

An Educational Intervention In The Knowledge And Practice Of The Adults With Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000

Dr Elizabeth Robertson, Clinical Teaching Fellow and Hazel McPhillips, Advanced Nurse Practitioner
Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, NHS Lothian

Background:

Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 (AWI) is used to treat patients who are deemed not to have capacity for aspects of their care. In this case a section 47 form is filled out detailing this. An annex 5 form gives space for a detailed care plan and accompanies this. It was anecdotally reported that there were often errors in this process and clinicians did not feel confident in how to proceed.

Methods:

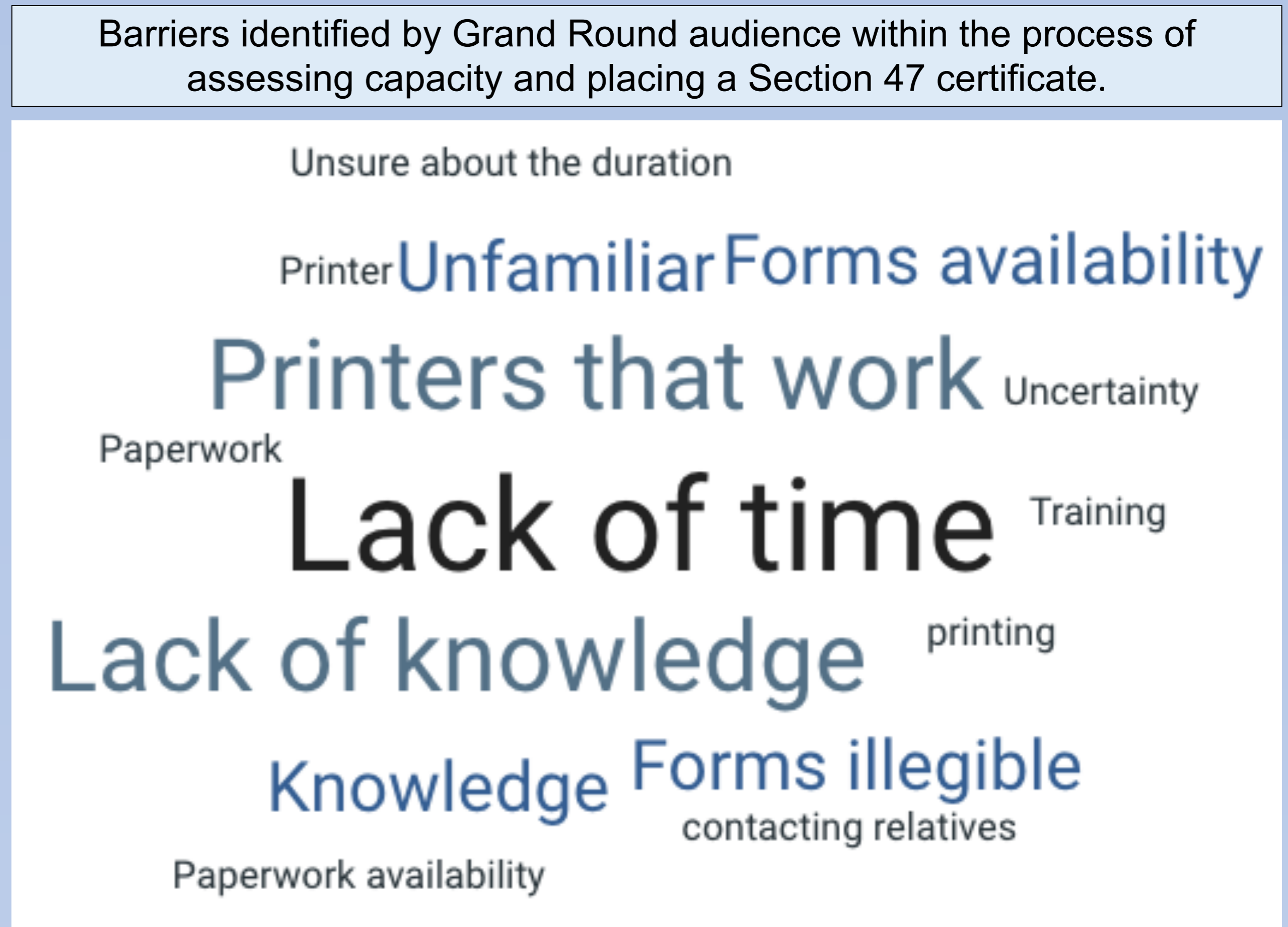
A questionnaire was developed to assess knowledge and practice of AWI throughout the multi-disciplinary team at an Edinburgh teaching hospital. Data was collected opportunistically at shift handover on two separate occasions in October 2019 and December 2020. The data demonstrated an overall poor understanding of AWI, with no change temporally. This was presented at the regional Grand Round on Microsoft Teams in February 2021. An interactive poll was used to gather input from the audience on the barriers experienced in using AWI, what would help to remove them and what they would want from any training intervention.

Results:

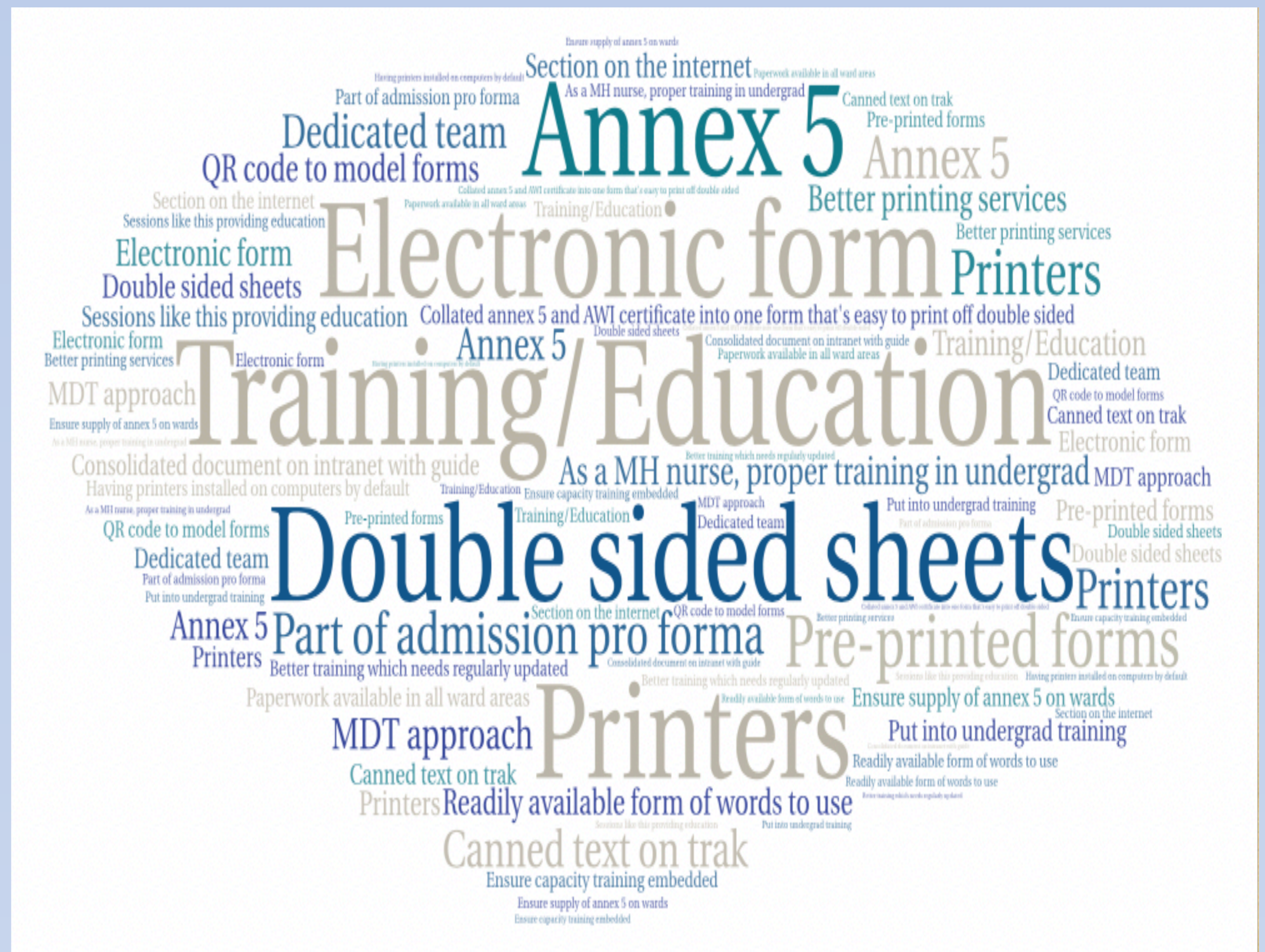
Regarding barriers, the audience cited lack of time and knowledge and unfamiliarity with the section 47 form. Ideas to remove these barriers included further training, forms being readily available and prefilled examples to use as a guide. When asked about training the audience requested it be online. Other suggestions included case discussions and an assigned area in the electronic clinical notes system for capacity issues.

Conclusions and Next Steps:

After reflecting on the suggestions made, we are initially focusing on making a dedicated regional intranet page to encompass the resources requested. This will include links to blank forms, prefilled example forms to use as a guide and a video answering frequently asked questions on AWI. Other plans underway include, ward "tea trolley" teaching, a forum to discuss complex cases and ward capacity champions. A folder of these resources will also be made available to local GPs via Ref Help and for other departments to add to their shared drives and to use in training. We hope to launch with Scotland's Dementia Awareness Week at the end of May!



Answers of Grand Round audience to:
In what ways could NHS Lothian help remove barriers?



The three areas of planned intervention:

