

Aims

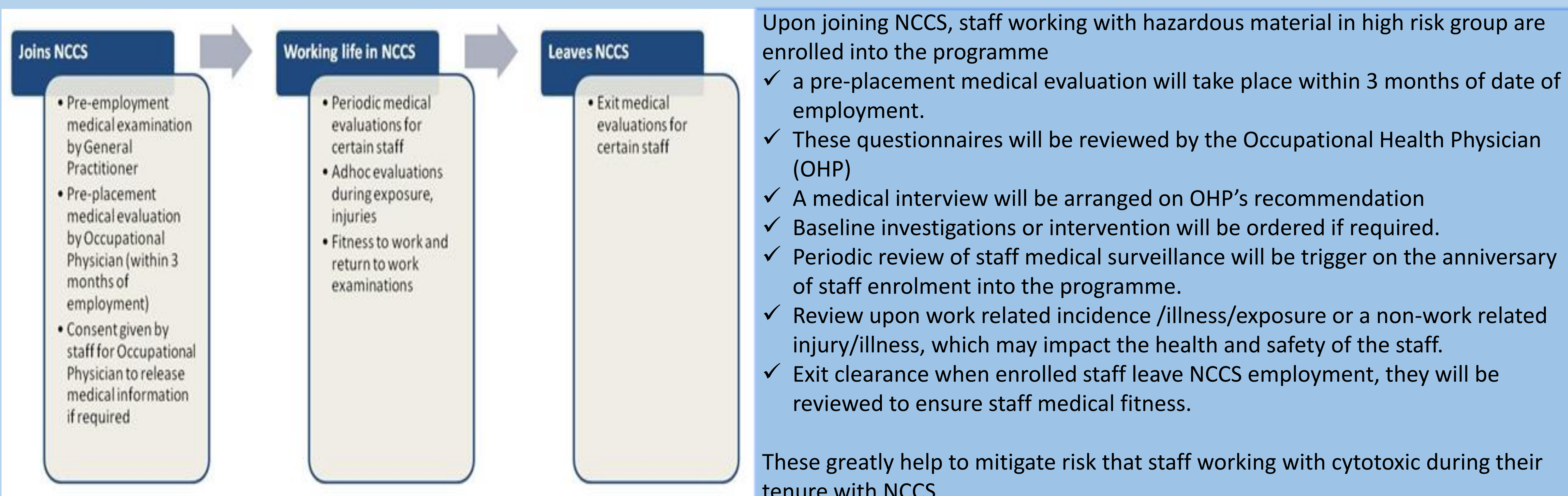
NCCS medical surveillance is a programme that focus on exposure monitoring for high risk personnel working with hazardous material in an oncology care centre. The aims of medical surveillance programme are to

- provide a high standard of preventive care to protect the health and well-being of our healthcare workers.
- enhance the well-being of our employees by the incorporation of certain health screening parameters and health education on certain hazardous work environments.

This programme involves periodic medical evaluations from the time of pre-placement and periodic intervals till their exit from the company. It is a **Risk Based approach** BUT not a substitute for measures to control hazardous exposures at the workplace.

Methodology

This medical surveillance programme targeted our high risk group of staff i.e. mainly researchers, pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, chemotherapy nurses, radiographers, radiologists, radiation therapists and physicists.

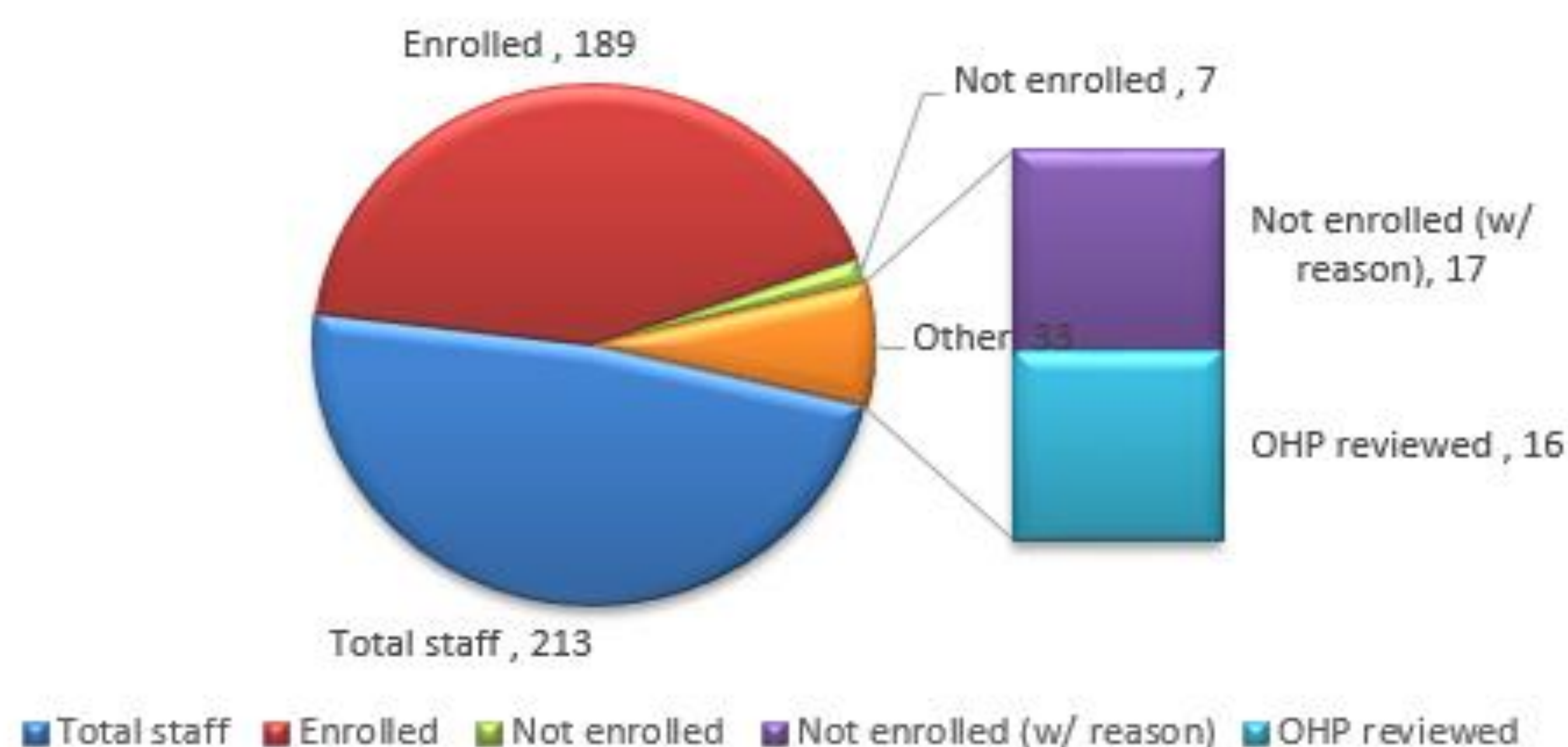


Results

Phase 1 : 89% of 105 staff working with cytotoxic was reviewed in this surveillance exercise. (10 staff were on extended study leave and maternity leave)
10% of enrolled staff have subsequent detailed review with the OHP.

Phase 2 : A total of 108 staff comprising of radiographer, radiologist, radiation therapists and physicists were enrolled into the programme. 7% of enrolled staff had detailed review with OHP.

Medical Surveillance Enrolment for Staff working with Hazardous Material



Conclusion

This initiative is valuable to staff working with hazardous material.

To the employee, the monitoring imparts a sense of being taken care of, by the department and institution, thereby increasing morale of our staff working with hazardous material.

For institution, an effective surveillance programme allows for the early detection of employees in high risk categories in developing work related occupational disease. The programme facilitates the taking of timely corrective actions and ensures that workers remain fit in their occupation.

Workers' medical surveillance also helps gauge the effectiveness of existing environmental control measures.