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IMPACT OF PHARMACIST COUNSELLING ON CAREGIVERS' KNOWLEDGE FOR PEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH ATOPIC DERMATITIS

Koh EW¹, Cheong JYV¹, Lee XHM¹, Koh MJA², Hie SL¹
¹Pharmacy, KK Women's and Children's Hospital
²Dermatology Service, KK Women's and Children's Hospital



INTRODUCTION

ATOPIC DERMATITIS (AD)

- Most common skin condition among children¹⁻²
- Associated with significant social and financial burden²⁻⁴

PATIENT EDUCATION

- Dedicating adequate time to educate patient and caregivers:
 - Nature of AD
 - Importance of appropriate skin care and compliance⁵
- Educational programs for affected children and caregivers shown to have a positive effect on:
 - QOL
 - Disease severity⁶

HOW IT VALUE ADDS?

- More active contribution to patient care
- Impart knowledge on medications to caregivers
- Promote adherence to medication

OBJECTIVES

PRIMARY	To determine if pharmacist-led counselling improves caregivers' knowledge on AD.
SECONDARY	To determine caregivers' satisfaction with the provided service

INTRODUCTION

Prospective questionnaire-based study with recruitment from September to December 2015 at KK Women's & Children's Hospital (KKH) outpatient pharmacy

1. Assess eligibility of caregivers

INCLUSION CRITERIA	EXCLUSION CRITERIA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary caregivers of children who are <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ ≤18 years old ❖ Diagnosed with mild to moderate AD ❖ New patients of KKH dermatology clinic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients without caregivers • Caregivers who are non-English or non-mandarin speaking • Caregivers who do not reside in Singapore

2. Obtain informed consent

3. Administer Questionnaire A

- Demographical questions
- Knowledge-based questionnaire

4. Counseling session

- Using previously developed educational slides available in both Chinese and English
- Dispense medications

5. Administer Questionnaire B

- Satisfaction survey (adapted from a validated tool⁷)

1-4 weeks later,

6. Administer Questionnaire C via a follow-up phone call

- Knowledge-based questionnaire (same as that in Questionnaire A)

DATA ANALYSIS

- Pre- and post-counselling knowledge scores were tested using paired sample t-test at a significance level of $p < 0.05$

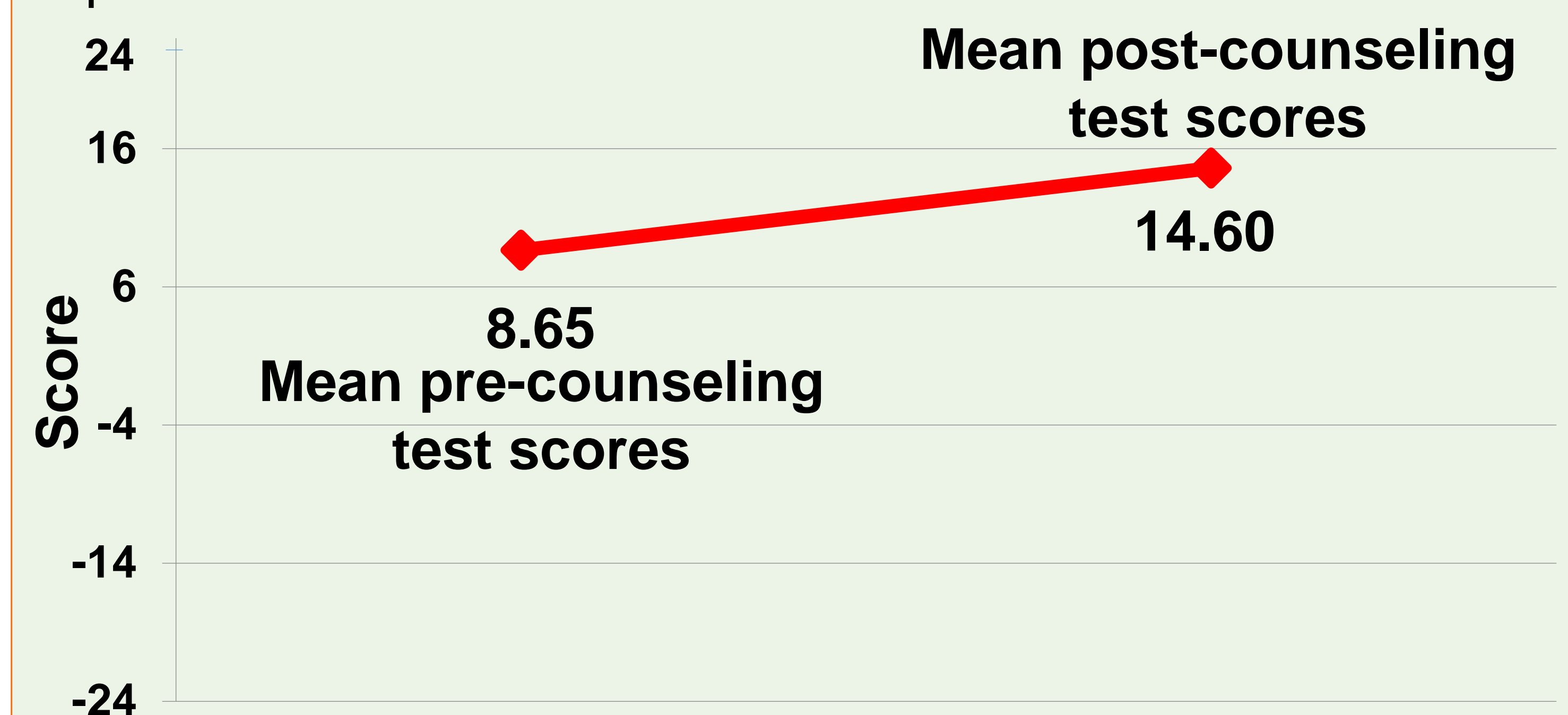
RESULTS

24 participants were screened

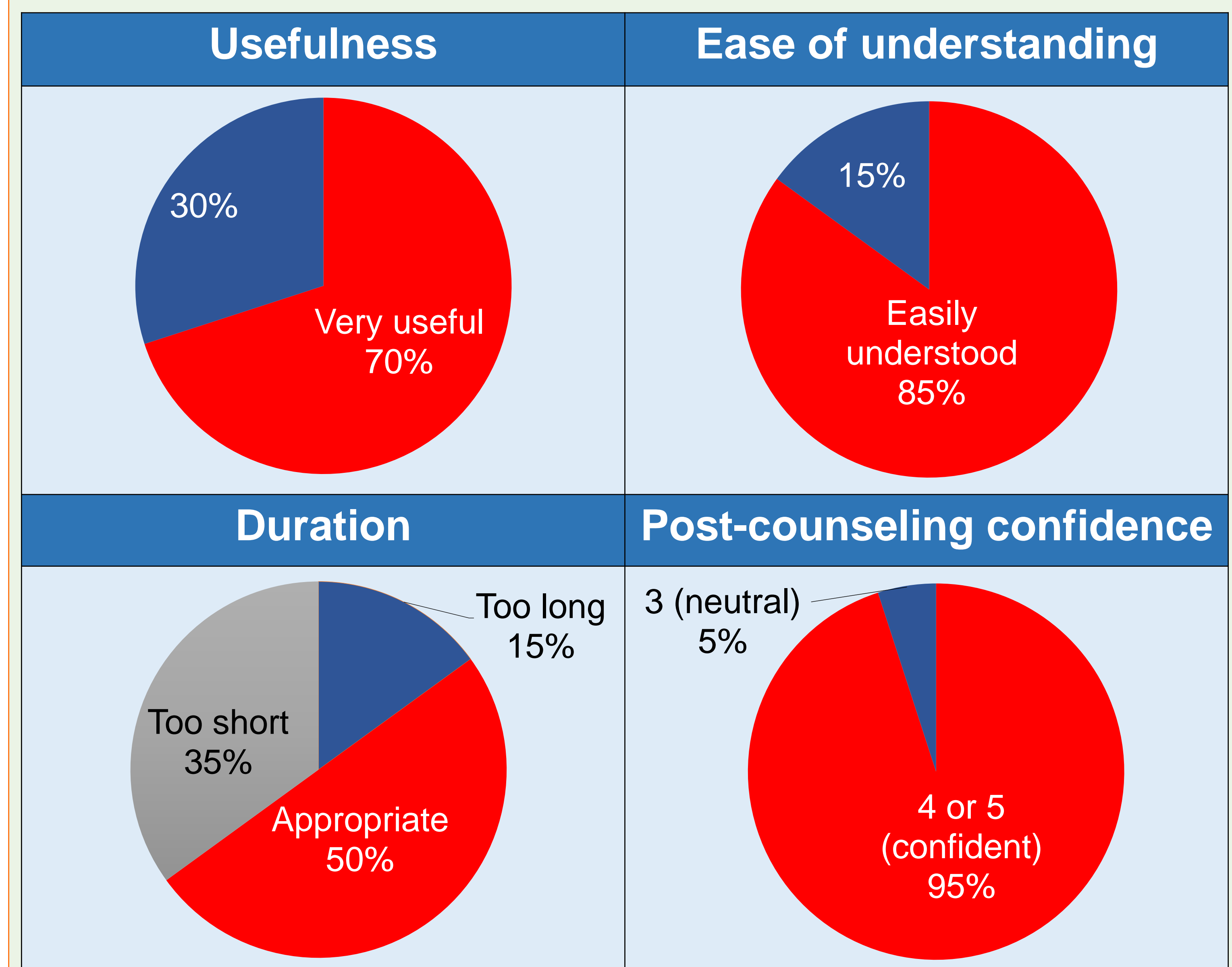
- 2 refused participation
- 2 were lost to follow up

KNOWLEDGE BASED QUESTIONNAIRE

- Score range: -24 to +24
- p -value < 0.001



SATISFACTION SURVEY



DISCUSSION

IMPACT OF PHARMACIST COUNSELLING

- Mean post-counselling score was significantly higher than pre-counselling score.
- Studies have associated knowledge with compliance, and providing education may translate to better compliance and patient outcomes.⁸⁻¹⁰
- Thus, it is necessary to improve caregivers' knowledge on AD.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Provision of service on more days of the week so that more patients can benefit from it

CONCLUSION

Caregivers were generally satisfied with the service provided and demonstrated improvement in their knowledge of AD which aids in the management of their child's condition and potentially translates to better treatment outcomes.

REFERENCES (More references can be provided upon request)

1. Tay YK, et al. *The British journal of dermatology*. 2002;146(1):101-106.
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3. Camfferman D, et al. *JCSM: official publication of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine*. 2010;6(6):581.
 4. Thompson DL, et al. *Journal of advanced nursing*. 2014;70(11):2483-2494.