

Establishing the trainee perspective on ultrasound and laparoscopy training in teaching hospitals

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Objective

To establish the current training in basic ultrasound and basic laparoscopy provided by local teaching hospitals in a geographical region within a UK deanery for Obstetrics and Gynaecology trainees and to establish how trainees perceive their training.

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A survey questionnaire was created which focused on the trainee's perspectives of their current skills in ultrasound and laparoscopy, and their perception of what and how training is provided at a local level. This survey is part of a larger quality improvement project to create a standardised, reproducible and cost-effective training curriculum which can be implemented at any teaching hospital which trains Obstetrics and Gynaecology trainees.

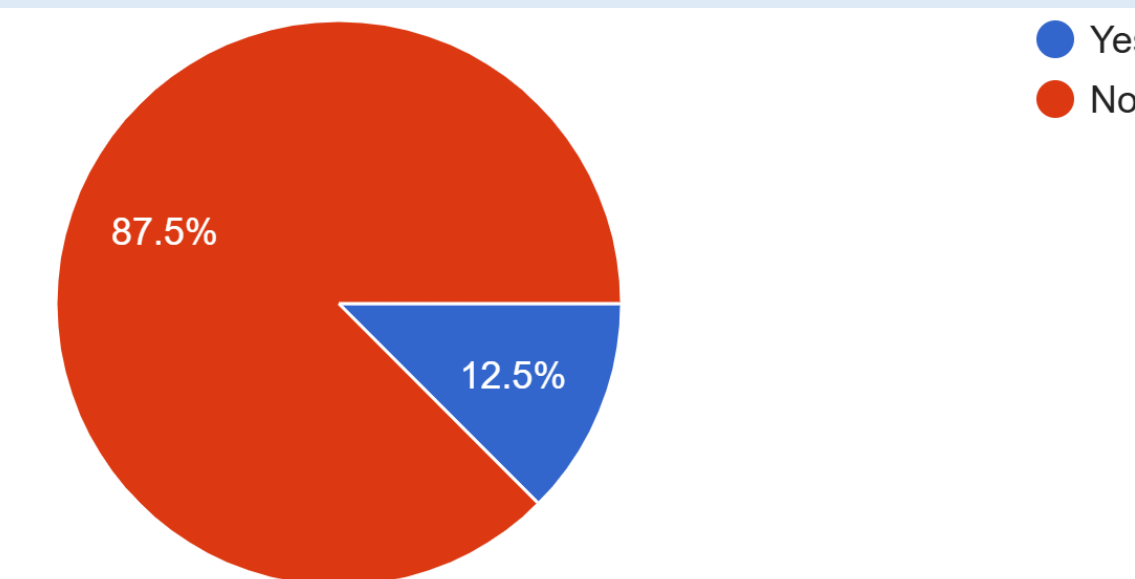
Method

A survey was sent out via email to trainees at all levels of training in a geographic region within a UK deanery using google forms. The data was analysed using google forms.

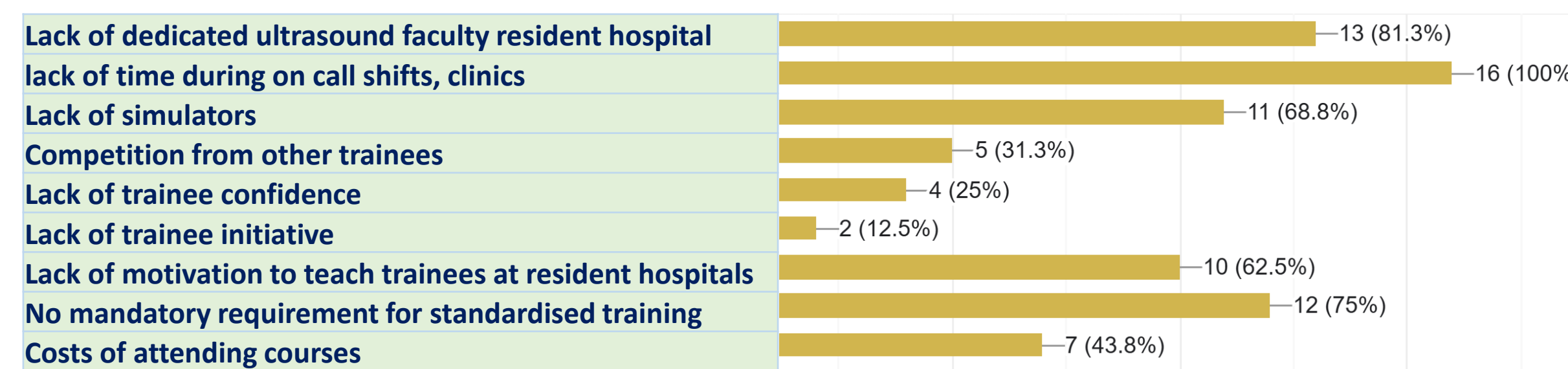
ULTRASOUND

16 responses: ST1 to ST7, 1 trust grade doctor and 1 doctor with a PG certification in ultrasound from 4 trusts within a UK deanery

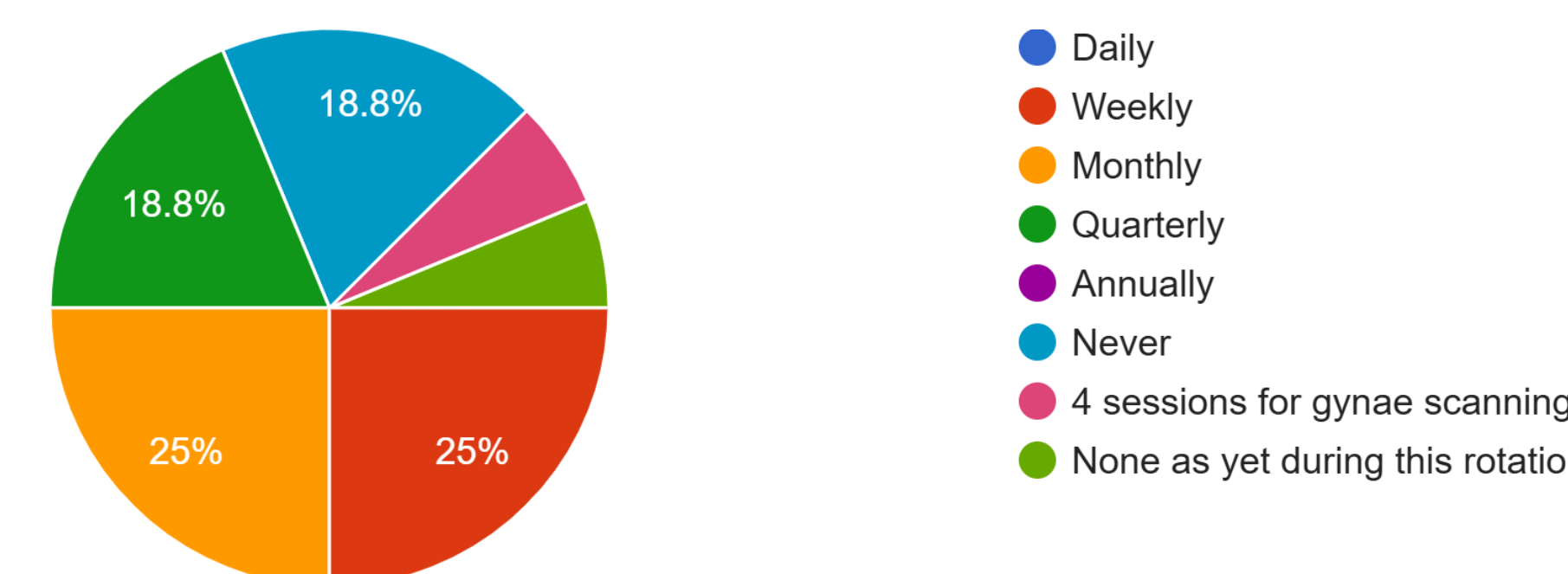
Is there a formal training programme in basic ultrasound at your resident hospital?



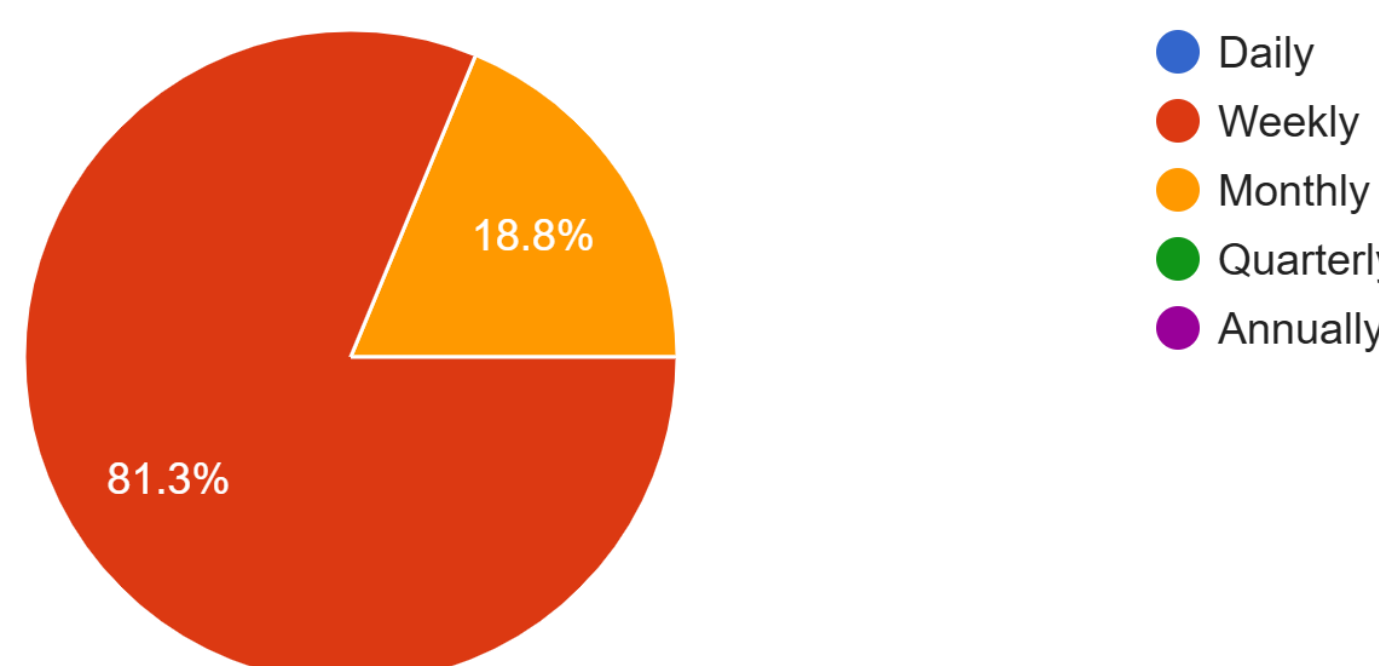
What do you think are the obstacles to ultrasound training in your experience? (tick all that apply)



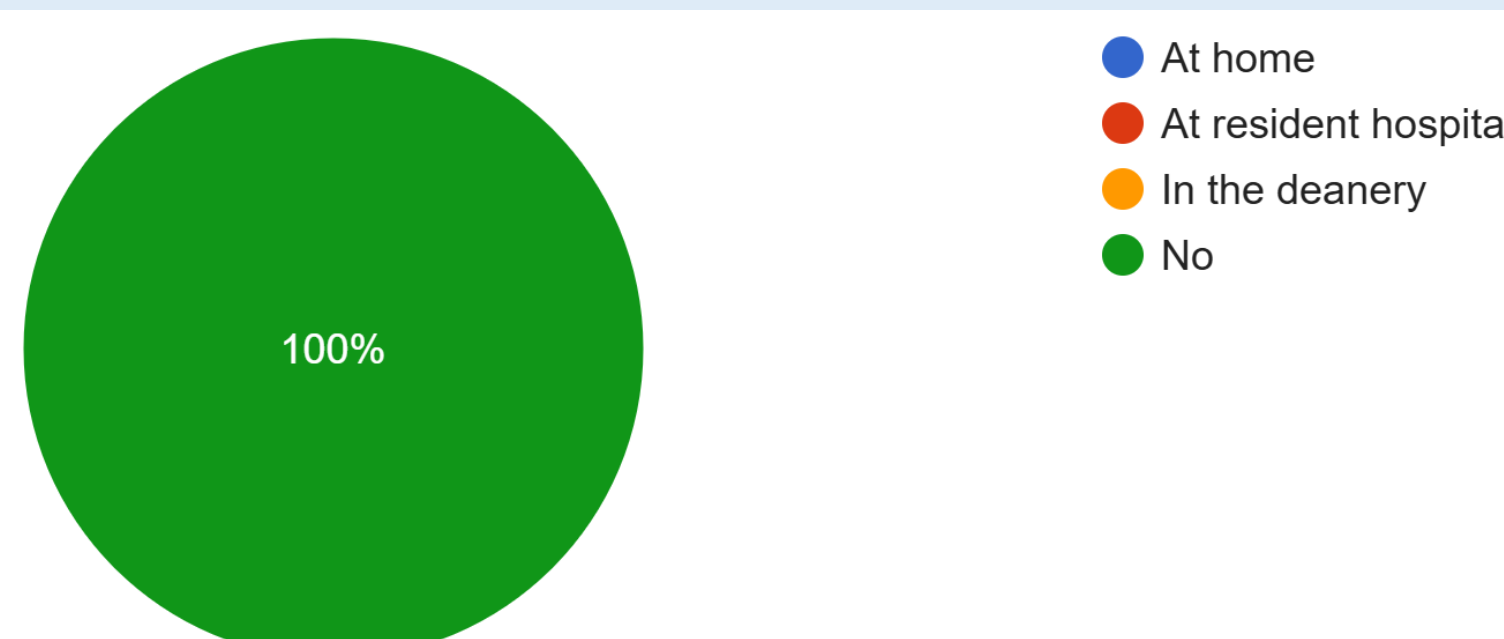
How often do you get to train in basic ultrasound under direct supervision? Direct supervision defined as time spent scanning or in simulation when you are specifically trained by a sonographer, competent registrar or consultant



How often do you THINK training in basic ultrasound under direct supervision SHOULD occur? Direct supervision defined as time scanning or in simulation when you are specifically trained by a sonographer, competent registrar or consultant



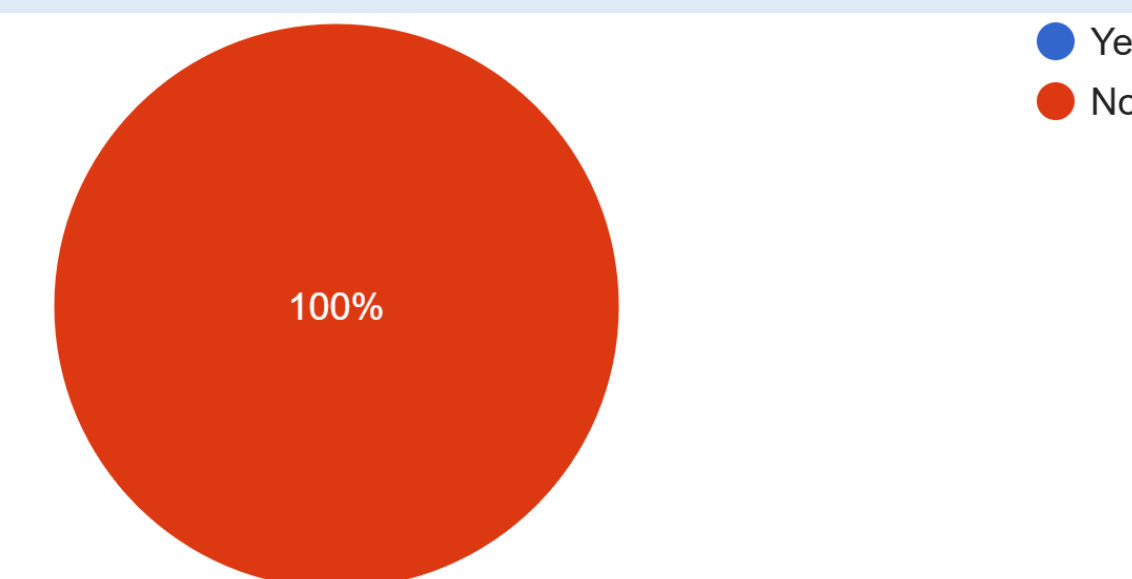
Do you have easy access to an ultrasound simulator?



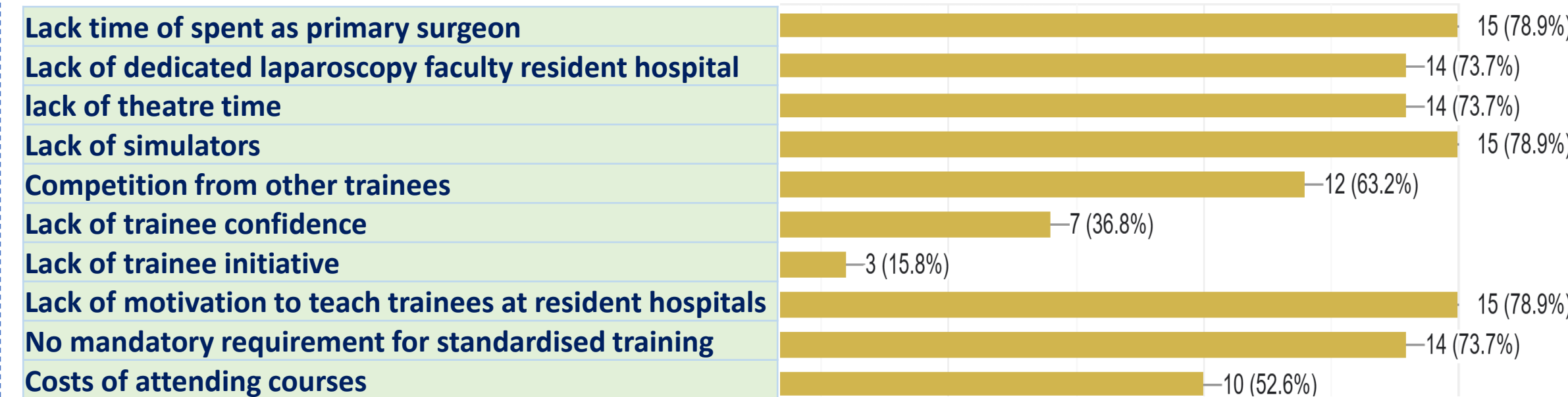
LAPAROSCOPY

19 responses: ST1 to ST7, 1 trust grade doctor and 1 doctor with previous laparoscopy training before entering run through programme from 4 trusts within a UK deanery

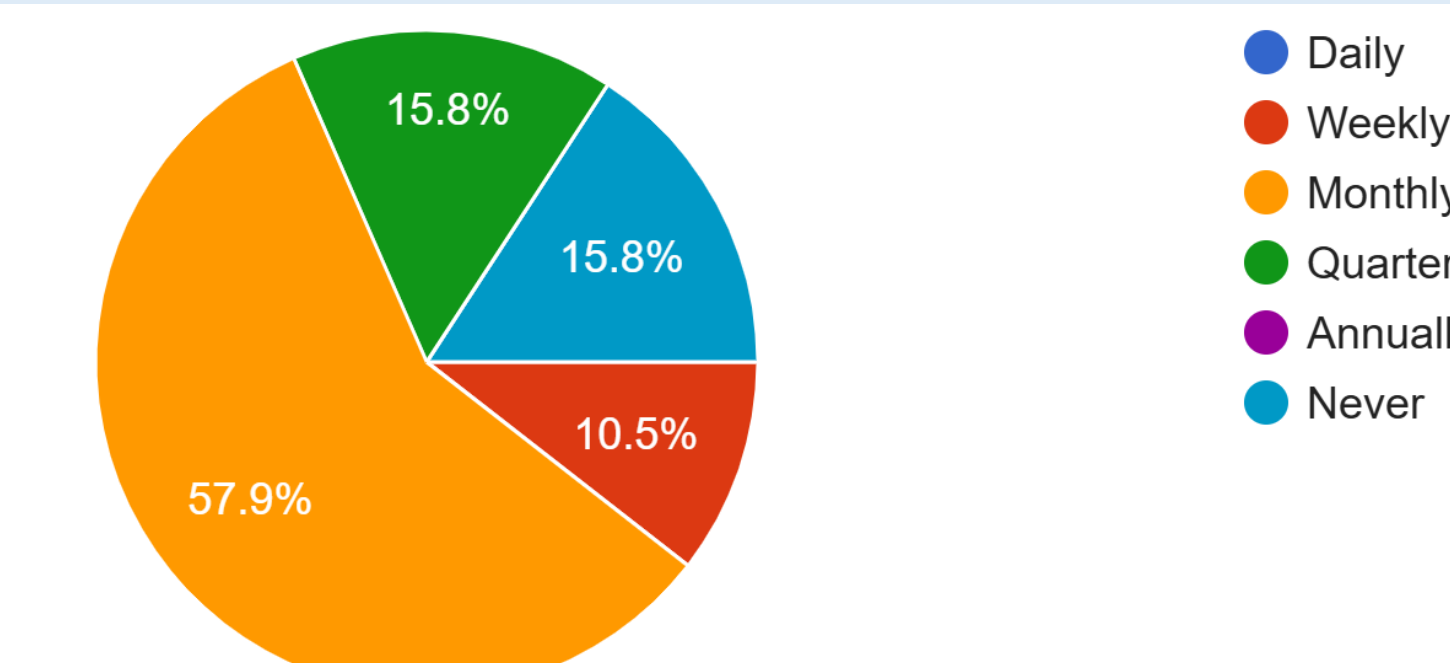
Is there a formal training programme in basic laparoscopy at your resident hospital?



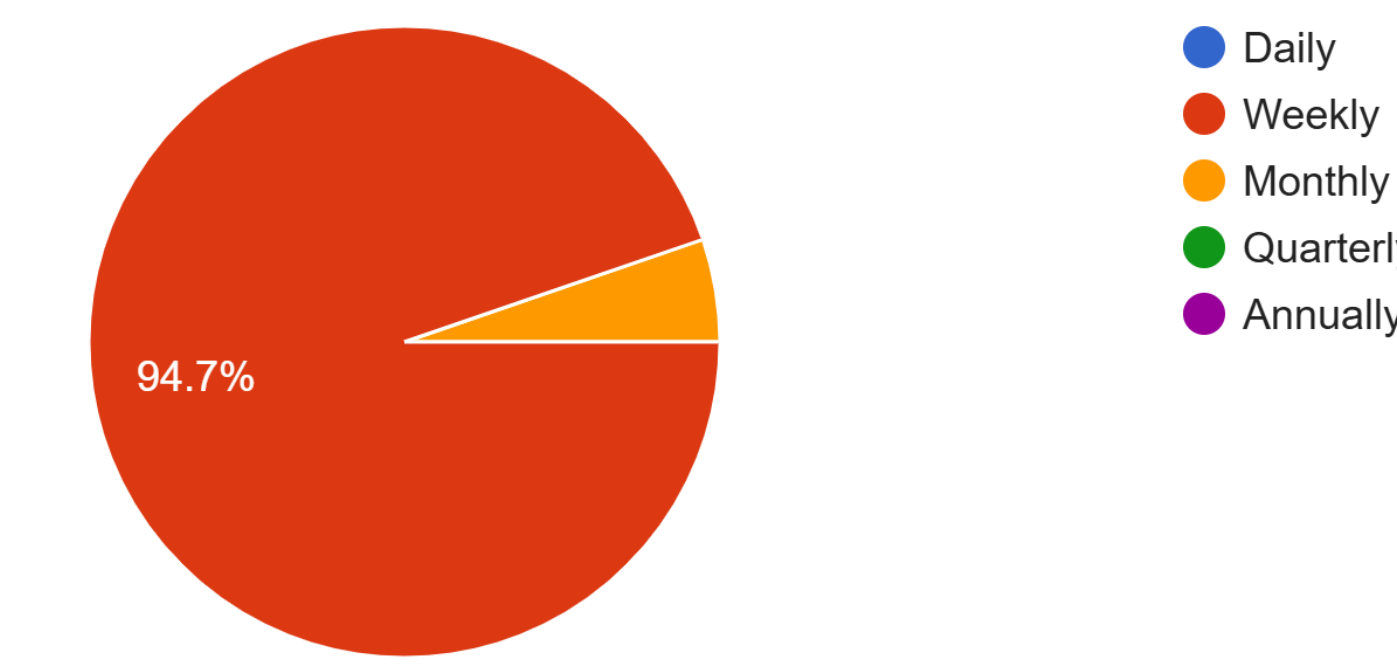
What do you think are the obstacles to laparoscopic training in your experience? (tick all that apply)



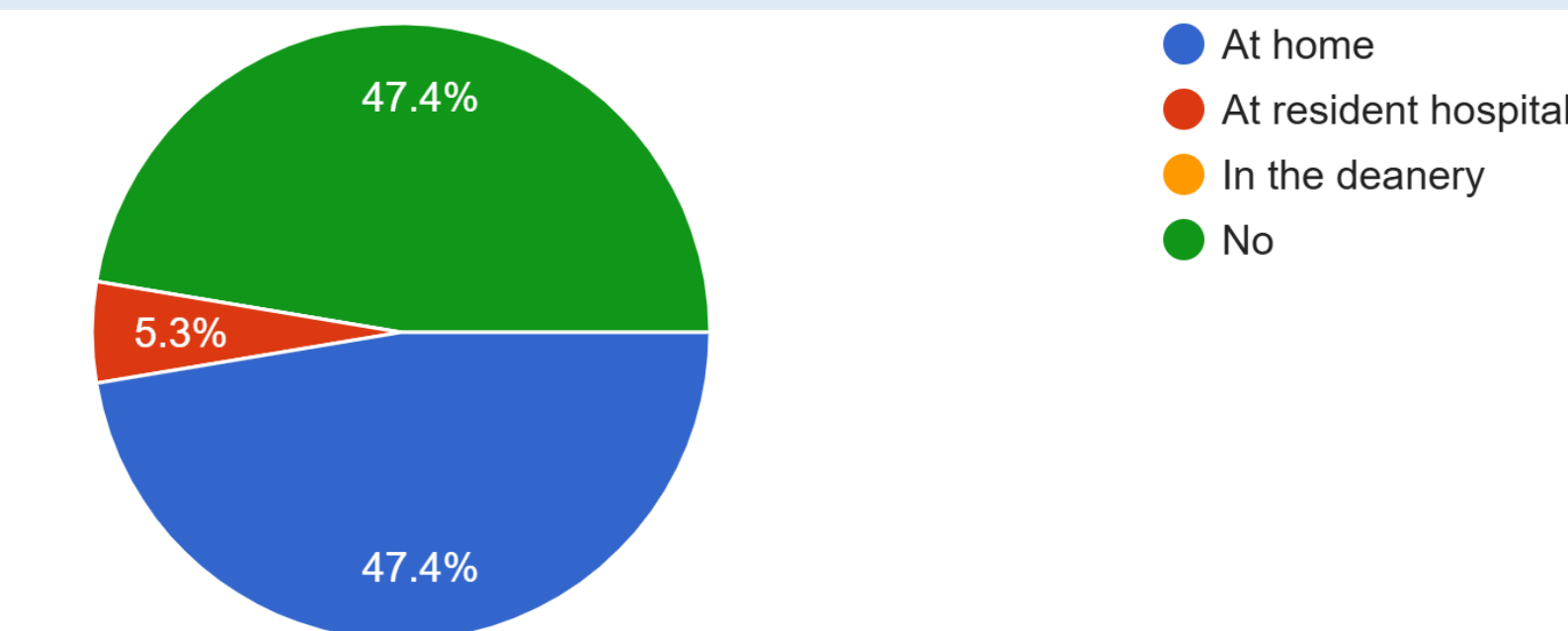
How often do you get to train in basic laparoscopic surgery under direct supervision? Direct supervision defined as time during the theatre list or simulation when you are specifically trained in laparoscopy by a competent registrar or consultant



How often do you THINK training in basic laparoscopic surgery under direct supervision SHOULD occur? Direct supervision defined as time during the theatre list or simulation when you are specifically trained in laparoscopy by a competent registrar or consultant



Do you have easy access to a laparoscopic simulator?



Results

100% of respondents said there is no formal training in laparoscopy, 12.5% said they had formal ultrasound training in their unit. Some obstacles to training, as perceived by trainees, **included lack of dedicated faculty for inhouse training for laparoscopy (70.6%) and ultrasound (80%), and no mandatory requirement for teaching hospitals to have a training programme for laparoscopy (70.6%) and ultrasound (73.3%).**

Conclusion

This survey concluded that trainees feel that there is little to no local training in local teaching hospitals. This raises the question of whether a standardised level of basic training in ultrasound and laparoscopy in teaching hospitals should be implemented irrespective of location. The limitation of this study was that it only sampled a small region within a deanery.

Future research includes surveying a greater number of trainees, surveying consultants to gain their perspective on the issue, establishing what facilities are available to teaching hospitals to facilitate trainees' skills development and creating a pilot basic training programme for Obstetrics and Gynaecology trainees which can be run in any teaching hospitals which have an ultrasound machine and clinicians trained in basic laparoscopy.