

# Ultrasound Scanning Workshops for A&E and Gynaecology Residents in Acute Gynaecology

## Do they benefit patient care? A pilot study

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### Why did the project come into place?

#### A patient-safety signal

At Homerton University Hospital a local audit performed between In Aug 2023–Jan 2024 identified an increase in ruptured ectopic pregnancies, with 12 ruptured ectopic pregnancies occurring in this 6 month period. The results of this audit are outlined in the box below. Misdiagnosis and delay in diagnosis were highlighted as potentially contributing themes.

#### From audit → action

These audit findings supported the funding to purchase a simulation kit. The Homerton Simulation Centre purchased a phantom model for both trans-abdominal and trans-vaginal scanning, which demonstrated the appearances of ectopic pregnancy and haemoperitoneum on ultrasound scan. Due to the clear patient-safety relevance, the request was fast tracked without a business case being required for the kit acquisition.

### Local audit findings

59

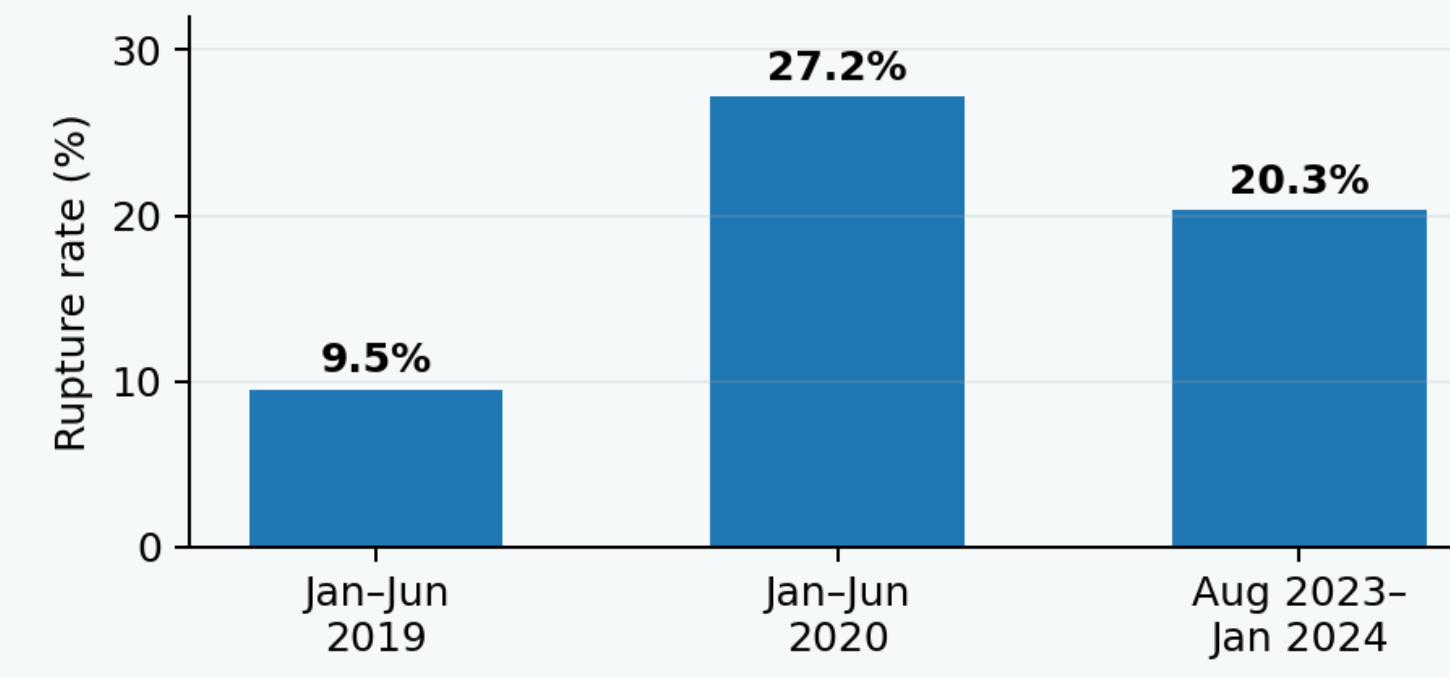
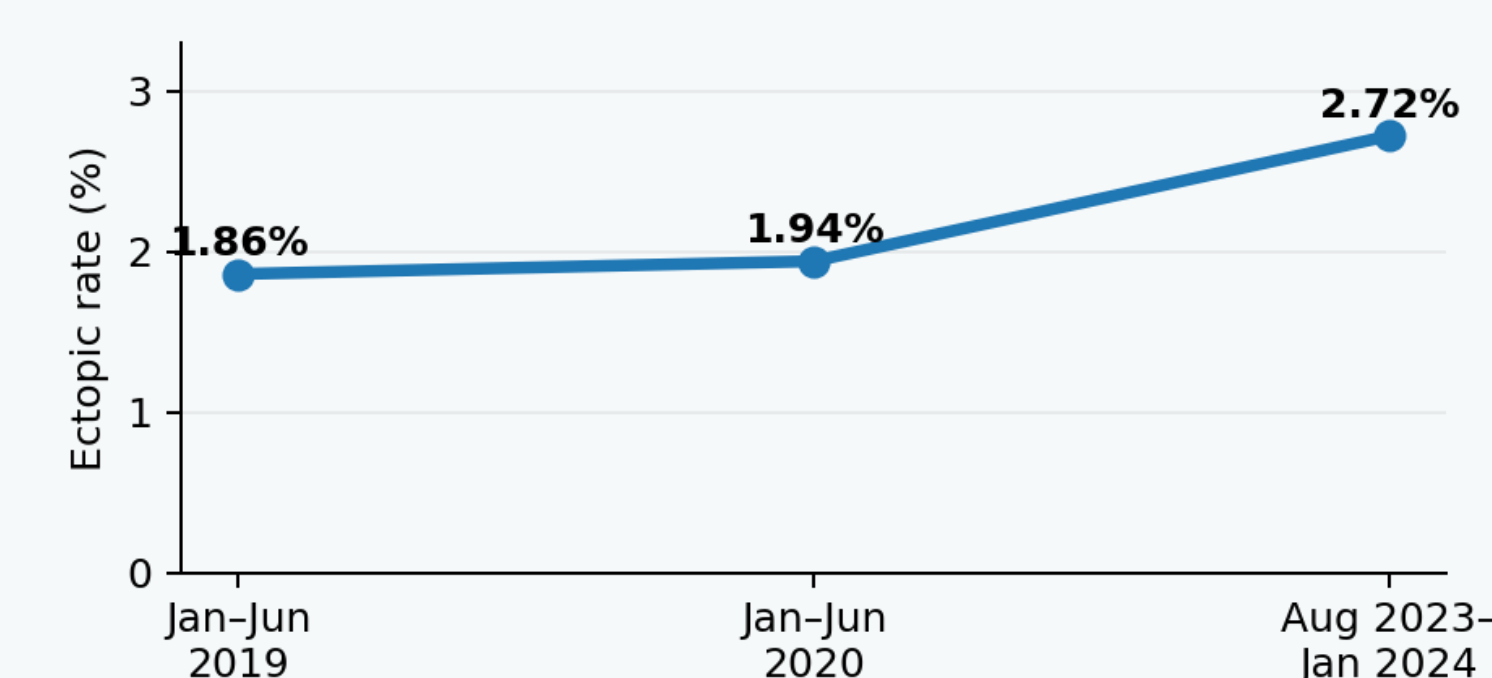
Ectopic pregnancies  
(n=59)

12

Ruptured ectopic pregnancies  
in 6 months

20.3%

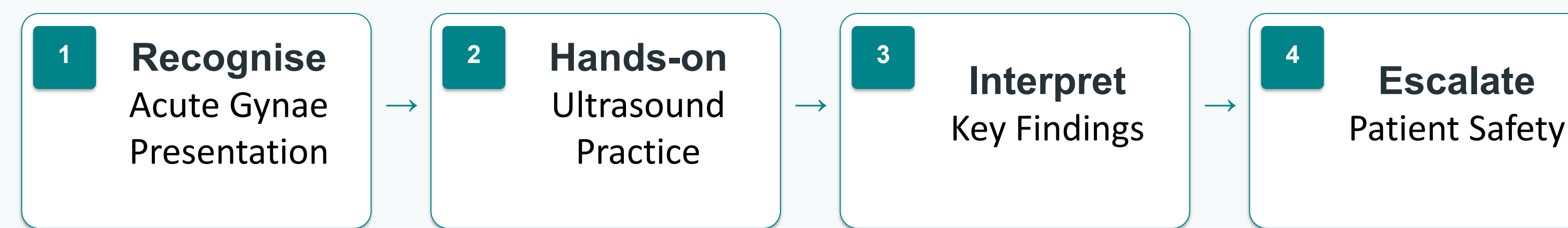
Rupture rate



Compared with Jan–Jun 2019, the ectopic rate increased from 1.86% to 2.72%; rupture rate remained above the pre-pandemic 9.52% level.

### The intervention

#### Simulation-based Ultrasound Workshops



We hypothesised that improved access to appropriately trained resident-level scanning amongst A&E and O&G trainees may support earlier recognition, escalation and management of Acute Gynaecological Pathology, including Ectopic pregnancy and Haemoperitoneum.

### Course Details

#### Course Itinerary

Ectopic pregnancy: MBRRACE-UK 2024 summary

Think Ectopic Campaign

Transvaginal Ultrasound: Governance and consent, step by step techniques with videos

Scan findings: Normal Early Pregnancy, Ectopic Pregnancy, Haemoperitoneum, PUL and Ovarian Torsion.

Hands on Practical Session with Phantom model

Human factors



## Scanning in Acute Gynaecological Emergencies

Master the essentials of gynaecological scanning in the acute setting

- Transabdominal and Transvaginal US scanning
- The normal pelvis
- Localising intrauterine pregnancy
- Recognising gynaecological pathologies: Ectopic, Cyst rupture, ovarian torsion

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026

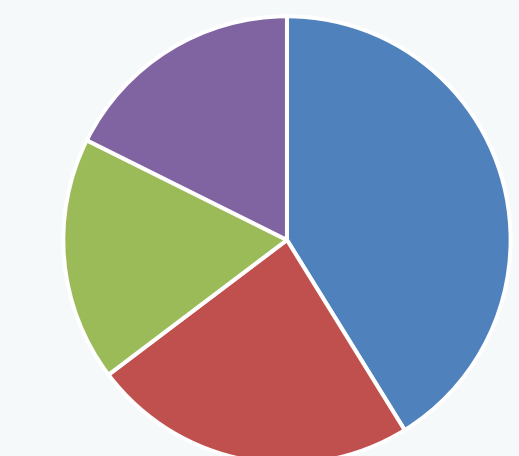
9am - 5pm

For ED & Gynae doctors  
Course fee: Trainees - free  
Non-Trainees £200



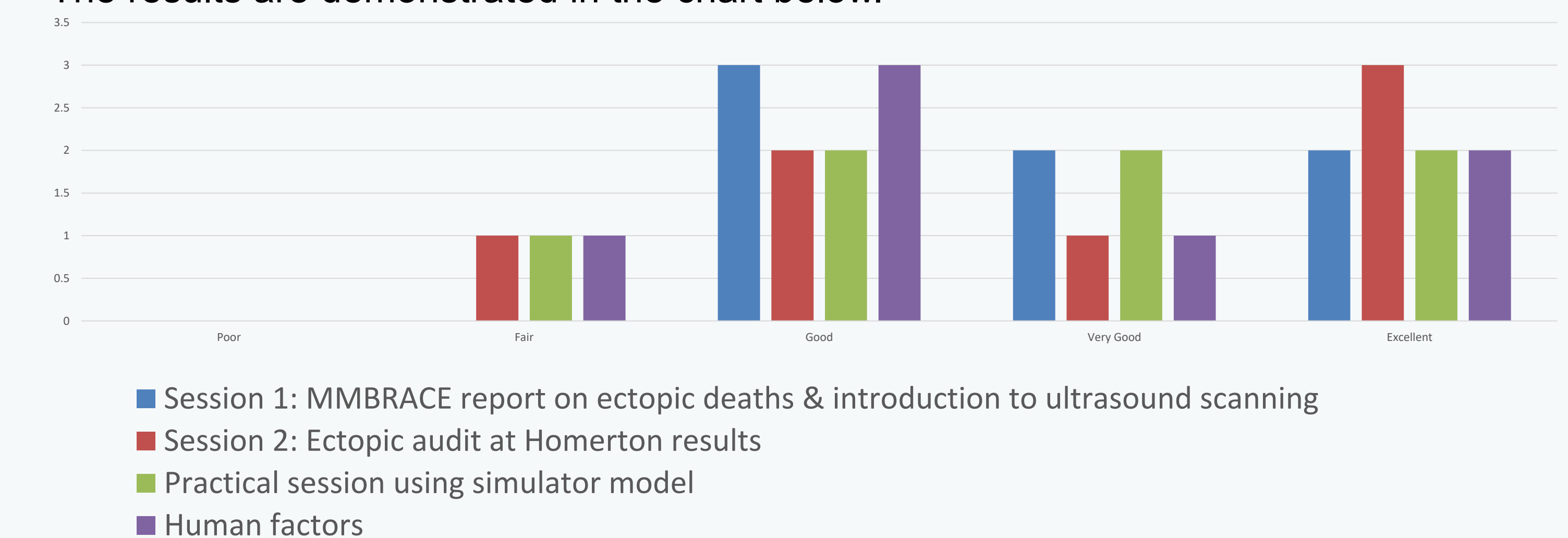
### Course Attendees and Feedback

We ran two pilot courses, the first in September 2025, with 9 participants, and the second in January 2026, with 8 participants. The mix of doctors from O&G and A&E with their level of seniority is demonstrated in the pie chart.



■ A&E Registrar (ST3+)  
■ A&E SHO (ST1-2)  
■ O&G Registrar (ST3+)  
■ O&G SHO

Feedback was collected on each section of the course itinerary, with participants grading the session 'Excellent', 'Very Good', 'Good', 'Fair' or 'Poor'. We obtained feedback from 11 out of the 17 attendees. The results are demonstrated in the chart below.



#### Comments

100% of attendees who completed the feedback would recommend the course to a colleague. Positive feedback included: *"This course was great and incredibly well focused for us in ED. It was targeted perfectly for us from a Gynae Emergency perspective"*. Candidates enjoyed the case base discussions and practical tips.

Negative feedback included the recommendation for more time allocated to hands-on practice on the models, which will be incorporated into future sessions.

### Conclusion & next steps

A local rise in ruptured ectopic pregnancy created a clear patient-safety rationale for Joint A/E and O&G Resident doctors ultrasound training. The SAGE course brings a collaborative MDT approach to ultrasound training in Gynaecological Emergencies, enhancing clinical management and outcome.

We aim to continue running this course quarterly. Future courses will spend more time with hands-on practice on models, and incorporate laparoscopic surgical management of gynaecological emergencies for O&G trainees.