



Theory into practice: using evidence-based strategies in clinical reasoning to design a longitudinal, postgraduate teaching programme



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Introduction

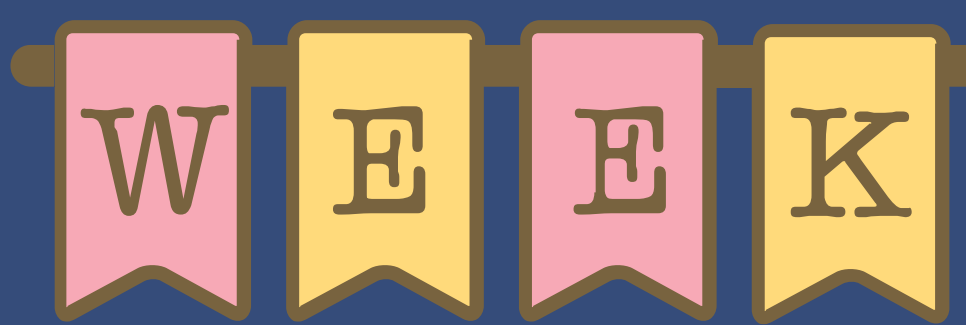
Clinical reasoning is one of the most important qualities to possess as a doctor. Its link to diagnostic error highlights its significance for clinicians, patients and clinical educators. Despite this, it is not well attended to in medical curricula.

In 2021, the UK Clinical Reasoning in Medical Education group (CRaME) published recommendations on how to better teach this critical skill. We implemented these during a recent redesign of our department's teaching programme and evaluated its perceived effectiveness.

With thanks to all the RIE EM consultants for their presentations, delivery and enthusiasm! #TeamED

Methods

We designed a programme:



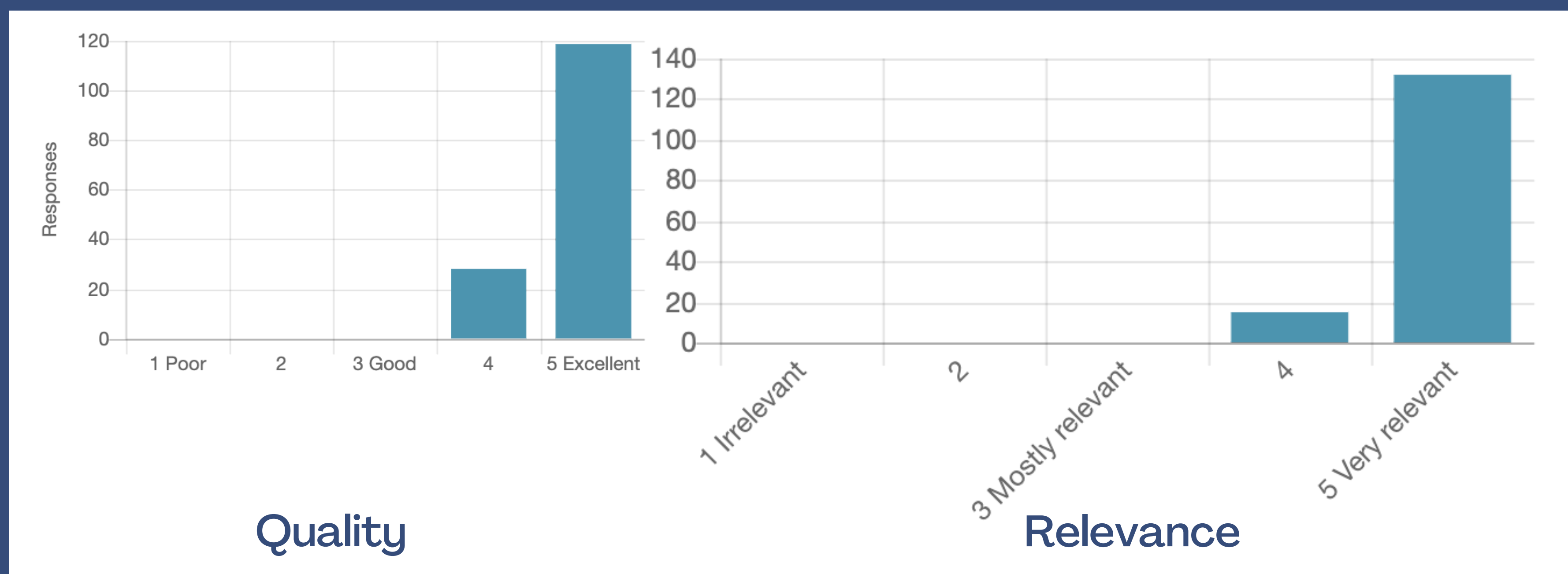
- aligned to the Royal College of Emergency Medicine's clinical syllabus
- with weekly themes based around a system or speciality
- that uses standardised, ten-minute learning sessions prepared by a consultant. These are emailed to the presenter in advance
- where sessions are delivered by the same, designated shop floor consultant prior to evening and night shift handovers
- based on clinical cases and structured around presenting problems rather than specific diagnoses
- that concludes each week with a quiz to reinforce learning

Results

We ran our programme from Tuesday to Thursday between August and November 2023 and collected feedback for 70 sessions.

The mean score for quality and relevance of teaching was 4.8/5 and 4.9/5 respectively.

Qualitative feedback was positive regarding the interactivity and case-based nature of the sessions and appropriate 'take homes' were documented. Following this success, we have expanded our programme to run five days a week.



Conclusion

Evidence-based strategies in clinical reasoning can be effectively applied in designing a successful, longitudinal, postgraduate teaching programme. We believe that this approach could be adapted to enhance learning in other specialties.