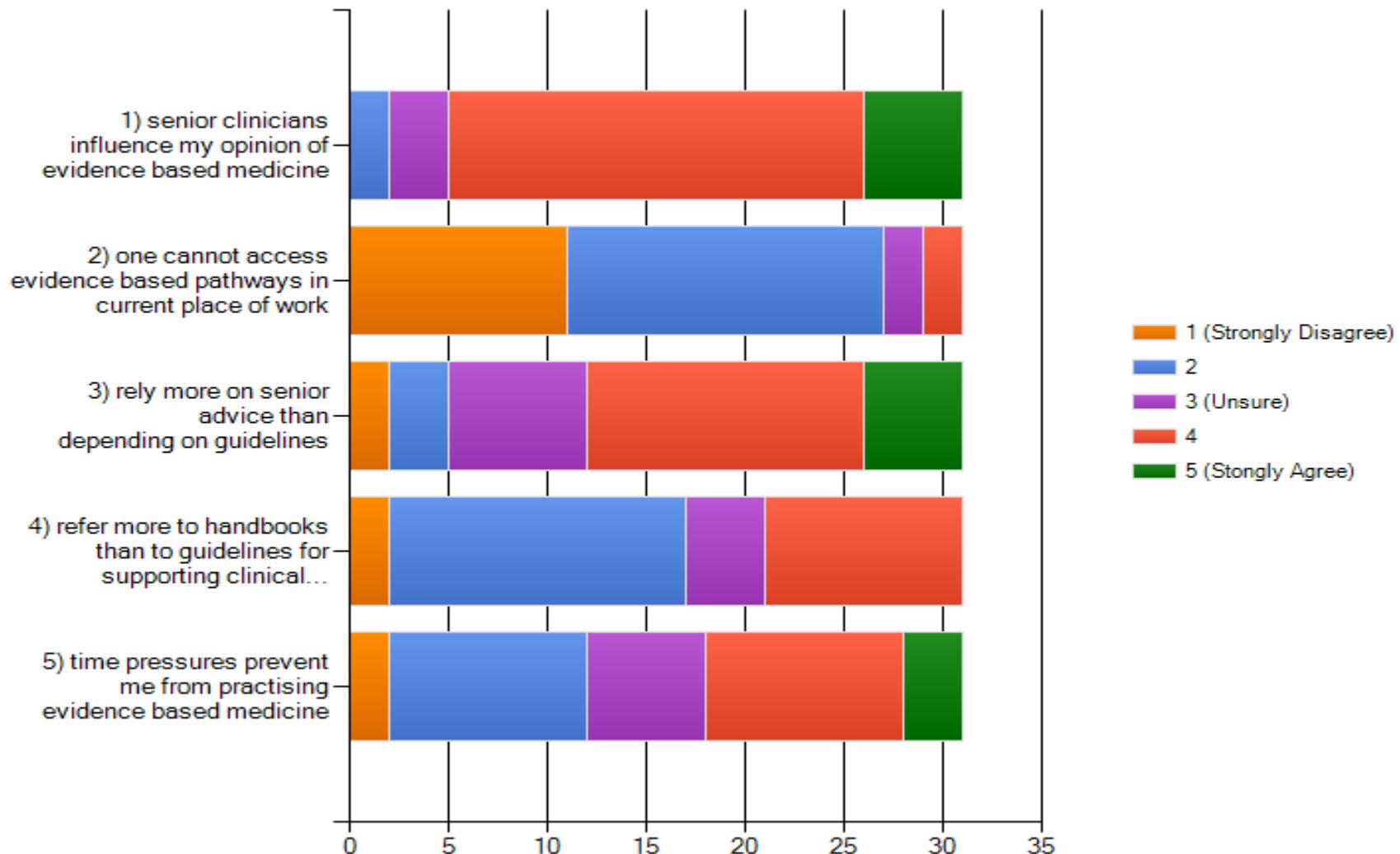# Results

Results

Results

Please state whether you agree or disagree with following statements?

Discussion

- Osmotic uptake versus directed learning
- Intervention versus Induction
- Educate the teacher or the trainer?

- Analysis of website hits, traffic light system and literature review still needed.