



Understanding and Use of Whakawhanaungatanga in Paediatric Medicine Consultations at Waikato Hospital

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November 2018



- Process of building connections and rapport with Māori patients and whānau
- Involves health practitioners and patients/whānau sharing aspects of their own background and culture with each other within the context of clinical interactions to strengthen relationships and trust

“Whaka” - making “Whanaunga” - relation (connection) “Tanga” - the process of...

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Whakawhanaungatanga



International Journal of COPD

Influence of culturally appropriate treatment on experiences of pulmonary rehabilitation

Whakawhanaungatanga is highly valued by Māori patients

Failure of clinicians to recognise cultural issues reduced uptake and participation of pulmonary rehab in indigenous populations.

- Levack et al. (2016)

Australasian Psychiatry

Experiences of Māori psychiatrists and registrars working with Māori children, adolescents and whānau

Whakawhanaungatanga is essential to deliver a clinically relevant and responsive service.

“... as soon as I identified myself, everything changes, and sometimes we’d have parents, or particularly grandparents would say “ah, she’s one of us” and I think that gave me an enormous entry into their world....”

- Elder (2008)

International Review of Psychiatry

Overview of family therapy models used in Mental Health Care in New Zealand

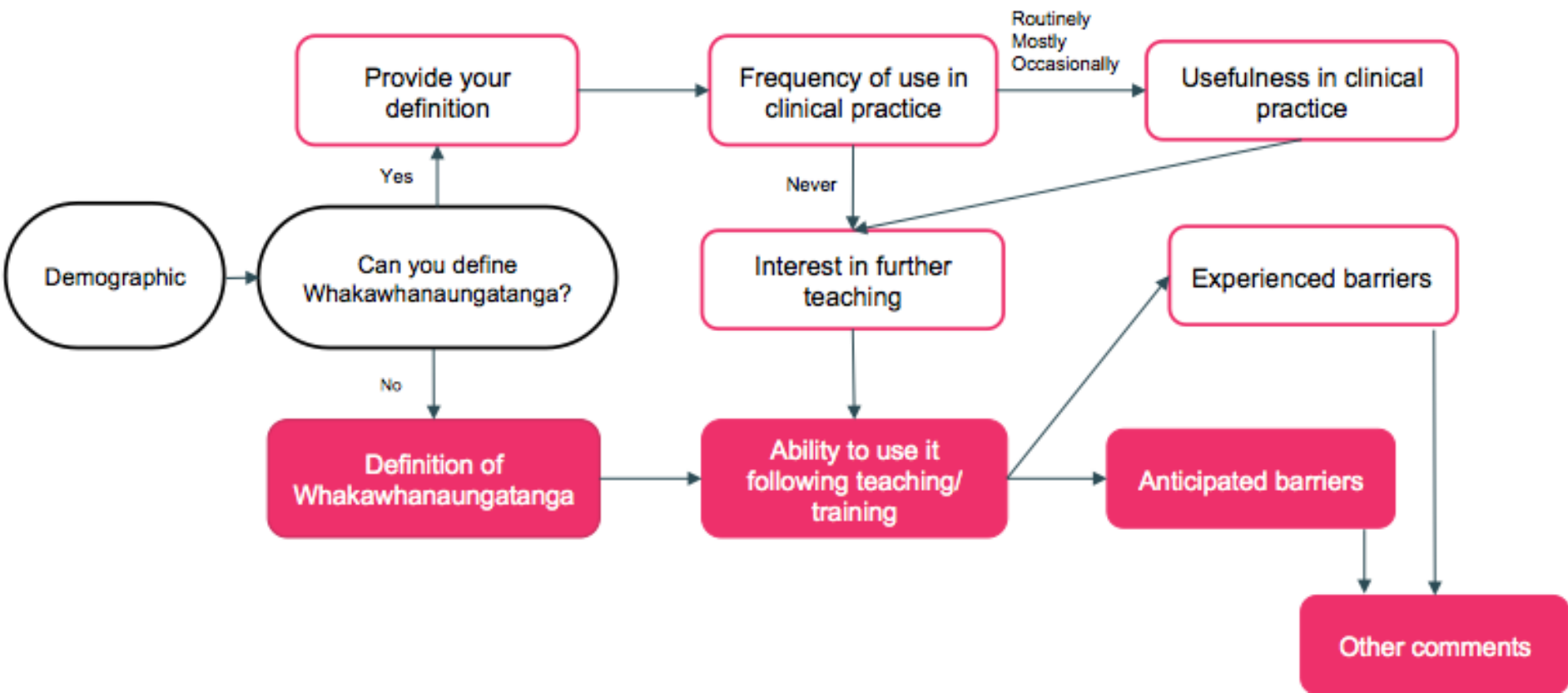
Recognizing the role of whānau and hapu is important in effective delivery of health services to Māori

Concept of family helps to form sense of identity and purpose which is crucial for an individual to be in a state of optimum health.

- Kumar et al. (2012)



Methods



Results

63 staff emailed
questionnaire

Excluded:
1 SHO
2 Registrars
1 Consultant

Timeline
1 week

42 respondents

9 SHOs / 22

41%

16 Regs / 17

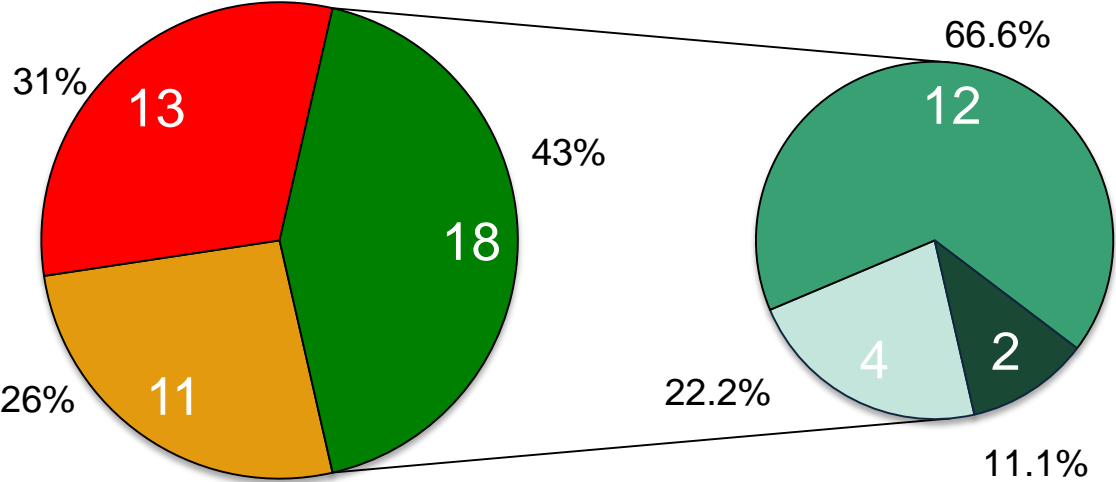
94%

17 SMOs / 20

85%



Have you heard of the term
"whakawhanaungatanga"?



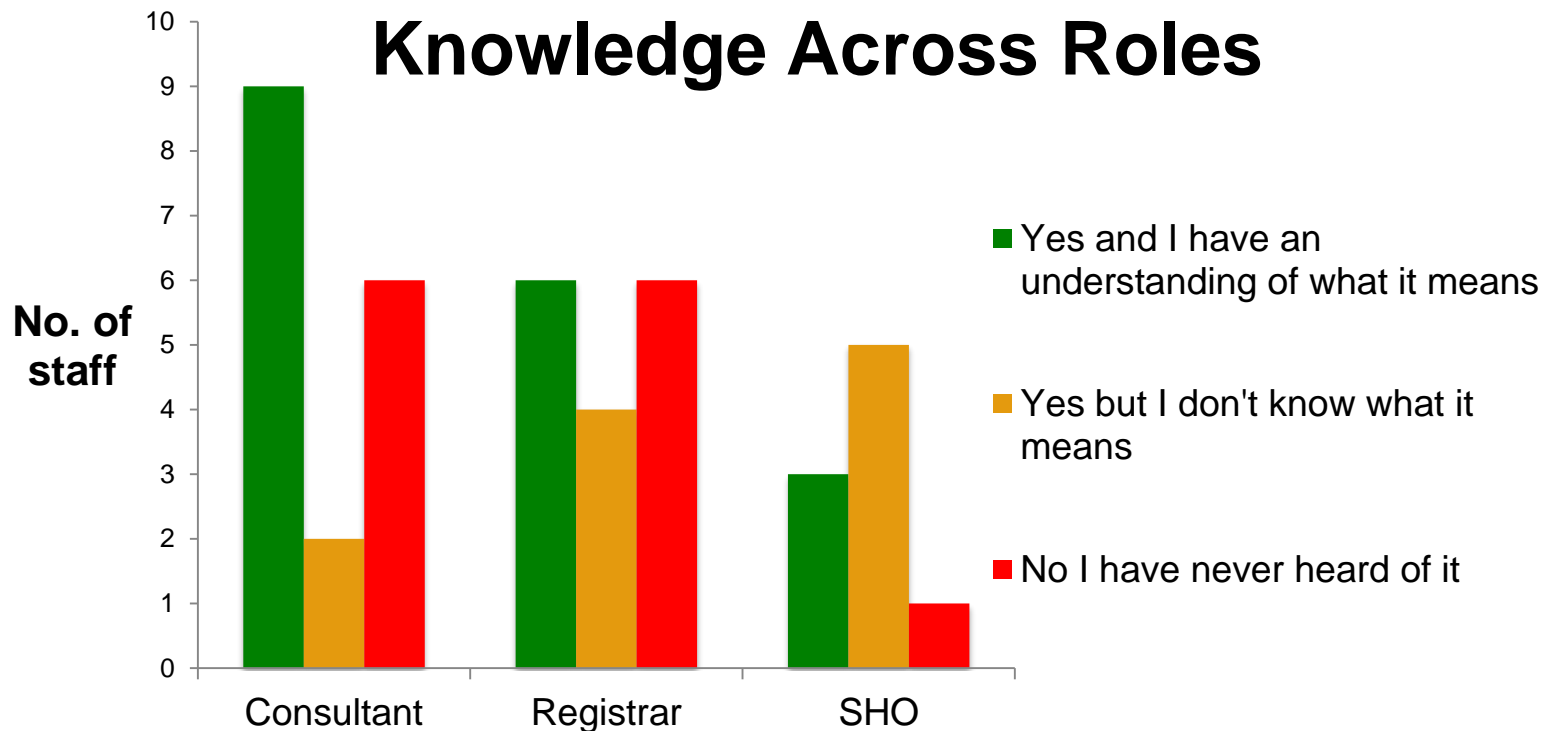
Yes and can define it

Yes but cannot define it

No, have never heard of it

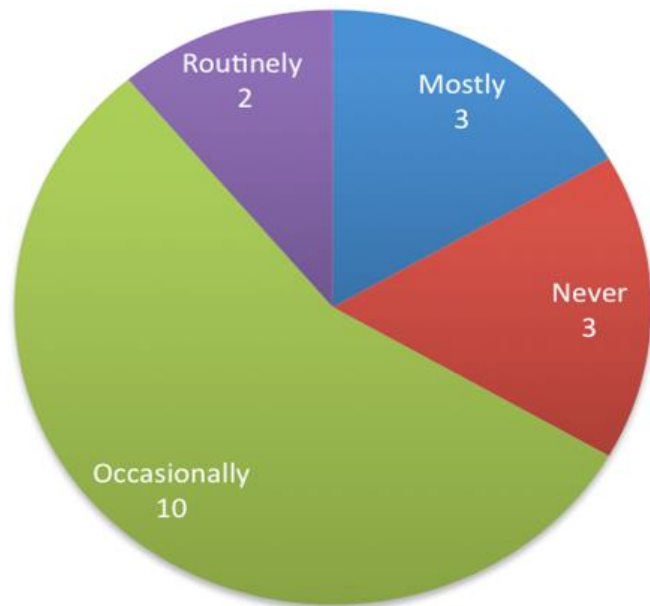
Good understanding	"Making connections" "Sharing and learning about background"
Partial Understanding	"Sharing experiences"
Limited or no understanding	"Passing on information" "communicating"



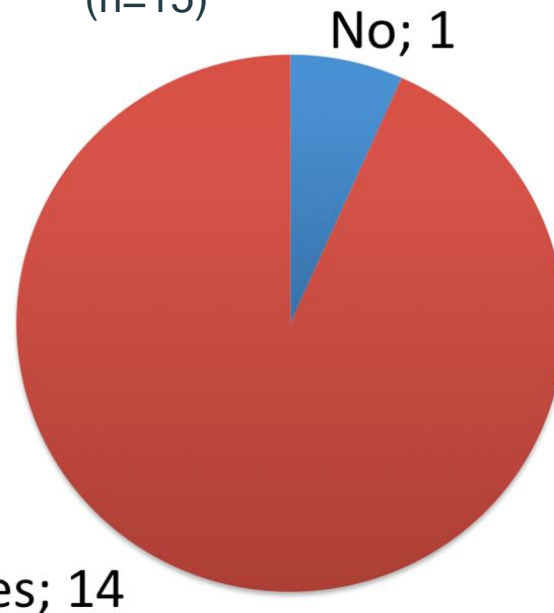


Results

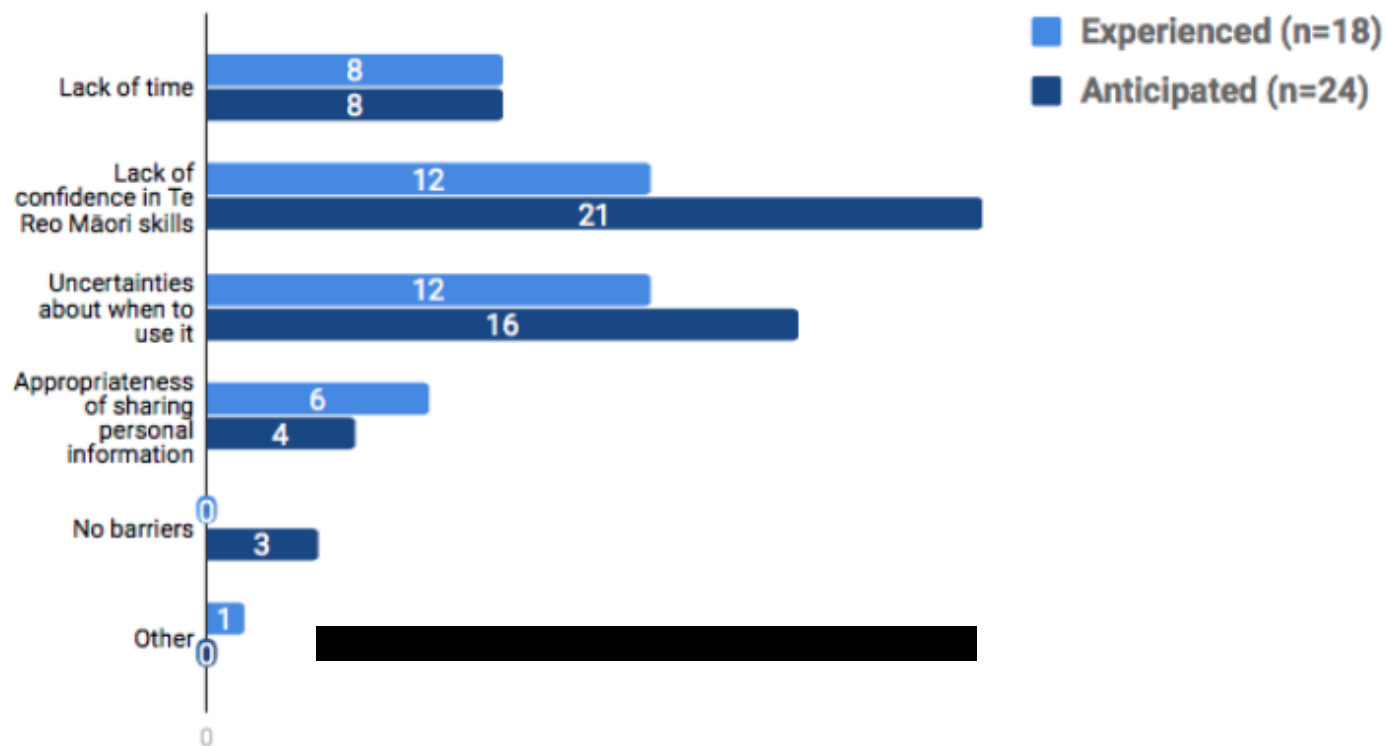
How often do you use
Whakawhanaungatanga in
clinical practice? (n=18)



When you have used
Whakawhanaungatanga in clinical
practice, have you found it beneficial
(n=15)

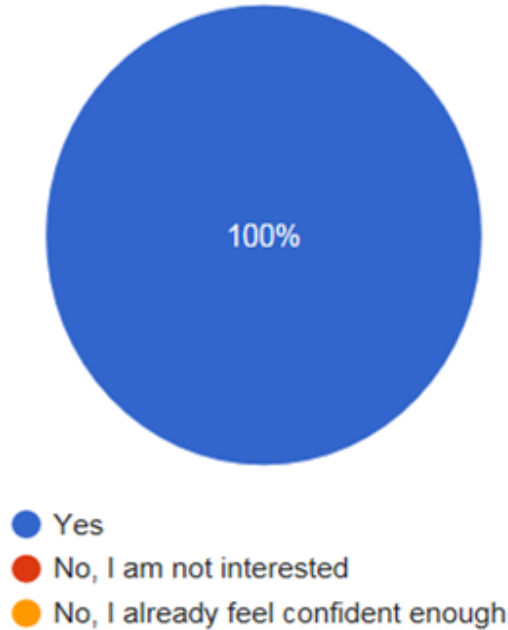


Barriers to Practising Whakawhanaungatanga

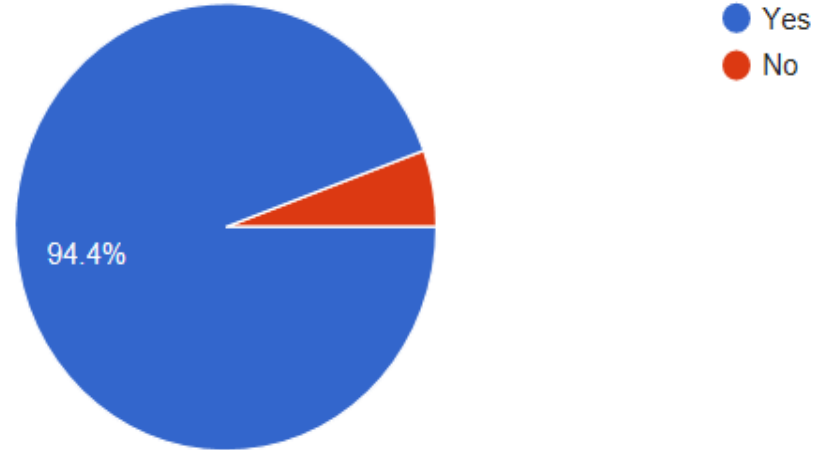


Results

Interest in teaching/training
(n=18)

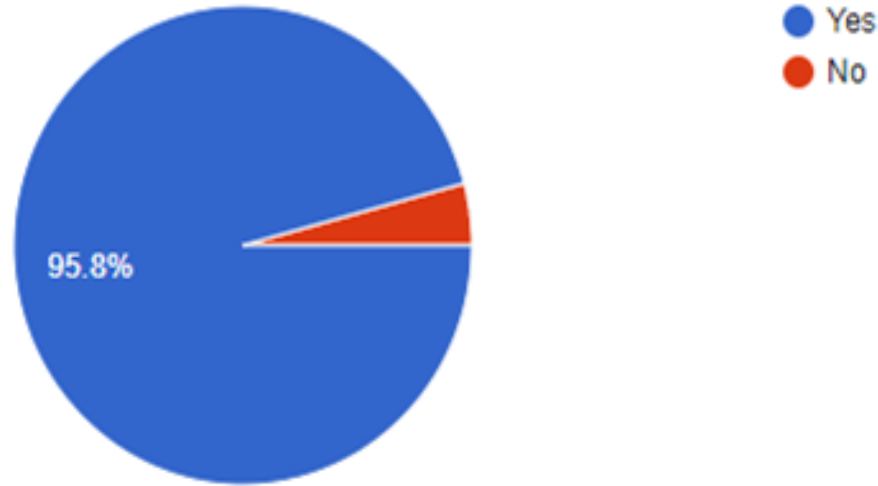


Do you feel this would help
you to use it in practice?
(n=18)



Results

If you had some training/teaching on Whakawhanaungatanga would you feel more able to use it? (n=24)



Summary

- Whakawhanaungatanga is evidence-based
- The majority of our department has a limited understanding of it
- Of those who use it, most find it helpful in their clinical work
- Most people anticipate or experience barriers to its use
- Enthusiasm for teaching/training



Recommendations

Teaching on Whakawhanaungatanga incorporated into teaching on the wider aspects of cultural competence in the clinical setting

Appoint local champion

Discussion about potential forms of teaching

Liaise with Te Puna Oranga

Continue with Te Reo classes



Questions?

Comments?

Discussion
points?



Acknowledgements

Theepah Maran & Wan Ili Mohd Pauzi (Co-contributors)

Dr Alex Wallace

Dr Te Aro Moxon

Waikato paediatric staff participants

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2. Levack, W., Jones, B., Grainger, R., Boland, P., Brown, M., & Ingham, T. (2016). Whakawhanaungatanga: the importance of culturally meaningful connections to improve uptake of pulmonary rehabilitation by Māori with COPD - a qualitative study. *International Journal of COPD*, 11, 489-501
3. Elder, H. (2008). Ko wai ahau? (Who am I?) How cultural identity issues are experienced by Maori psychiatrists and registrars working with children and adolescents. *Australasian Psychiatry*, 16(3), 200-203.
4. Kumar, S., Dean, P., Smith, B., Mellsop, G. (2012). Which family - What therapy: Maori culture, families and family therapy in New Zealand. *International Review of Psychiatry*, 24(2), 99-105.

