



A virtual multidisciplinary journal club

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Background

Research is essential in enabling practitioners to deliver evidence-based treatment and care¹. A journal club has been identified as a way to encourage a research culture by engaging staff to build evidence of best practice². Since January 2019 Marie Curie Hospice Liverpool have developed a unique multi-disciplinary approach to journal club, which has recently been impacted by the COVID19 pandemic. We recognized the importance of re-instating these sessions in order to continue learning and development of a research culture in our hospice.

Aims

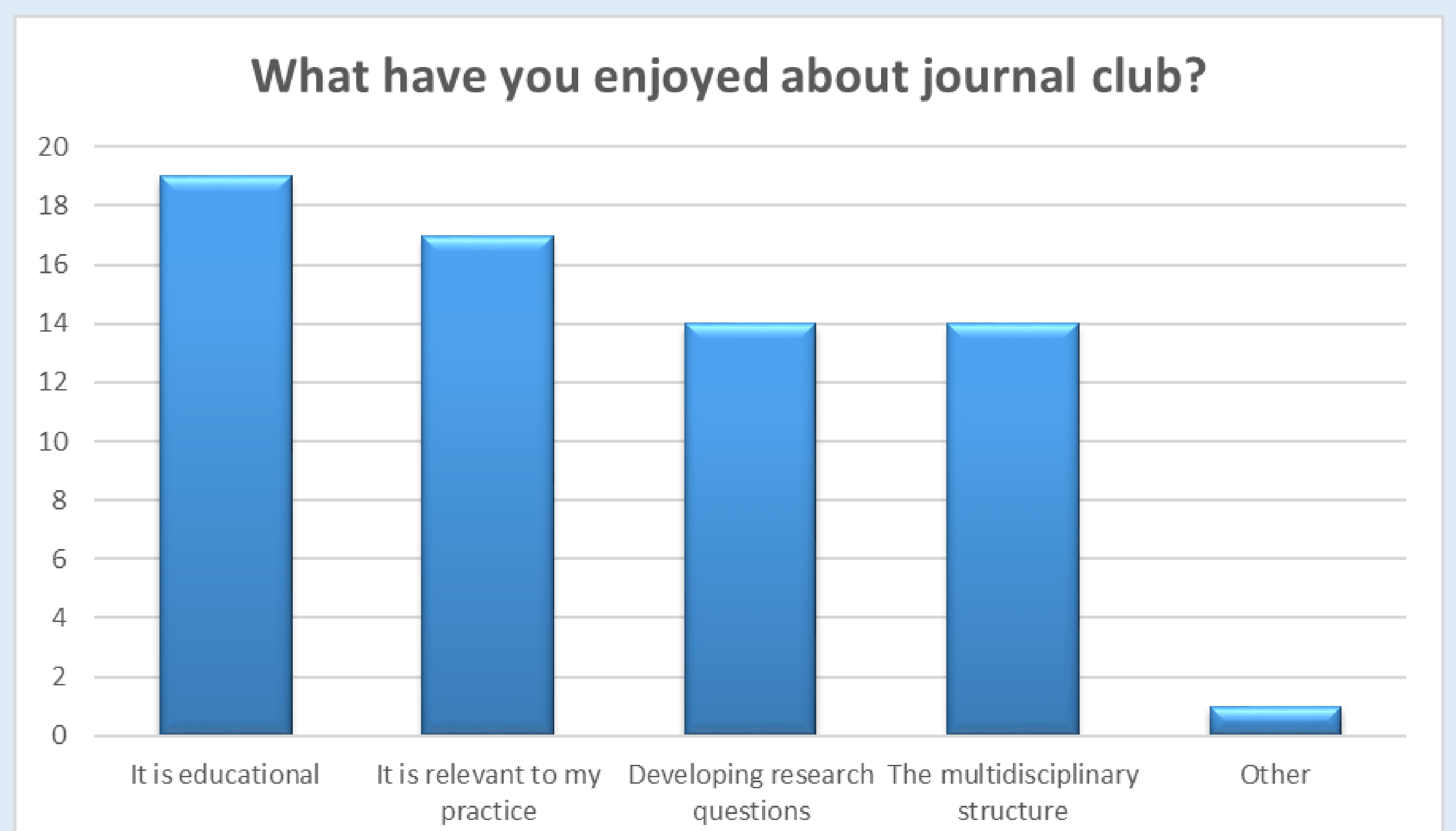
We describe the development of a multidisciplinary hospice journal club, through which aimed to (1) develop research questions to clinical care problems in the hospice and (2) identify solutions to these problems to improve care delivery.

Method

Our journal club is held fortnightly and is co-ordinated by the research nurse and speciality doctor with support from our research lead. Following the height of the COVID19 pandemic, meetings resumed and were encouraged to utilise Microsoft teams in order to maintain social distancing in meeting rooms. This provided us with a unique opportunity to expand our journal club outside of the hospice and invite healthcare professionals from external organisations (including acute hospital trusts and other local hospices) to join these meetings.

Feedback

A recent feedback survey received 19 responses from staff across 5 different sites. Feedback included benefits and limitations to offering a virtual journal club. The main barrier highlighted was technical issues. Otherwise feedback was overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the importance of engaging staff in a journal club.



Results

To date we have held a total of 30 meetings, 17 of these have been shared virtually. Healthcare professionals attending the meetings have generated 124 research questions relevant to palliative care.

We have recently completed a research into practice project using a question generated from one of our journal club meetings, and we continue to develop this structure which will allow members of the multidisciplinary team to come together and answer our generated questions.

Conclusion

Our multidisciplinary journal club model has proved to be successful, and with the support of technology has allowed us to share our learning outside of the hospice. Attendance and engagement across disciplines has made our staff research aware, creating a culture of enquiry and an eagerness to provide evidence-based care.

References

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Payne S, Preston N, Turner M, Rolls L. Research in palliative care - can hospices afford to not be involved? *International Observatory on End of Life Care* 2013.