

Teaching sessions for HCSW working in mental health

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Quality issue / initial problem

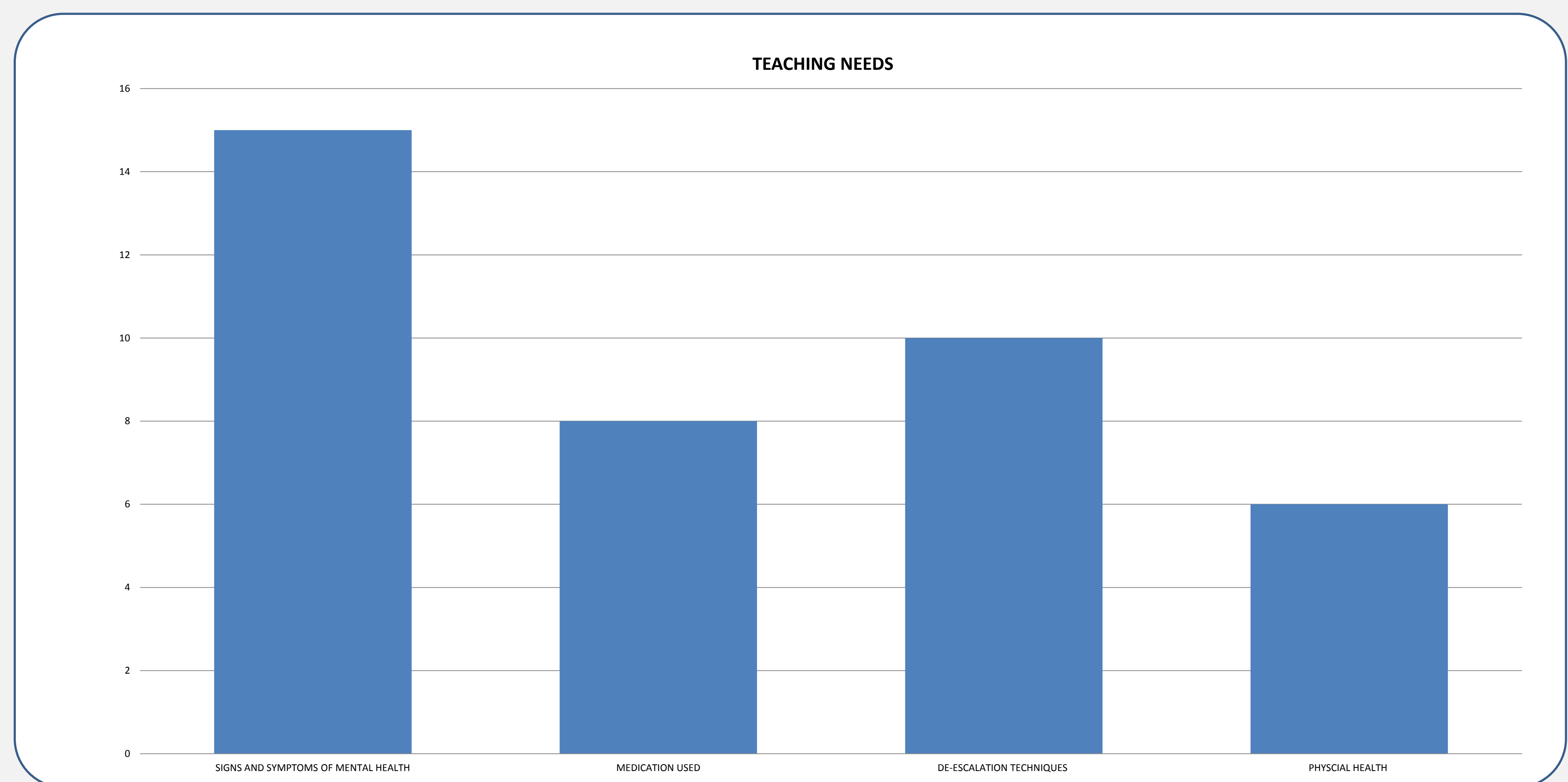
I am currently working in the Intensive Psychiatric Care Unit at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital. We work with a lot of Health care support workers and recently they have been more involved in working more closely with patients with mental health issues however they feel that they are needing more support and would be keen to increase their knowledge and skills feeling that this would overall increase patients care.

Specific aim

To improve the knowledge and skills for HCSW working with patient with mental health, this improving patient care.

Measurement of improvement

Staff were stating that they have basic induction as a HCSW and mandatory training however not specific training for working with patients with mental health problems. 15 staff were given a questionnaire to establish which training they felt would be beneficial. Most of the staff stated that they would like to have teaching on the signs and symptoms of mental health.



Tests of change

- To run a teaching session on signs and symptoms of mental illness and have staff evaluate this.
- To adapt any of the teaching session as per staff evaluation
- To continue teaching sessions on the topics shown in the graph

Effects of change

The HCSW would feel more confident in engaging with patients with mental illness. This will hopefully reduce the violence and aggression, reduction in restraints and reduction of incidents of self harm as staff will be more confident in dealing with this.

Lessons learned and message for others

To get as much staff involved as possible

To allow staff to have their say in what they would like to learn

Involve staff in the planned teaching sessions and adapt as necessary