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The Impact of Information retrieval skills training for nurses: a case study of KEN-AHILA/INASP course in Nairobi, Kenya, 2009

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**THE IMPACT OF INFORMATION RETRIEVAL
SKILLS TRAINING FOR NURSES: A CASE STUDY
OF KEN-AHILA/INASP COURSE
IN NAIROBI- KENYA, 2009**

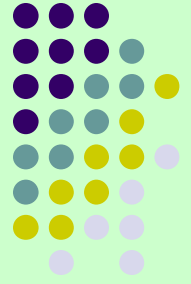
Symphrose Ouma¹

Nasra Gathoni²



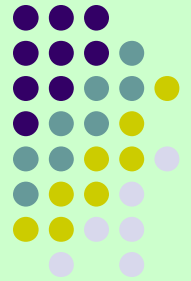
¹Chair, KEN-AHILA ²Secretary, KEN-AHILA

Introduction



- Nurses were identified as the largest group of healthcare providers who in our opinion needed to have current evidence based information for patient care
- The HIFA 2015 Challenge for 2009 focusing of information needs of nurses and midwives gave us the push for the initiative.

Introduction (cont.)



- Through Partnership with National Nurses Association of Kenya (NNAK), we were able to mount the course for Nurses already selected to attend the International Council for Nurses (ICN) course on Leadership
- The course outline was shared with NNAK and approved.
- INASP provided the small grant funding to enable KEN-AHILA run the course
- KEN-AHILA then facilitated four, one day sessions for the nurses in 2009 and part of 2010.

Objectives of the Study

- to evaluate the information retrieval skills training given to nurses,
 - to collect practical lessons learnt that can guide future training and share experiences on the same.
 - to evaluate the impact of the training on to the nurses competencies to access and use electronic health information.
-

Methodology

- A total of 21 nurses who went through the training were sent self administered questionnaires with both closed and open ended questions.
 - The questionnaires were e-mailed to participants and a further hardcopy was also mailed by post to ensure that those in areas where internet facilities are not readily available also had an equal opportunity of participating in the study. Follow up SMS and phone calls ensured higher recall.
 - 15 questionnaires were returned.
-

Methodology

- The survey sought to find out the following key issues among others:
 1. Improved performance on the job as a result of gained IL skills.
 2. Whether skills and knowledge acquired contributed to professional development.
 3. Whether initiatives were taken to share knowledge and skills gained with other teams in the workplace.
 4. Whether the course content and organization met their needs
-

Population

- 21 Nurses from different hospitals in Kenya i.e. Nairobi, Homa Bay, Kikuyu, Kijabe, Nakuru, Kakamega, Kisii, Garissa among others
 - Mainly senior nurses in the places of work
-



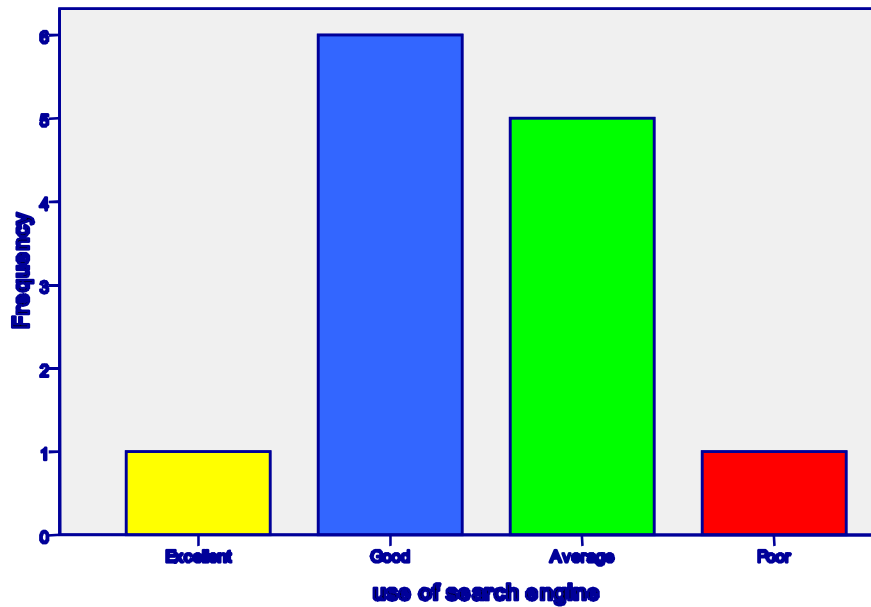
Data Analysis

- Participants competency
 - Course content
 - Course Organization
 - Impact
-

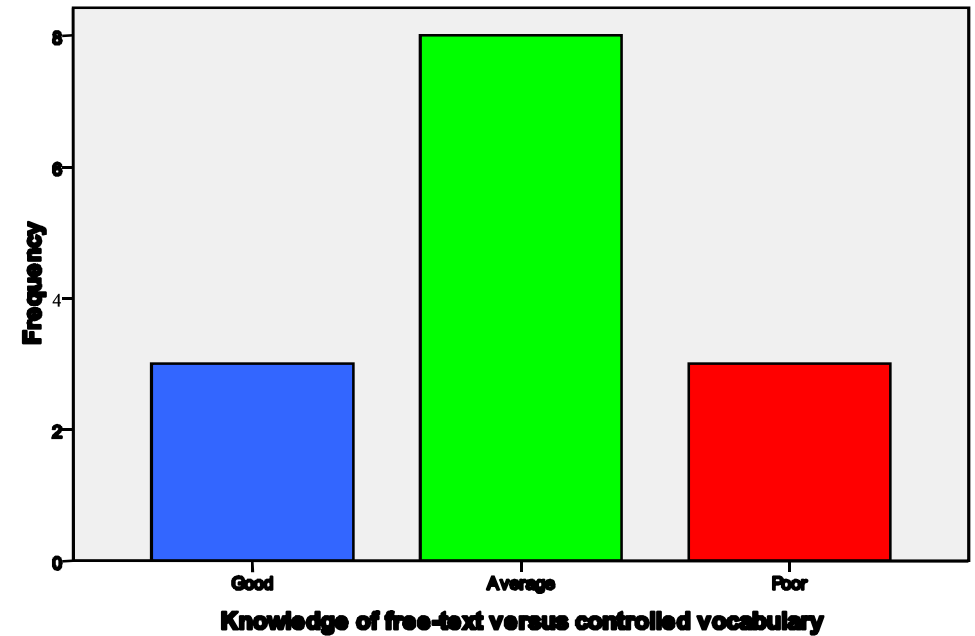
Participants' Competency

Participants were asked to rate their own competency in various information retrieval skills

use of search engine

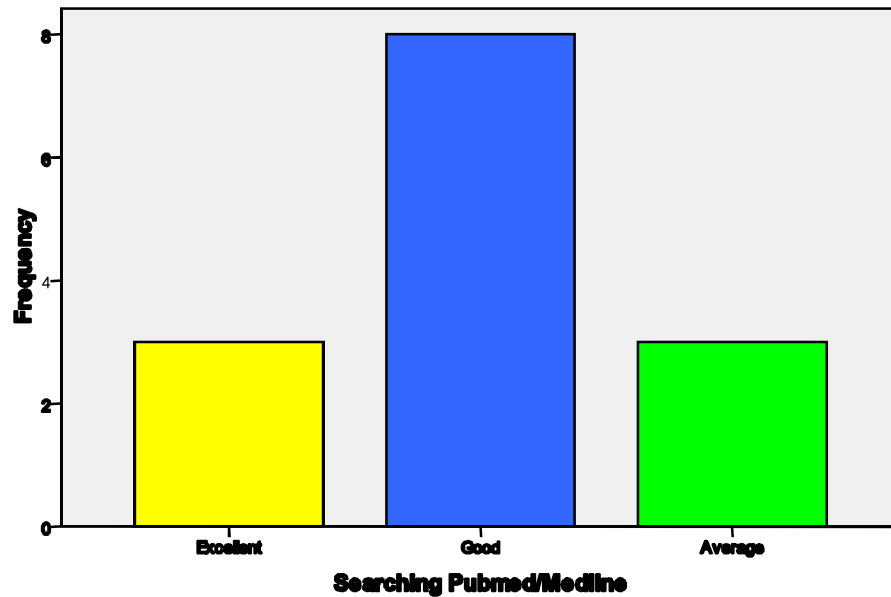


Knowledge of free-text versus controlled vocabulary

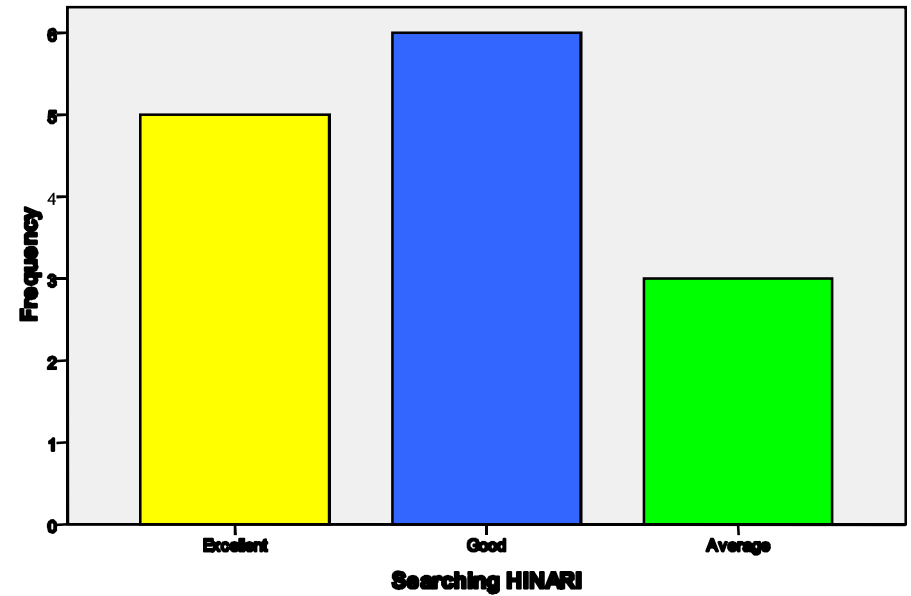


Competency (cont)

Searching Pubmed/Medline

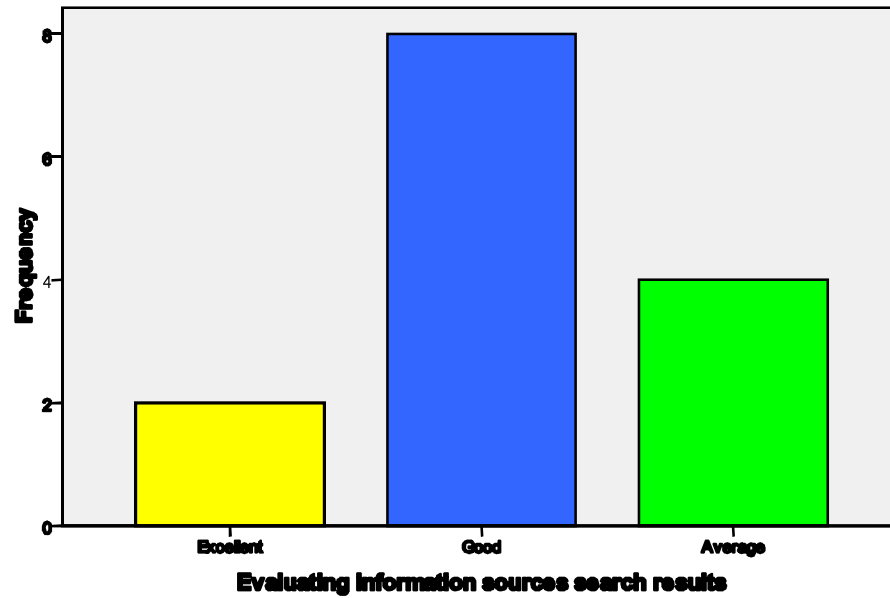


Searching HINARI

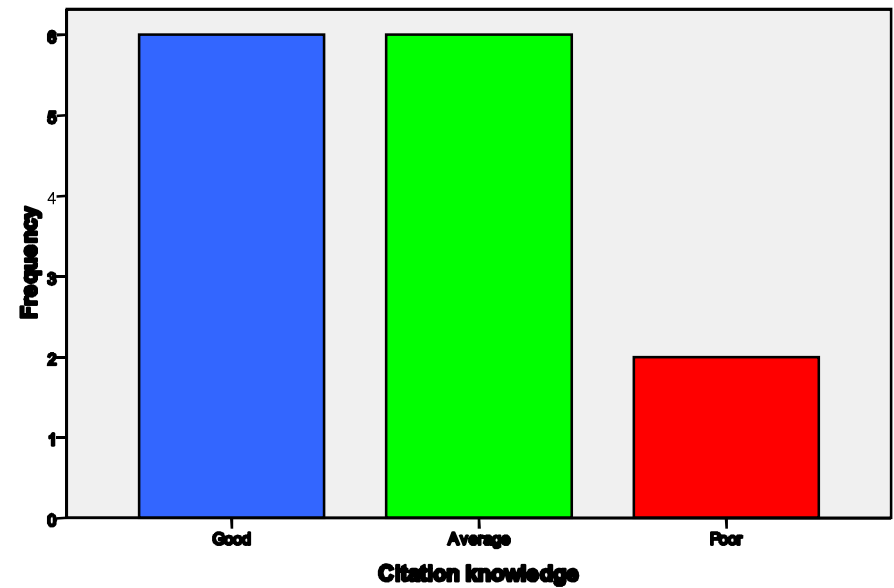


Competency

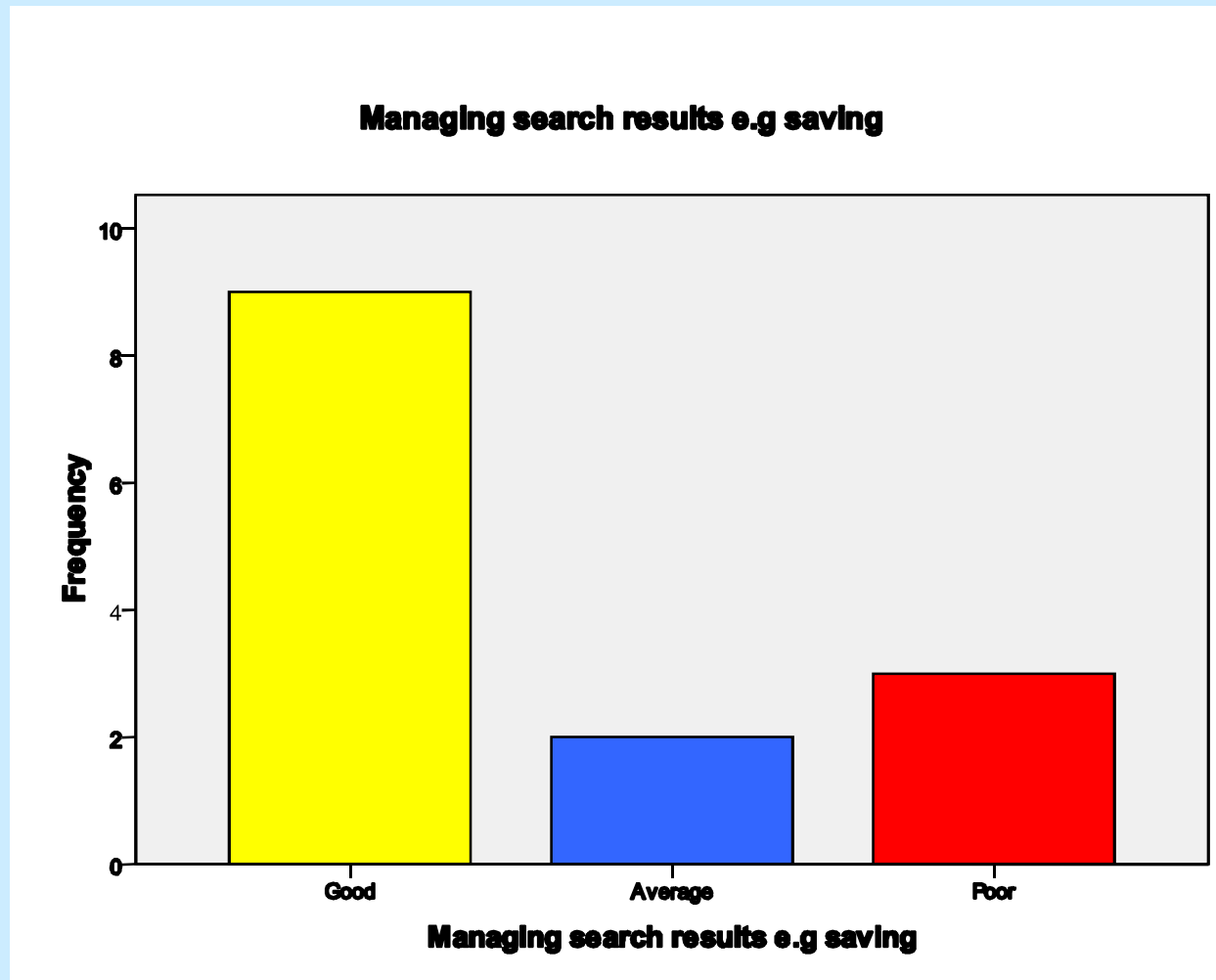
Evaluating information sources search results



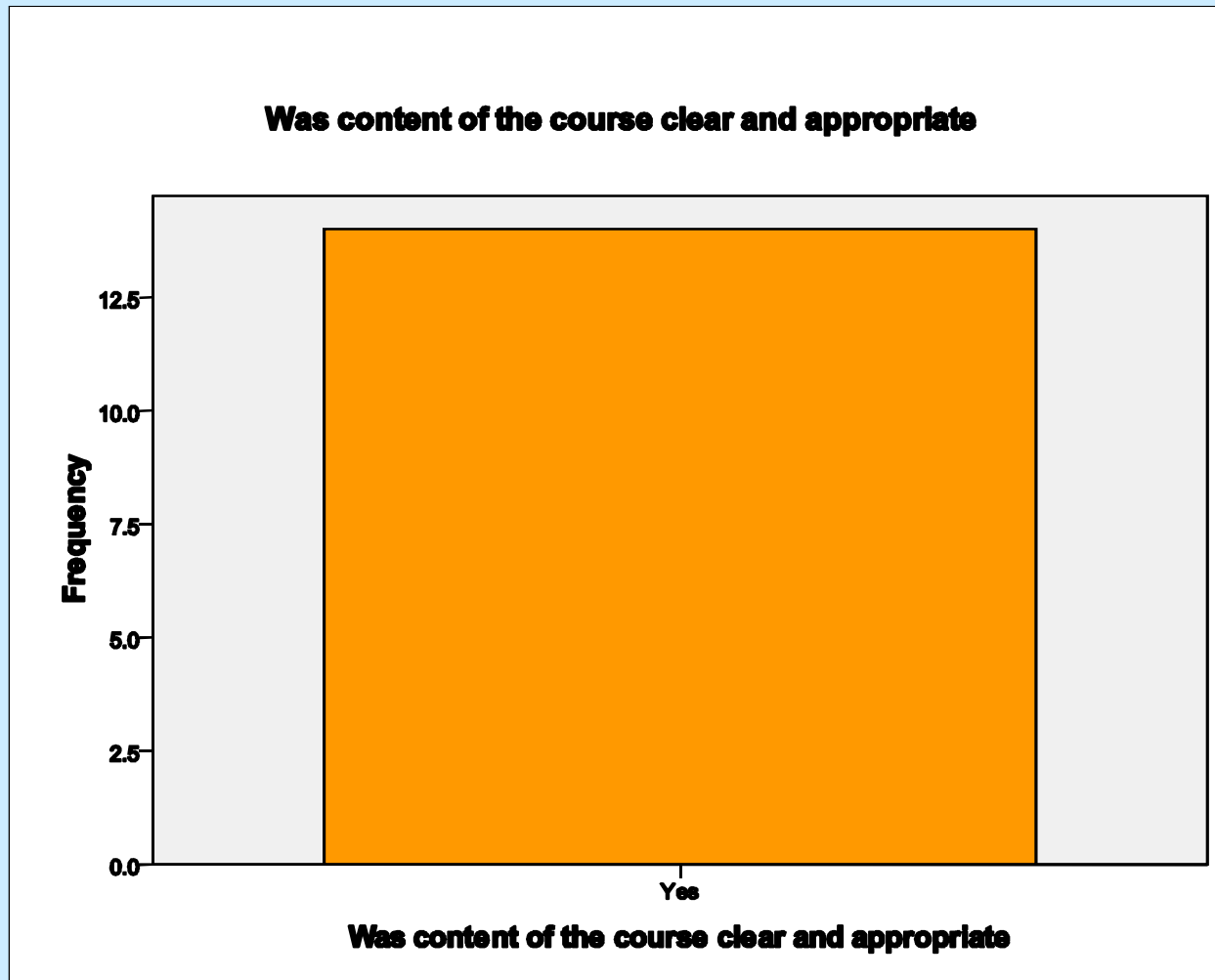
Citation knowledge



Competency (cont)

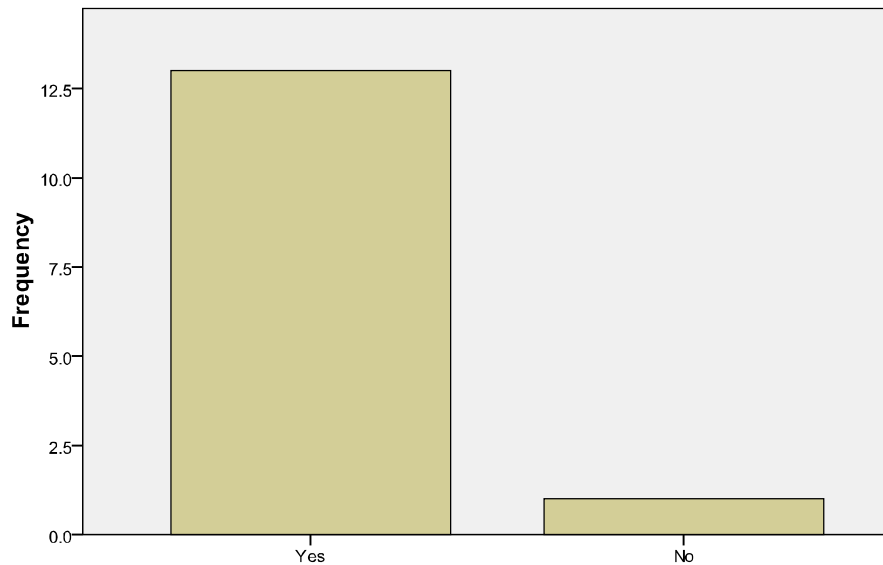


Course content



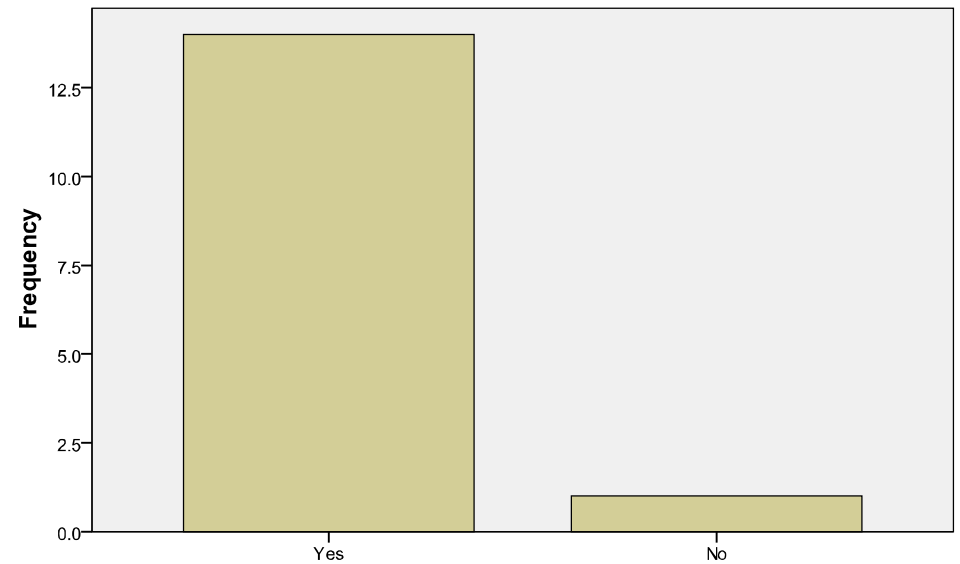
Course Content

Were you introduced to the aims and objectives?



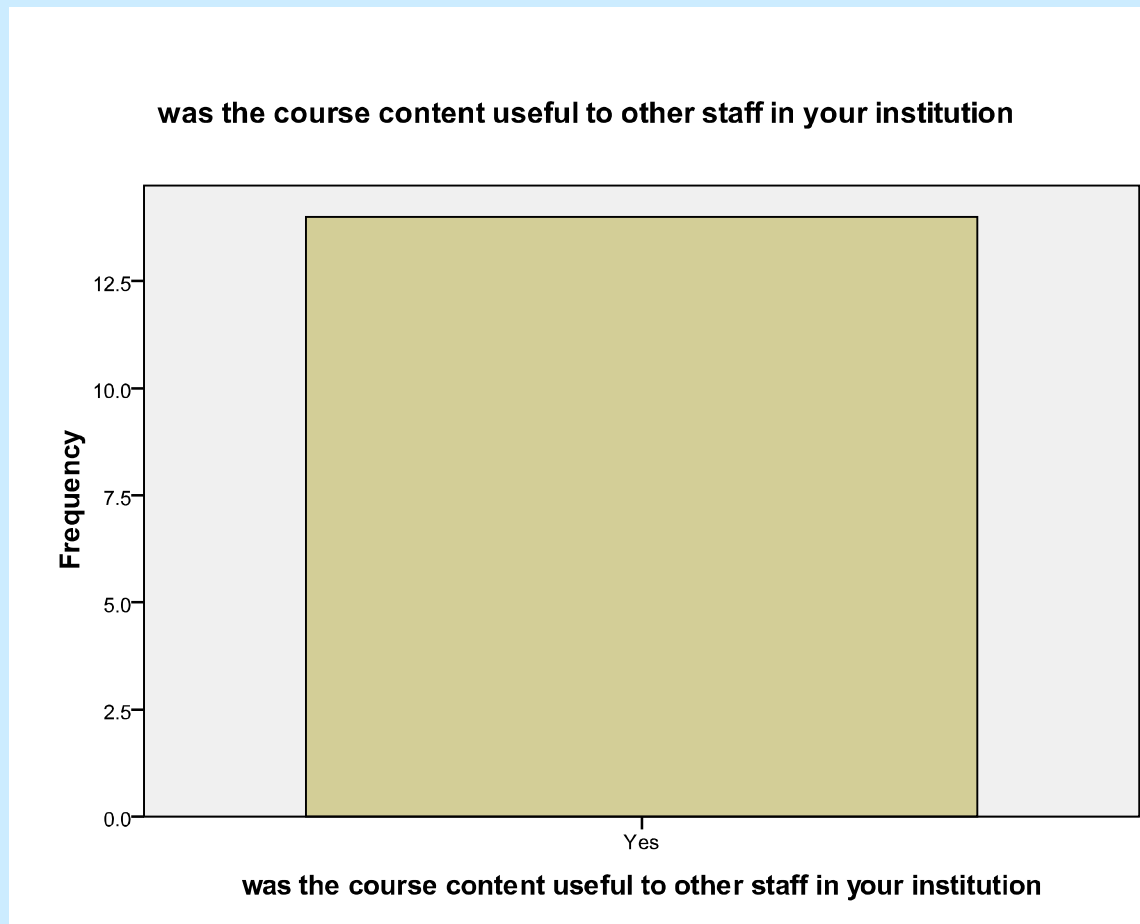
Were you introduced to the aims and objectives?

did the course achieve its main objectives of helping nurses gain knowledge of elec inf

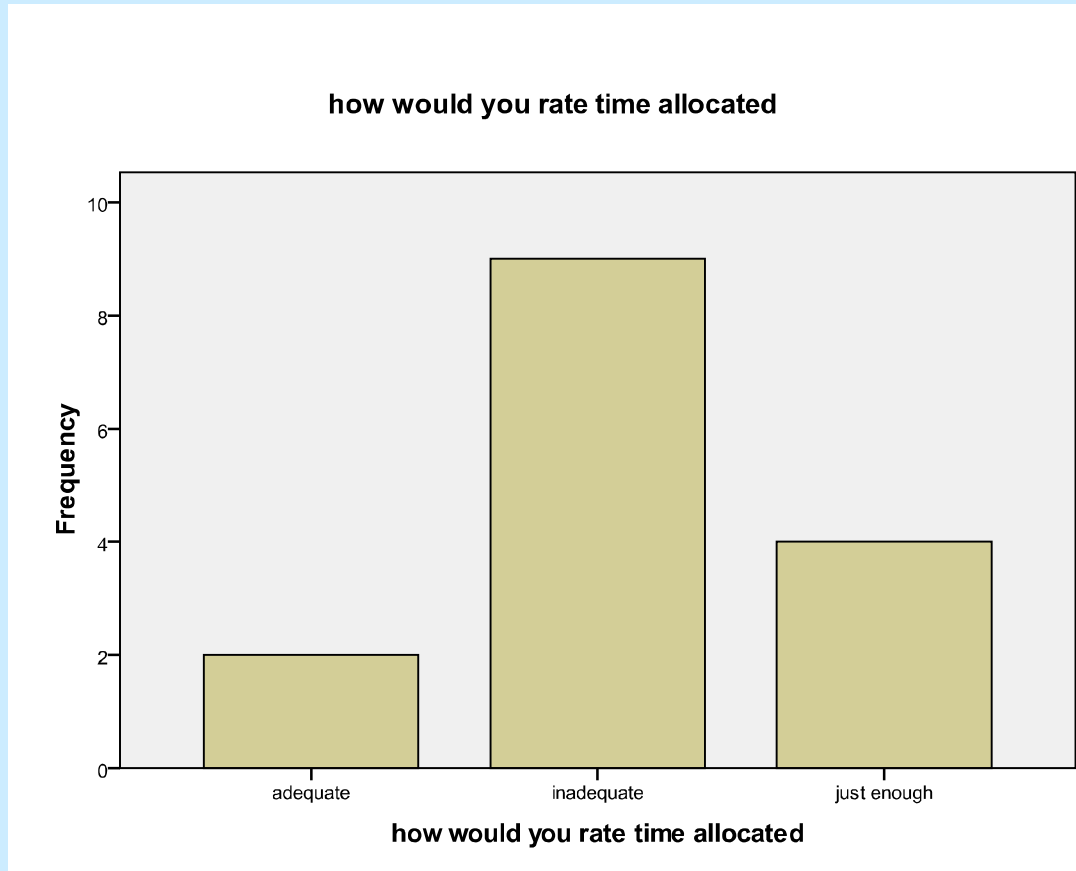


did the course achieve its main objectives of helping nurses gain knowledge of elec inf

Course content

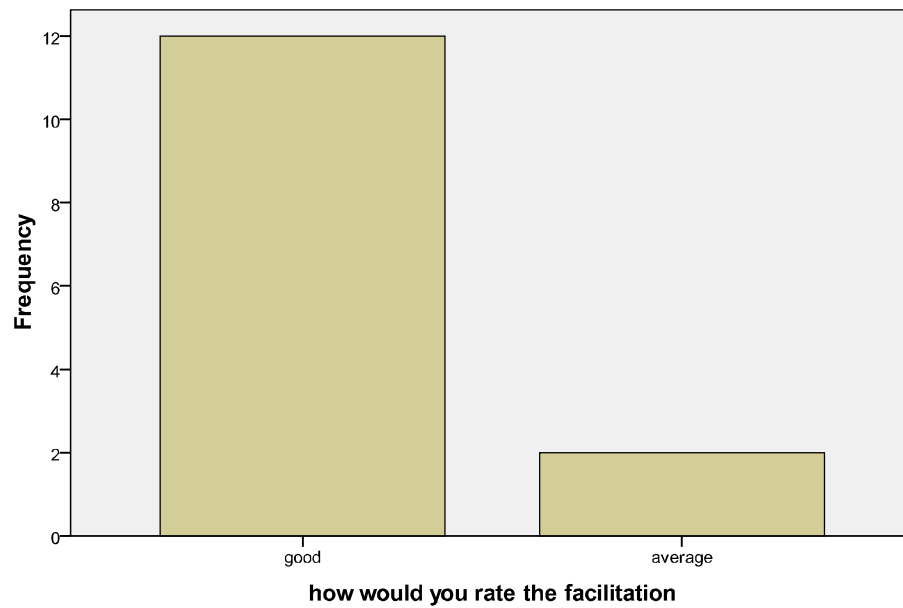


Course Organisation

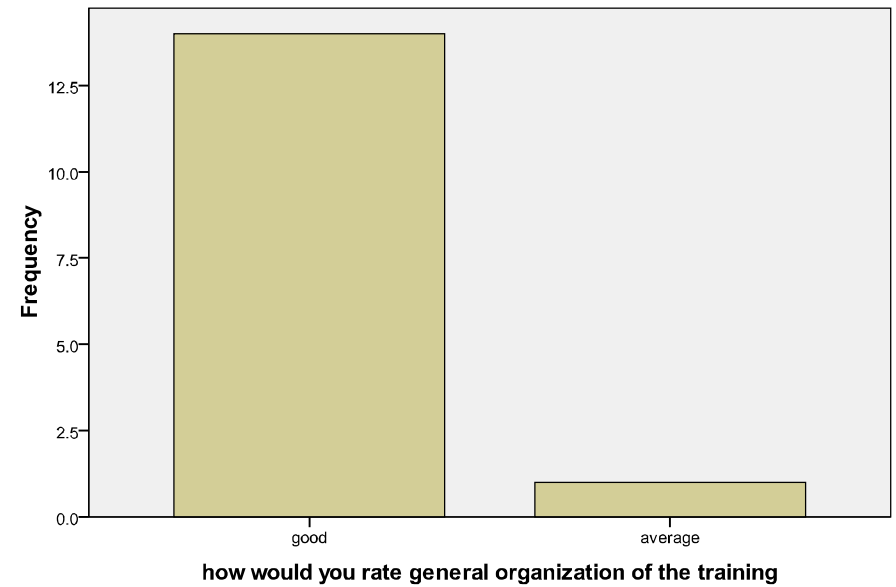


Course Organisation

how would you rate the facilitation

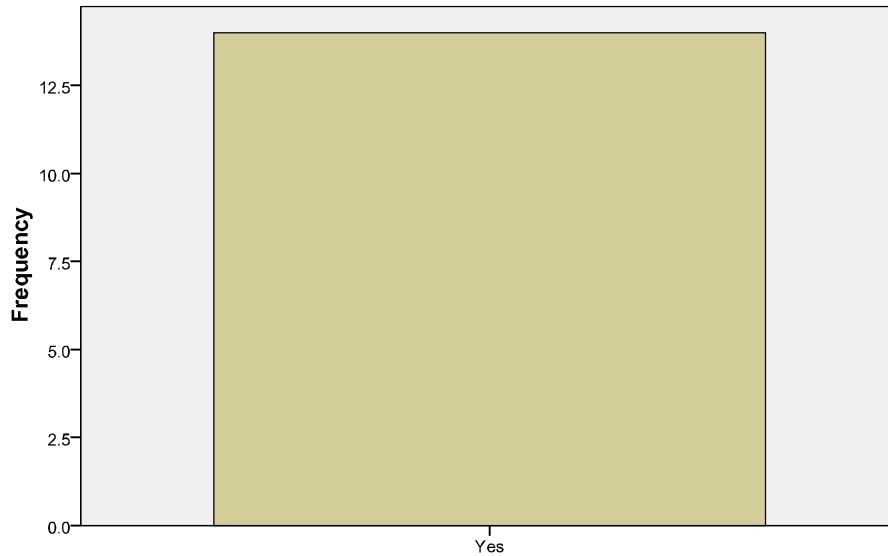


how would you rate general organization of the training



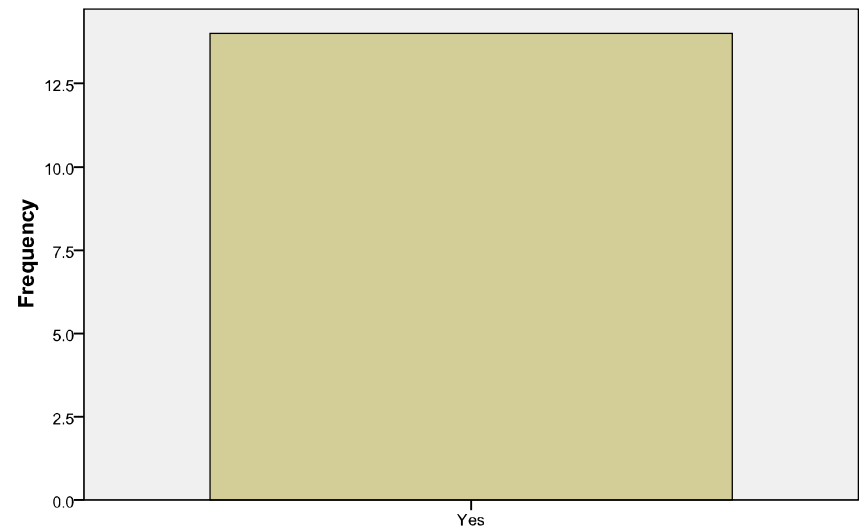
Impact

Do you personally feel you benefited from the training



Do you personally feel you benefited from the training

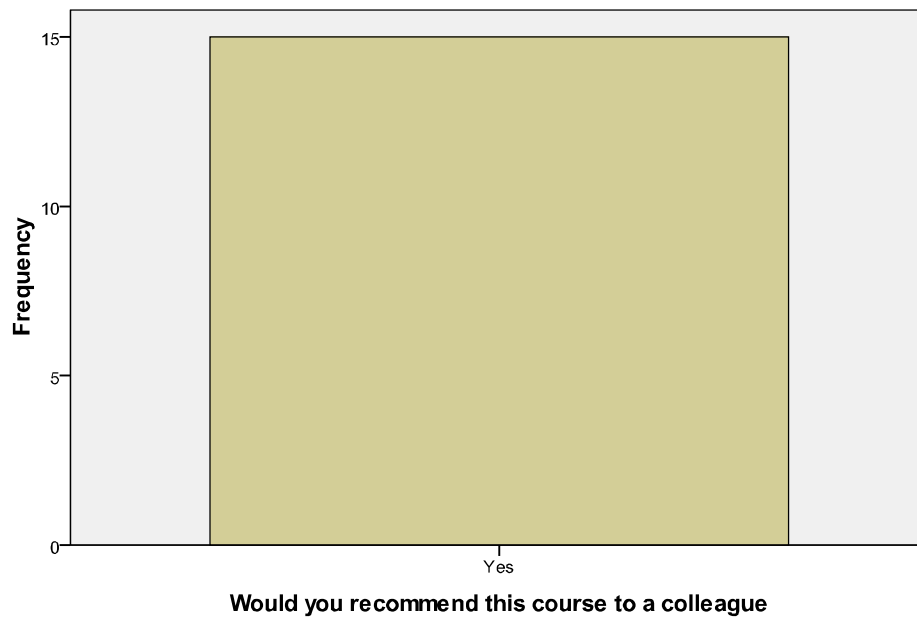
Has this course helped you improve your performance on your job



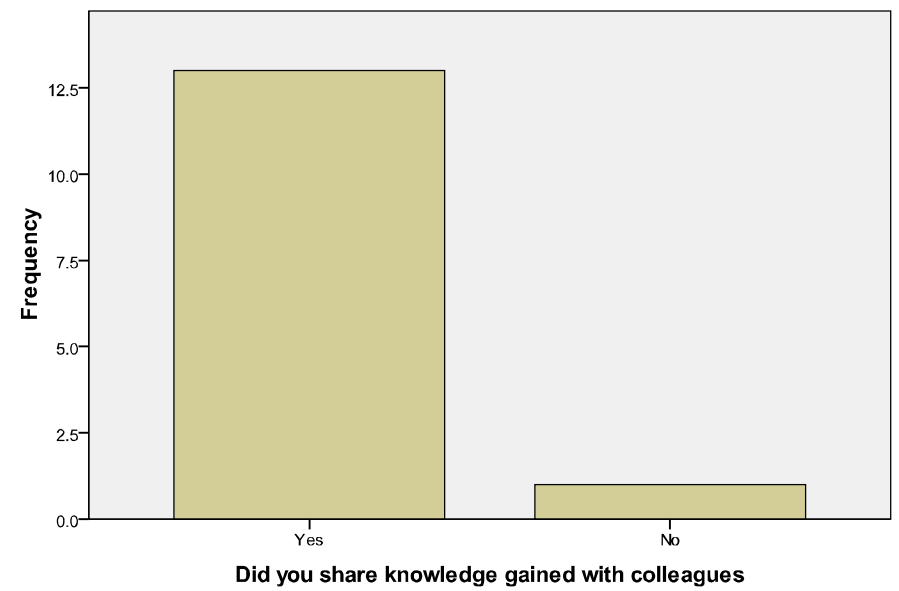
Has this course helped you improve your performance on your job

Impact

Would you recommend this course to a colleague



Did you share knowledge gained with colleagues



Impact

- Response to the open ended question on what aspects of their job have changed:
 - *Evaluation of information sources*
 - *Can refer students to internet for information retrieval*
 - *Navigation and getting the right information quickly*
 - *Get the desired information using different search engines*
 - *Broaden my medical knowledge via internet*
 - *Access to current information for patient care*
 - *Able to access full text articles “which will help in better understanding especially when I am considering something for implementation*
 - *Gained more confidence in the use of internet for health information*
 - *Sharing material with colleagues through emails*
 - ***Was able to get a computer and also taught colleagues***

Discussion

- Course was generally well appreciated by the nurses
 - Competencies in the use of search engines, and searching databases such as HINARI and Pubmed were rated high.
 - Competencies on free text versus controlled vocabulary, citation, and managing search results were rated low
 - Course content and organization was generally good
-

Discussion

- Most felt that the time allocated was inadequate
 - It was noted that a good number of participants required more introduction to ICT skills before embarking on the search skills
 - Participants felt that the course should be incorporated into the ICN course and other nursing courses
-

Recommendations

- There was need for a more detailed pre-evaluation exercise to assess the participants ICT skills
 - Course content should include induction / basic introduction to computers for beginners
 - More time should be allocated.
-

Conclusion

- Nurses are an essential part of healthcare. In order to provide safe and effective nursing care, nurses need to know when information is required, need to know where to find evidence based information and how to retrieve it.
 - KEN-AHILA should make effort to reach more nurses in the country (Kenya). This can be achieved through continued association with the National Nurses Association of Kenya and other Nursesqorganisations.
-

Conclusion

- KEN-AHILA would wish to sustain this training for nurses and also reach out to other healthcare providers if funds allow.
-

Course participants



Front L-R: Rosemary W. Maina, Grace Mungai, Ann Ndung'u, Dorothy Katiechi, Priscillah Gitau, Nancy Kamau, Muthoni, Pauline Maingi.
Middle L-R: Khatra Ali, Nasra Gathoni, Helina Kahura, Lucy Munoru, Mary Mudave, Nancy W. Kiama, Brenda Gathonya, Rosebell Otieno.
Back L-R: Harun Mugo, Ruth Mogaka, Francescah Mutinda, Linyonyi Wamabongo, Jairus Okech, Flora A. Mutiga, Joseph Mwangi Ndung'u, Symprose Ouma, Pamela Aomo.

Merci Beaucoup

Thank you

