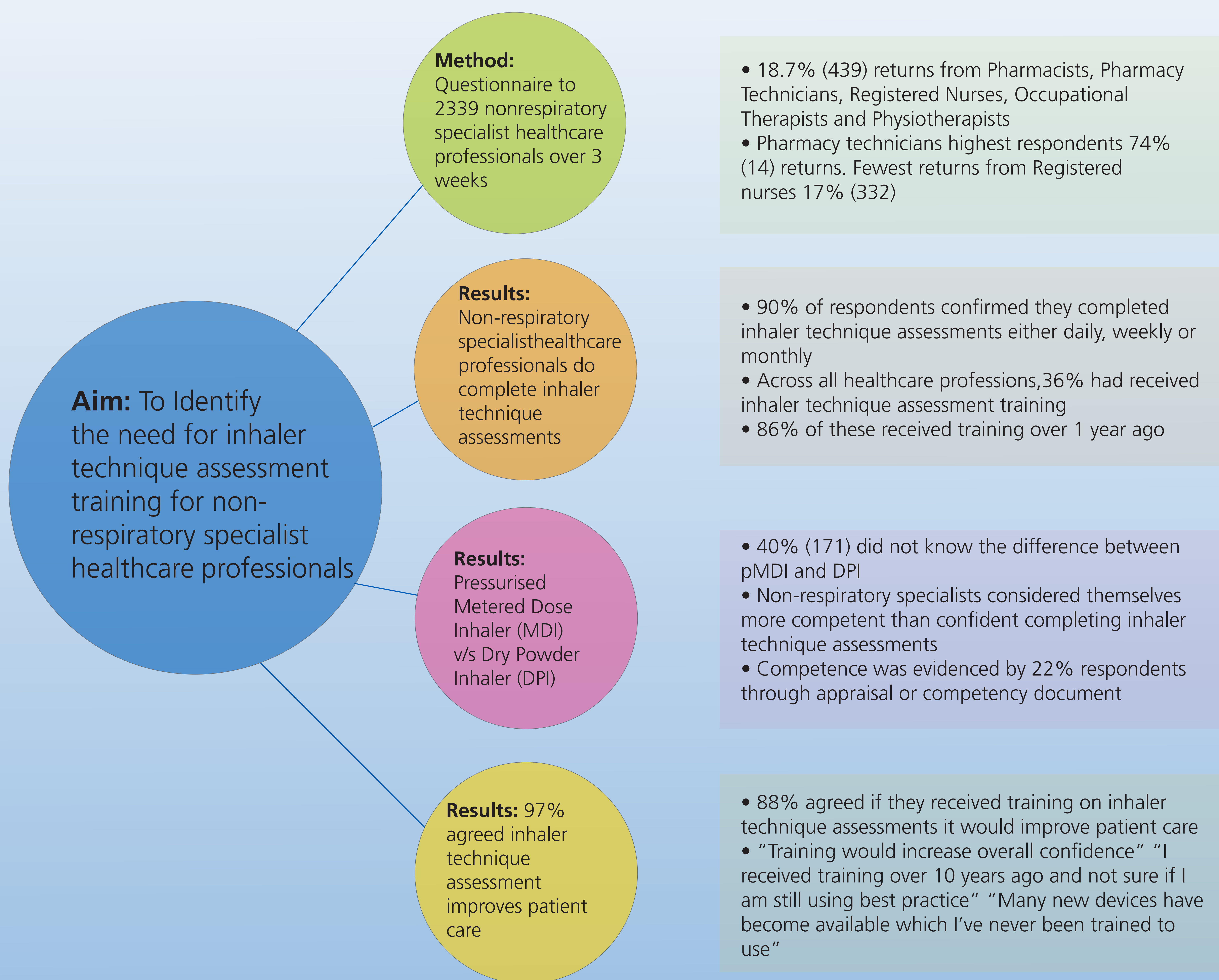


Is Inhaler Technique Training for Non-Respiratory Specialist Healthcare Professionals adequate?

Authors: Kay Anderson Respiratory Nurse Specialist; Christine Davis Clinical Administrator; Rachel Hardstaff Respiratory Nurse Specialist, Service Lead. North and West Hampshire Community Integrated Respiratory Service Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust. Contact: shft.respiratory-assessment@nhs.net

Background: Inhaled respiratory medication for patients with asthma and COPD is beneficial as it targets lungs, reducing risks of systemic side effects from oral therapy. Used correctly, inhalers can control respiratory symptoms, minimising risks of hospital admission from exacerbations (*Usmani 2018*).



Conclusion: Non-respiratory specialist healthcare professionals do assess inhaler technique. There is a clear need for education as a significant number identified themselves in need of training and were unable to identify the difference between pMDI and DPI. This should be a priority to improve patient care.

Ref: *Usmani Critical inhaler errors in asthma and COPD: a systematic review of impact on health outcomes. Respiratory Research. 19:10 [Online]; DOI: 10.1186/s12931-017-0710. www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5771074/*