

ONLINE DELIVERY OF A LIAISON SUMMER SCHOOL DURING COVID-19

G. BASDANIS¹, G. SHIELDS² and G. RANJITH¹

1. South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, London, United Kingdom

2. Maudsley Learning, London, United Kingdom

AIM

We delivered a 5-day summer school online in 2020 during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Our aim is to assess whether satisfaction amongst participants remained similar to the course delivered face-to-face in 2019.

BACKGROUND

The course was originally scheduled to be delivered face-to-face in June 2020. Given the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, a decision was made to deliver it online in November. The course was delivered via Zoom, given added capabilities for interactivity, such as polling and breakout rooms.

Participants included psychiatrists and psychiatric liaison nurses with varying levels of experience. The course included a simulation day which was delivered online.

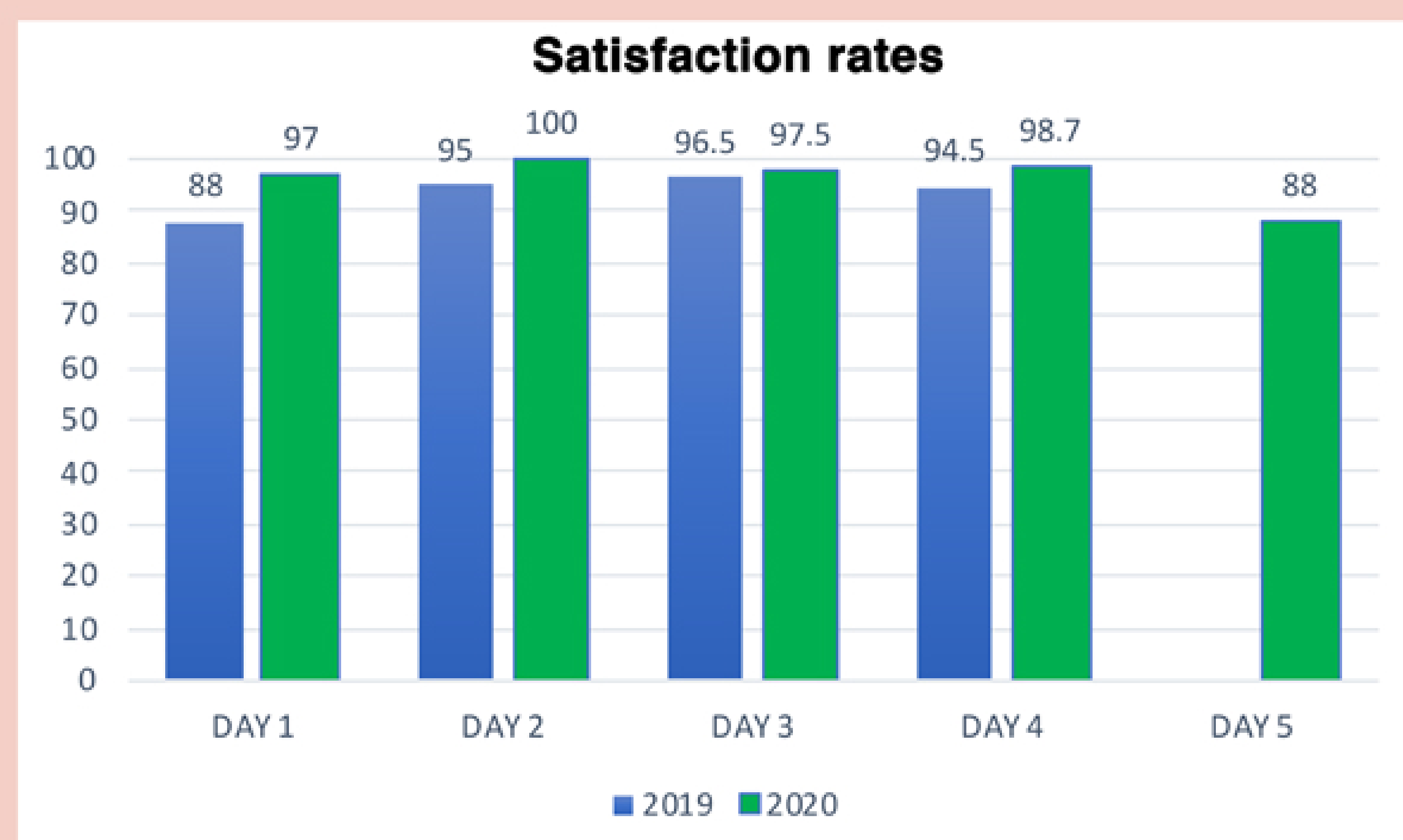
METHODS

To assess attendee satisfaction, online questionnaires were provided at the beginning of each day. The attendees were encouraged to complete these after each session.

They were asked to rate each session and were asked in a free text box whether there was anything especially good or bad and anything which could be improved.

CONCLUSIONS

Although the 2019 and 2020 cohorts are not directly comparable based on these results, the online delivery of the course was well received. Online delivery meant that people did not have to travel, which could enable people to attend who otherwise would have been unable to do so. Online delivery of courses appears to be a viable alternative and should be considered for future courses after Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.



RESULTS

We compared the percentage of attendees who rated the sessions on each day as 'excellent' or 'good' between 2019 and 2020. There was an increase in satisfaction across all 4 days. Session timings in the 2020 summer school were extended which resulted in an additional day of teaching, therefore there is no data to compare for day 5.

Open text feedback was overall positive. Specifically about the online delivery, one participant found the online experience less nerve wracking, as they felt more comfortable behind a screen. Another commented on the fact that online delivery helped their concentration and they felt less distracted. Satisfaction remained high for the simulation day.

On the negative side, a participant thought that the online delivery felt slightly different and artificial while another highlighted connectivity issues which resulted in a delay in audio.