

# Evaluating the Feasibility of Hybrid Learning Events for Widening Participation Pre-Medical Students

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## Introduction

- Many initiatives have been proposed to overcome barriers to widening participation (WP) students from accessing a degree in medicine, namely regional conferences or events designed for students aspiring to do medicine.<sup>1</sup>
- Programmes of this nature can be difficult for WP students to access for reasons such as insufficient funding to attend, or travel; events not being advertised directly to these students etc.<sup>1</sup>
- Medic Insight Glasgow (MIG) is a student-led organisation who construct programmes designed for all, including WP students interested in studying medicine.
- In 2022/23, our programmes were delivered using a hybrid format of online and in-person events designed to maintain capacity and access for WP students - especially after the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Methods

- 3 events were ran - 'Interview Preparation Events', 'The Day Programme' (S4 pupils), and 'The Week Programme' (S5 pupils) (Figure 1)
- All of these events were ran using a combination of online Zoom lectures and workshops using breakout rooms, as well as in-person lectures, workshops and small group learning
- All WP students were given priority for their preference of online or in-person to facilitate accessibility
- Data was gathered on WP status, content and delivery of these programmes using post-event surveys

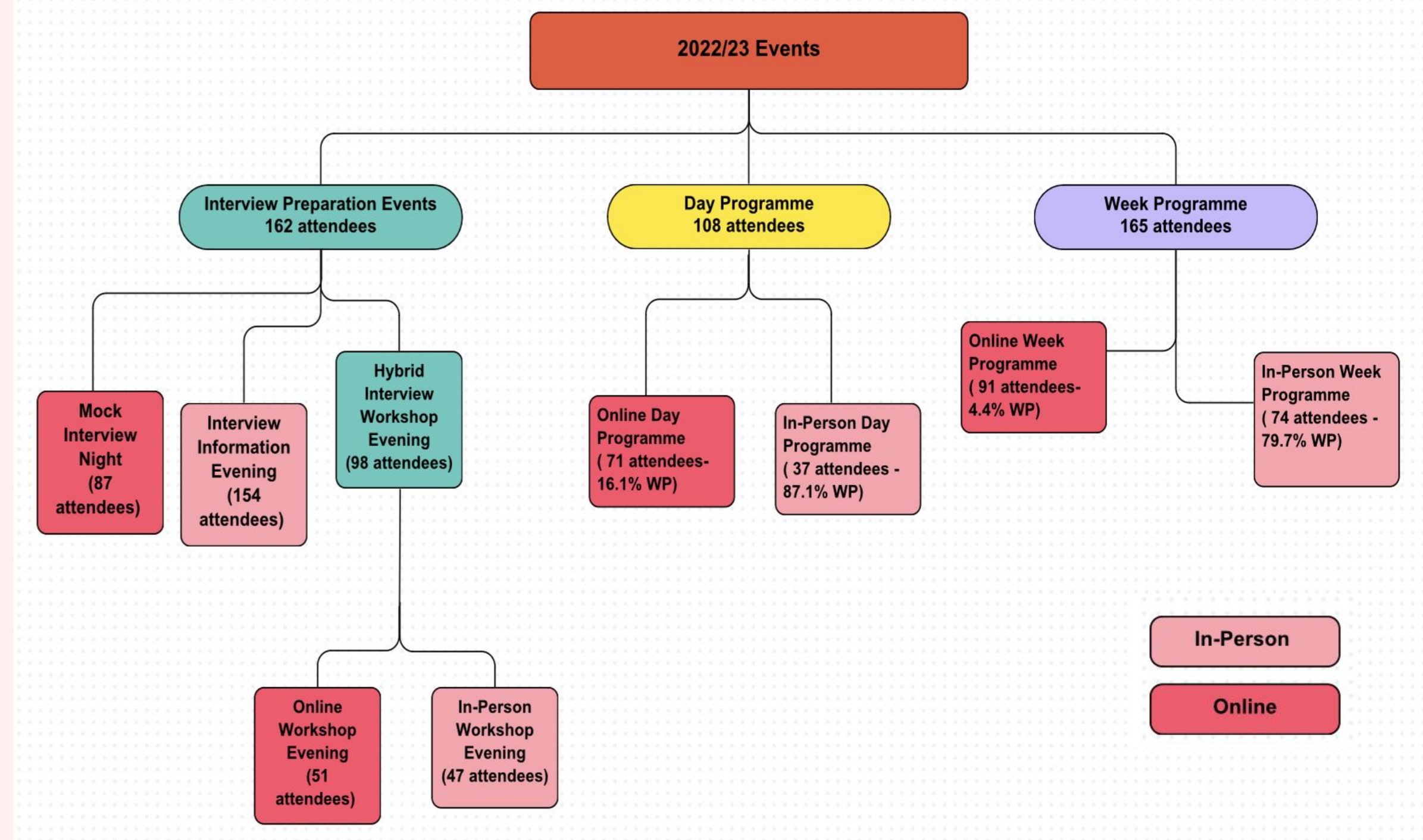


Figure 1. MIG Events 2022/23

## Results - Event Feedback

- Satisfaction and relevance (Figure 2):
  - 'Interview Preparation Events' - 98% of attendees rated their overall satisfaction  $\geq 4/5$ , 97% rated overall relevance  $\geq 4/5$
  - 'Day Programme' - 97% of attendees rated their overall satisfaction  $\geq 4/5$ , 98% rated overall relevance  $\geq 4/5$
  - 'Week Programme' - 93% of attendees rated their overall satisfaction  $\geq 4/5$ , 97% rated overall relevance  $\geq 4/5$

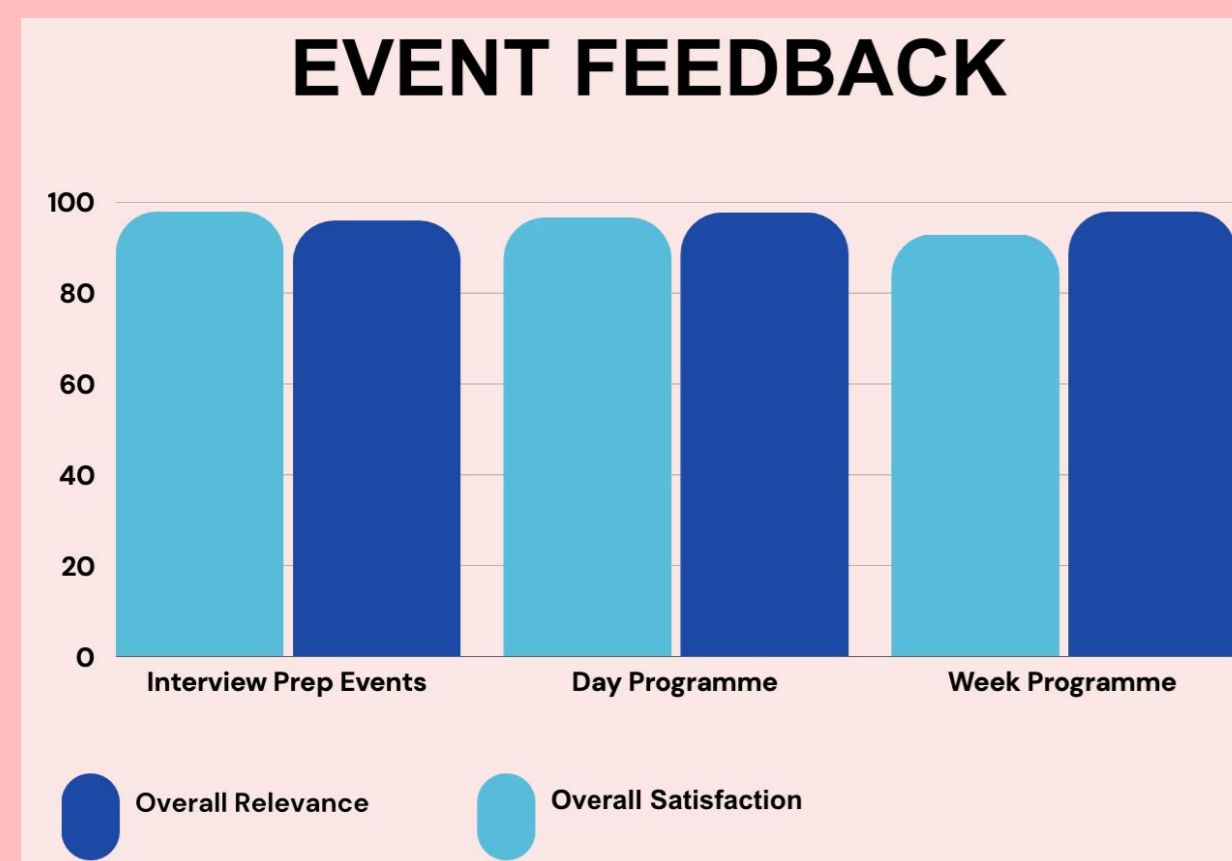


Figure 2. MIG Event Feedback 2022/23

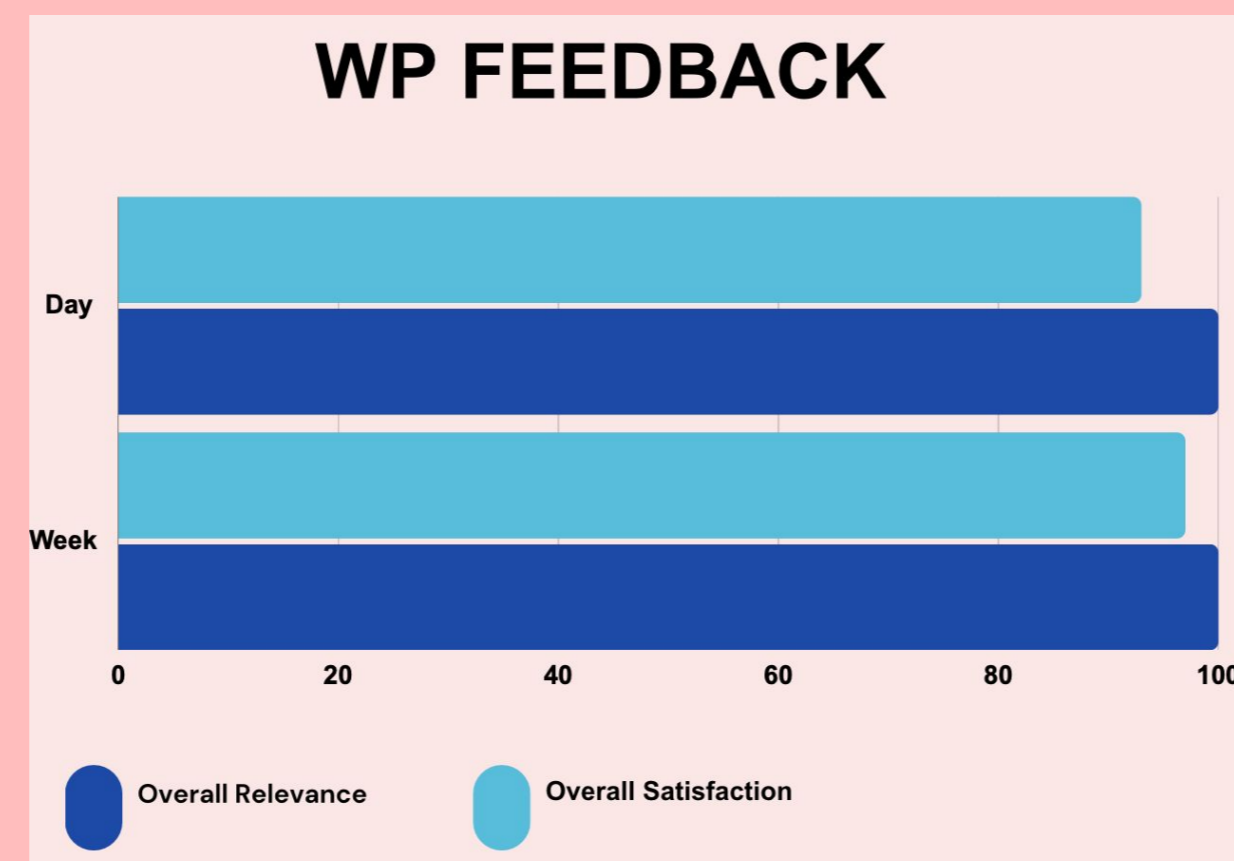


Figure 3. MIG Event WP Feedback 2022/23

- Content:
  - 'Interview Preparation Events' - there was a substantial preference to maintain lectures online. The majority of those who attended the workshops wanted to keep the format the same as they attended (Figure 4)
  - 'Week Programme' - there was a significant favourability of in-person vs online or hybrid delivery of the event for those who attended in person. However, the response was more mixed for those who attended online and hybrid versions of the events (Figure 5)

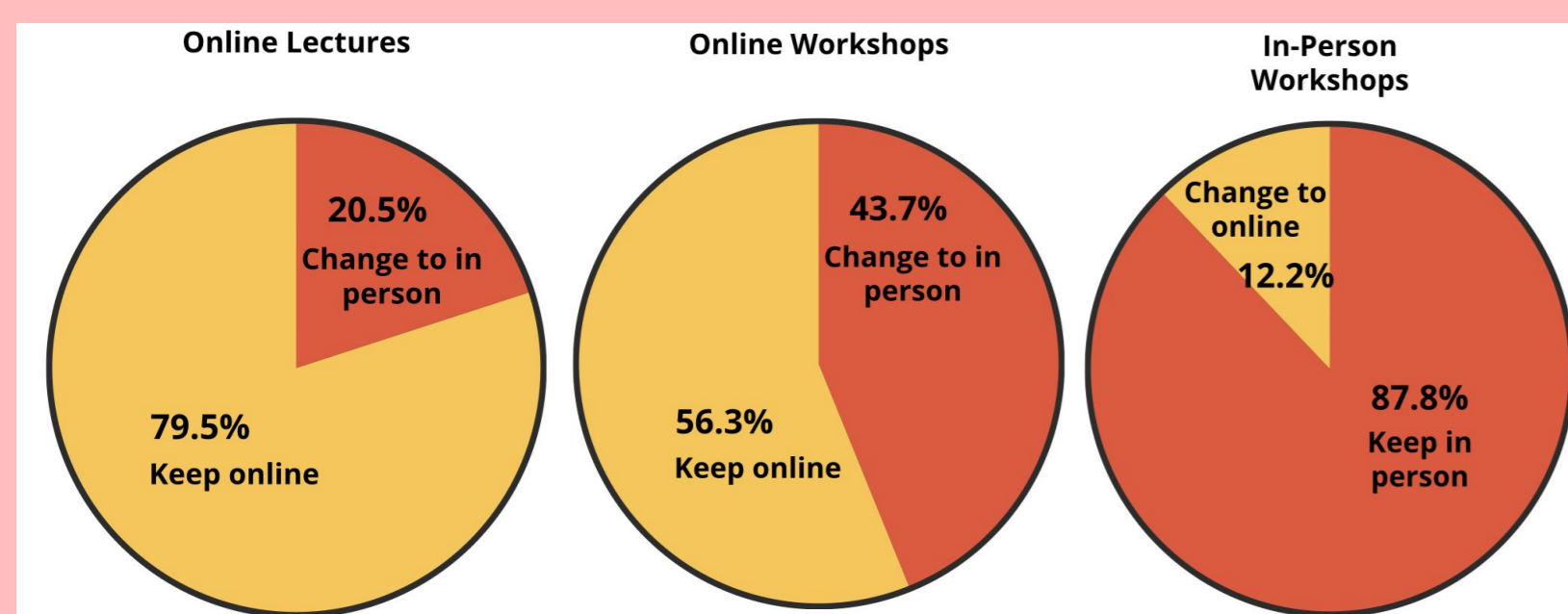


Figure 4. Interview Preparation Event Feedback (%)

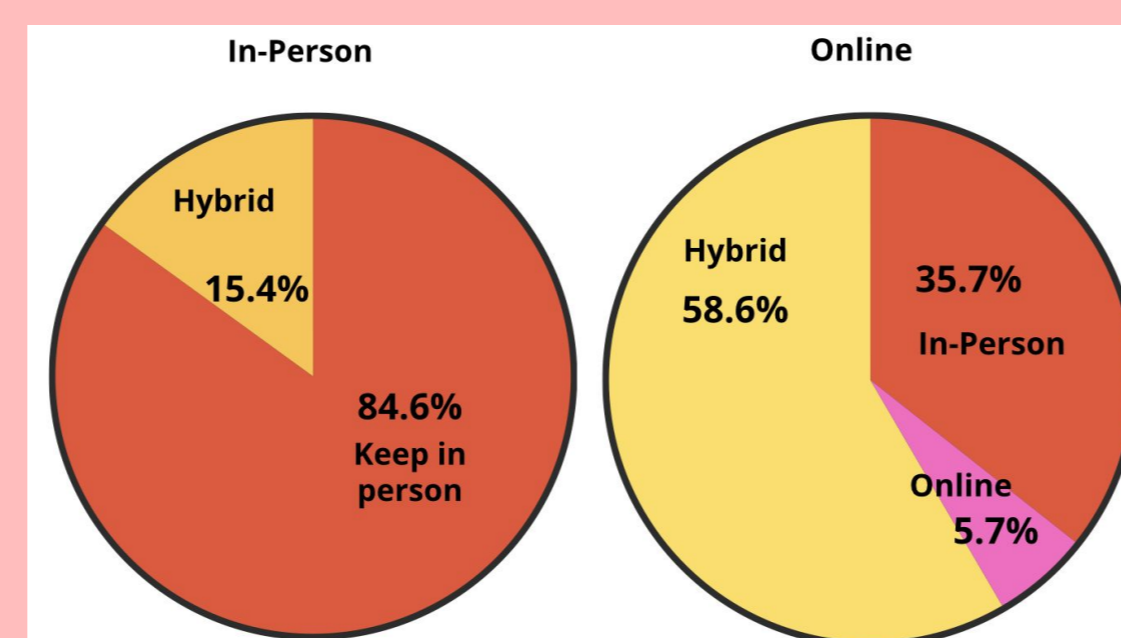


Figure 5. Week Programme Feedback (%)

## Conclusions

- Our hybrid delivery format was well received by students and was the preferred format for future events
- Large group content such as lectures and talks were shown to have considerable online preference, whereas small group workshops were preferred to be in-person for the Interview Preparation Events
- Overall satisfaction and relevance rates were high across all 3 events and modes of delivery

**Our research shows there is a demand for both online and in-person delivery of these events with evidence of what content is more favourable for each mode of delivery. This confirms the feasibility of the hybrid model for these educational events.**

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## References

<sup>1</sup>Medical Schools Council. *Implementing Selecting for Excellence: A Progress Update*. London; 2016. Available from <https://www.medschools.ac.uk/our-work/selection/selecting-for-excellence>. Accessed March 30, 2024.

## Contact details

If you want to learn more about what Medic Insight Glasgow does, and how a similar programme could be set up at your organisation, please email the authors via:

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