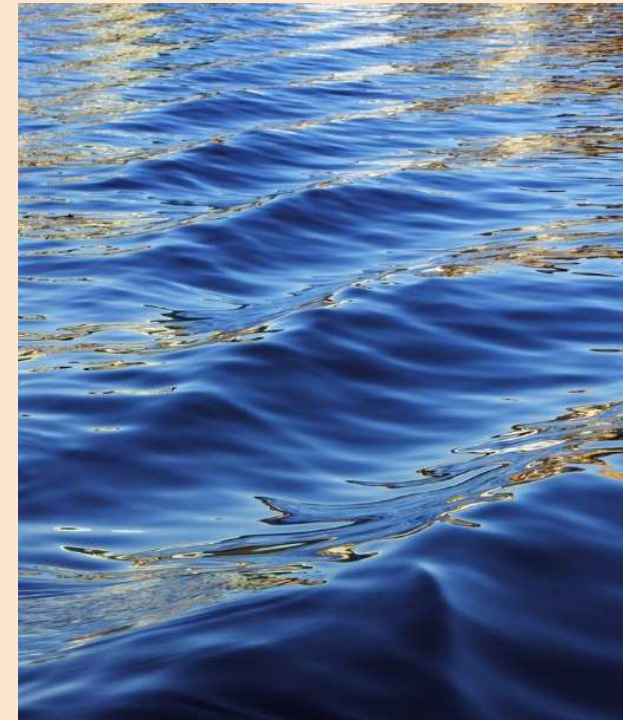


A quality examination for
cardiothoracic surgical
care practitioners is
urgently required in the
United Kingdom – A
multicentre study

Bhuvana
SCTS- Manchester 2015



Background

- CT SCPs are an integral part of the surgical team.
- The education of the trainees is hugely important for ensuring the best surgical care.
- The New RCS England curriculum highlights PGDip/Masters level education but there is no final examination.
- Previous examination format.
 - 2 years in house training with a final exam in Papworth hospital.
 - 6 essay questions and 30 minute viva.
 - RCS(England) withdrew the examination 2 years.
 - Higher institution trainees continued but the in-house trainees left with no support.

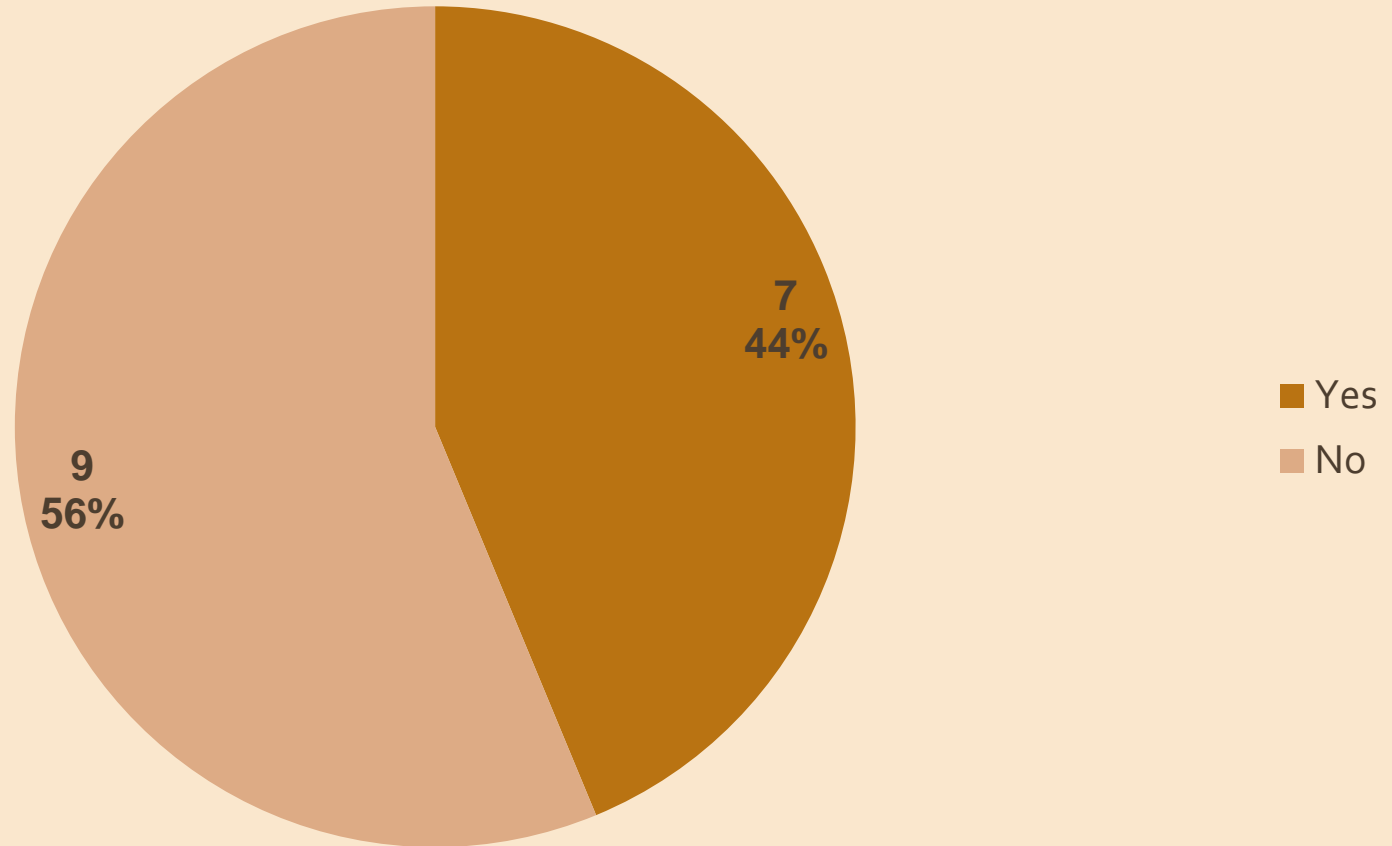
Aim of this study

- To understand the trainees view.
- To understand the importance of this examination.
- To understand the transition and trainees' experience after the withdrawal.
- To set up a quality examination (ACSA, SCTS & RCS Edinburgh).
- To set up the examination team to mould the new examination model.

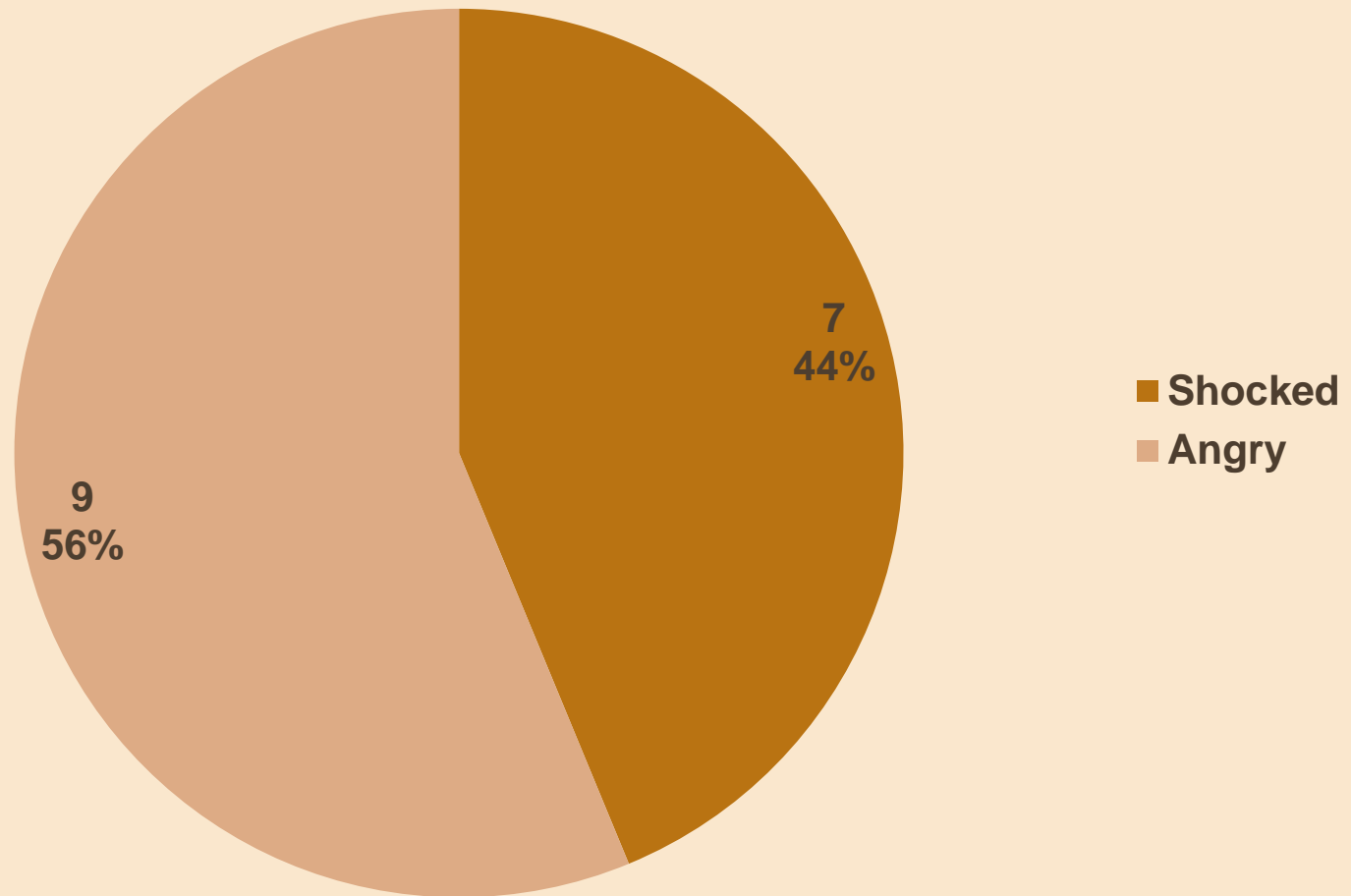
Methods

- Identified 20 CT SCP trainees around the United Kingdom.
- Questionnaires were sent out to all 20 trainees.
- 16 were returned and analysed.
- Demographics and descriptive data assessed.

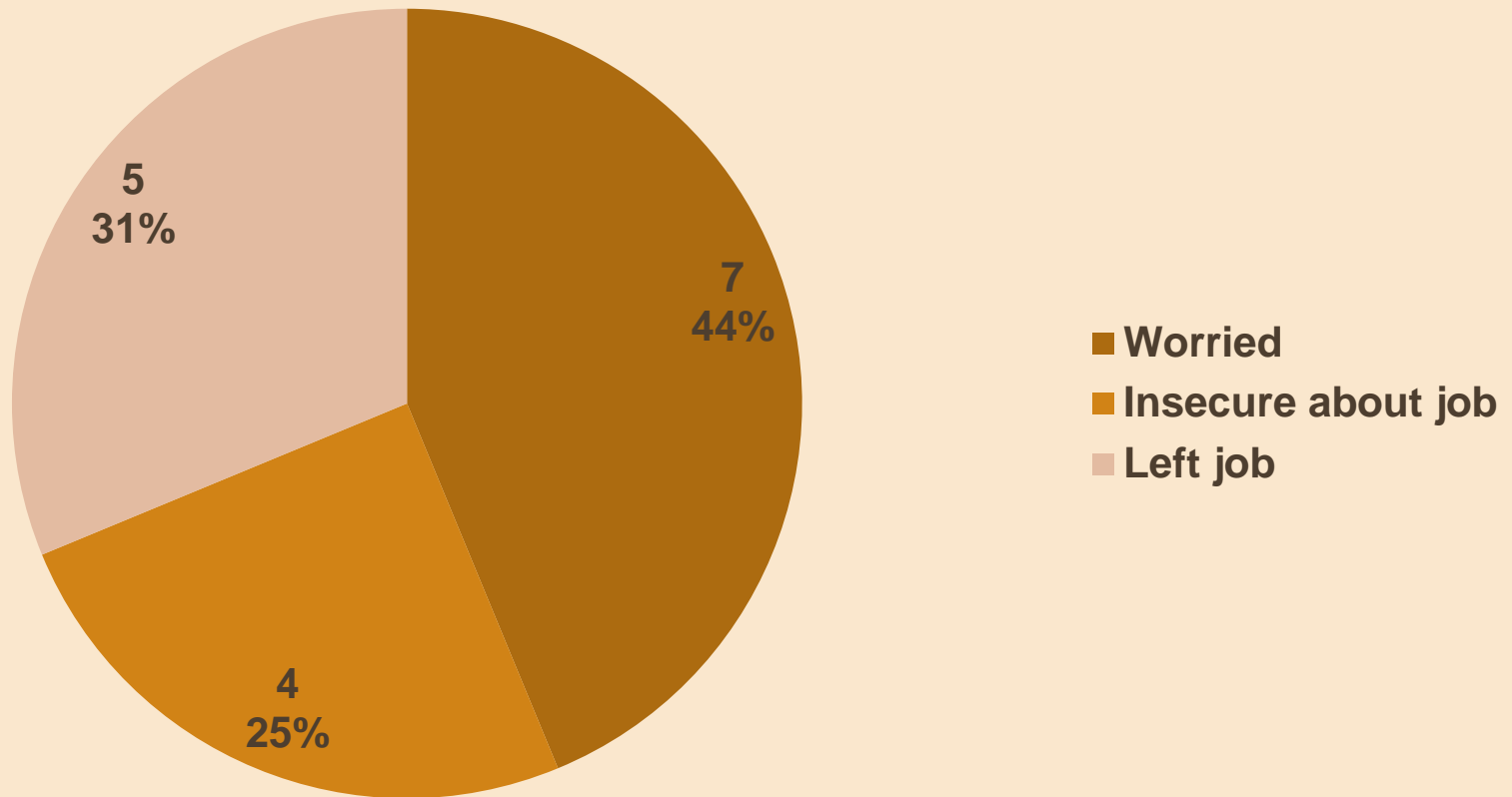
PGDip or Masters qualification



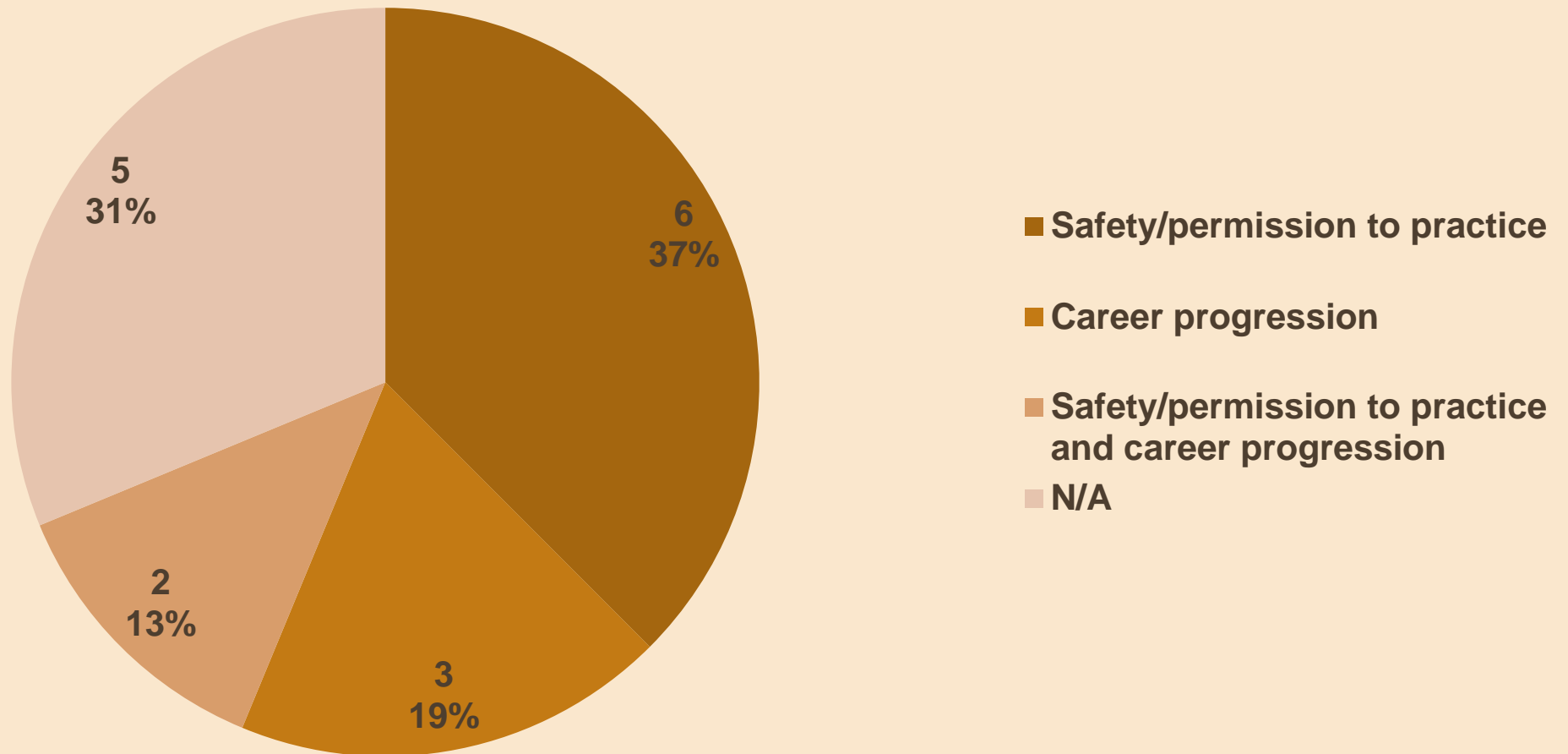
Reaction to exam withdrawal (RCS England)



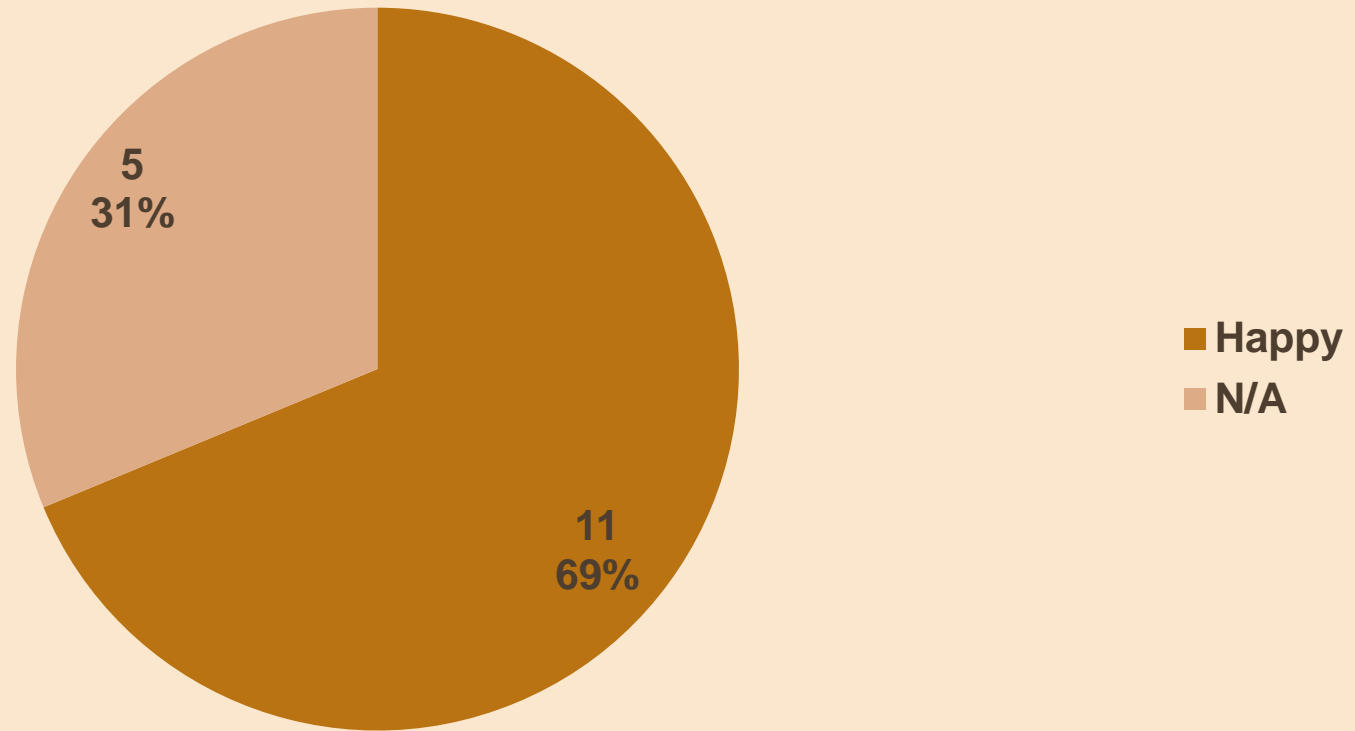
Feelings about withdrawal (RCS England)



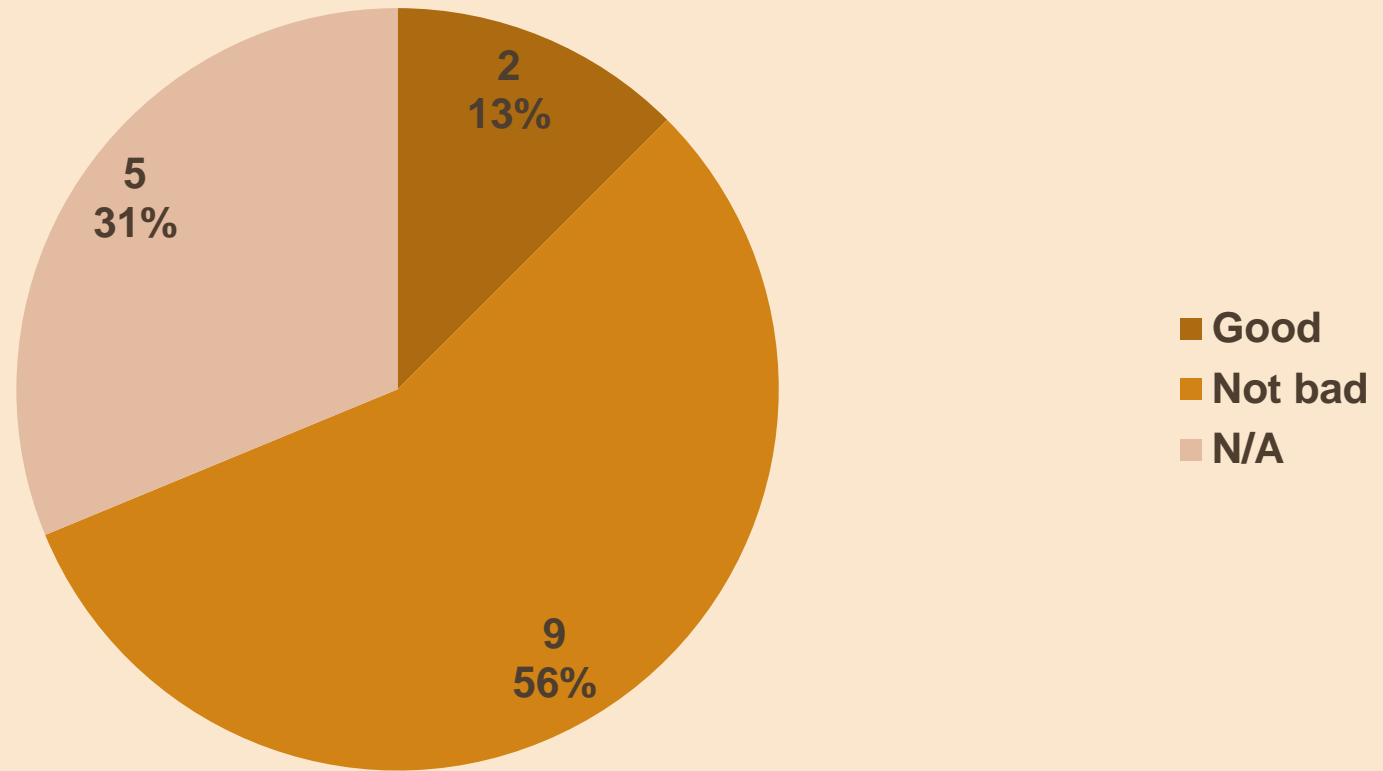
Cardiac SCP exam certificate



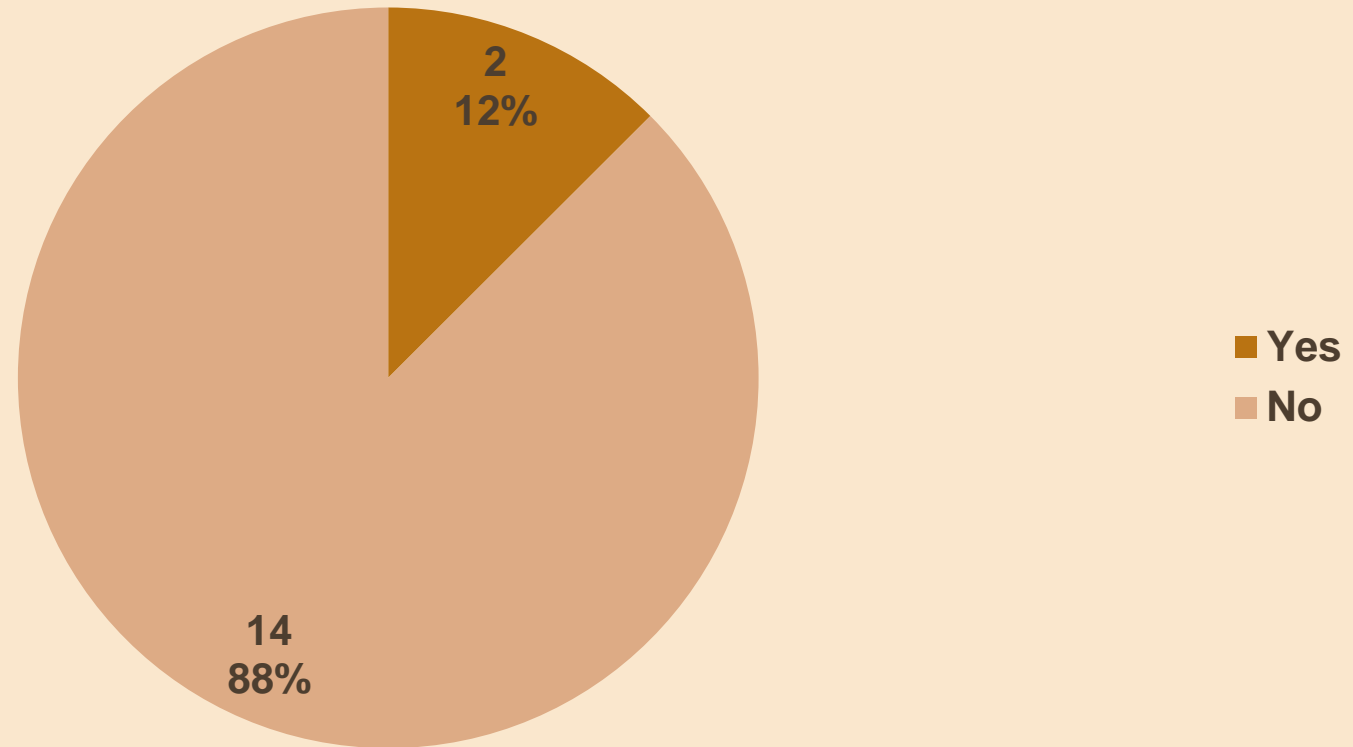
Feelings about sitting SCTS/ACSA RCS Edinburgh exam



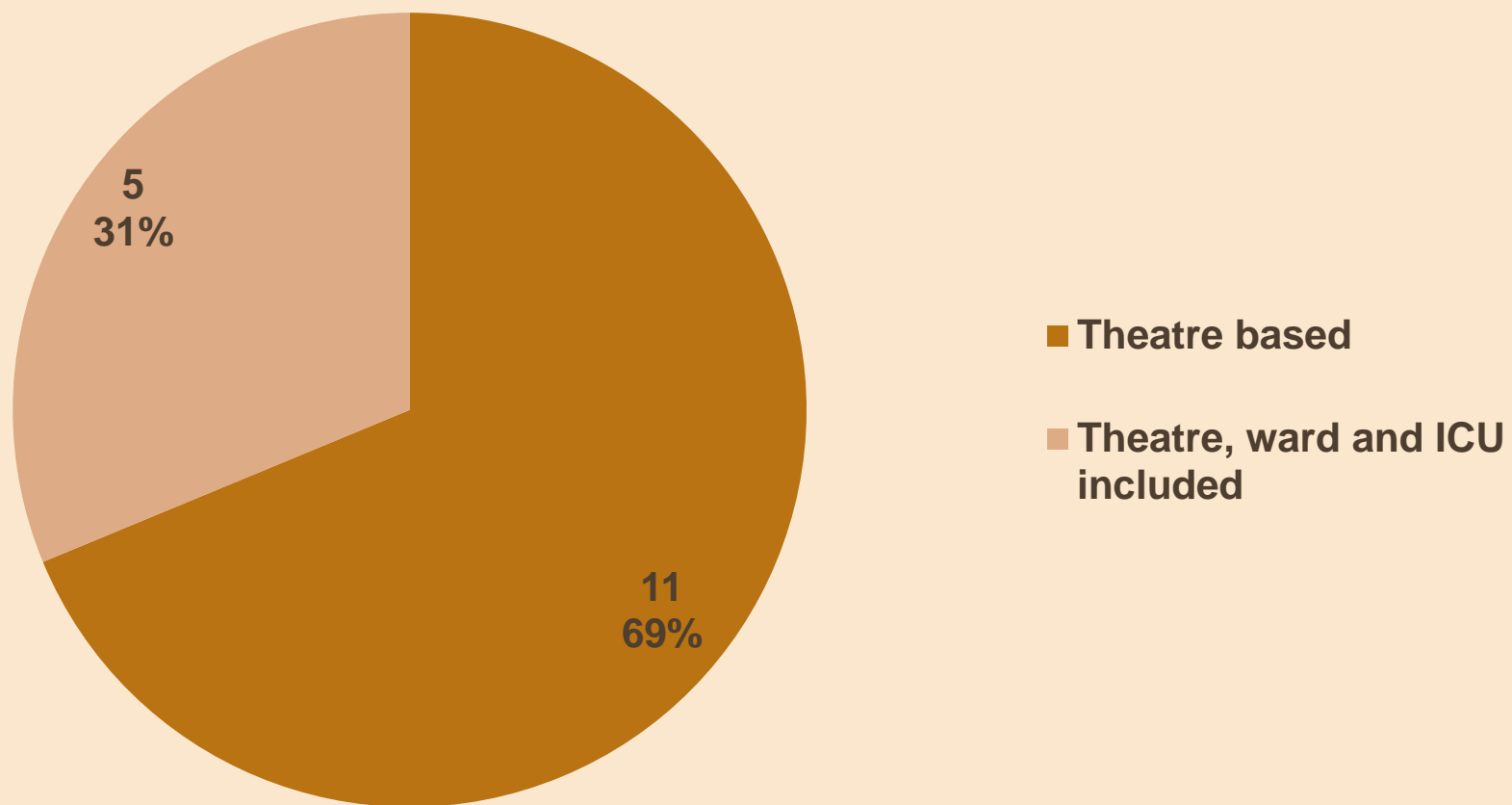
Current viva session



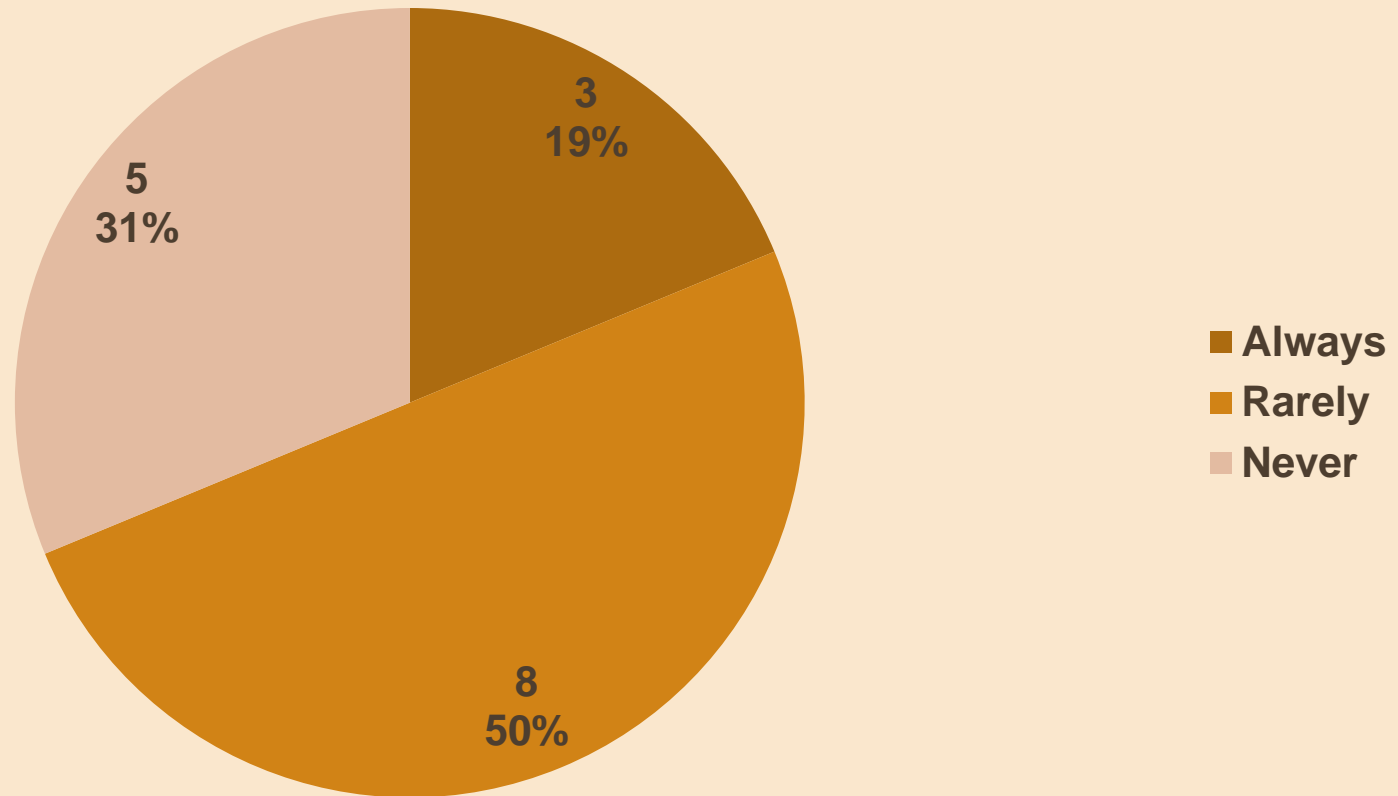
Do all your surgeons know that you should undertake CT syllabus?



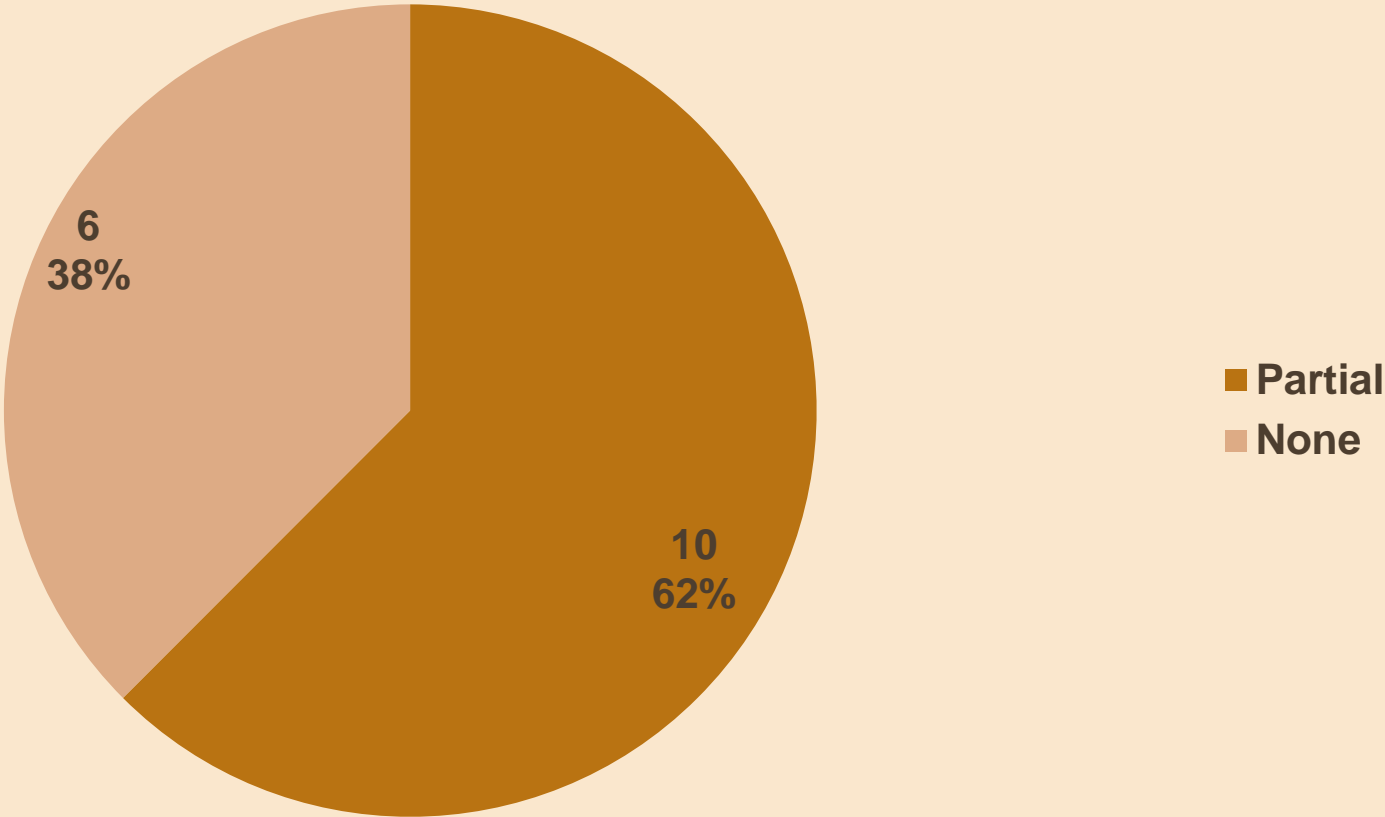
What is the format of your hospital training?



Do you get time to go to the ward and ICU for training?



How much support do you receive from surgeons?



RCS Edinburgh – 2014 SCP exam model

- 8 Candidates.
- Standard setting – 6 SCPs vs 6 cardiac surgeons.
- Modified Angoff method.
 - Passmark – 91.95 .
 - SCP – 91.83.
 - Surgeon – 92.1.
 - Six trainees passed and two failed.



Summary & New exam

- Our study highlighted:
 - Importance of final exit exam in addition to the academic qualification in CT surgery.
- CT SCPs are not just suturing, assisting or holding camera like other specialities.
 - Important to be proficient in clinical as well as academic work.
- Effort of SCTS and RCS Edinburgh with ACSA.
- Awareness of this examination throughout the Cardiothoracic speciality.
- Development of surgical team will provide excellent surgical care.

Any Questions