

What factors do Child & Adolescent higher trainees and new Consultants report in choosing their higher training subspecialty?

Mary Parker ST6

Dr Jim Boylan Former Director of Medical Education & Dr Nick Wolstenholme Consultant Psychiatrist
Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust

Background & Aims:

The number of Child & Adolescent (C&A) psychiatrists fell by 6.3% over four years to 2018, however there are few studies of why trainees choose this sub-specialty.

This research aimed to identify factors reported by trainees in choosing C&A Psychiatry for their higher training to inform future recruitment and retention.

Method:

-Qualitative design to provide insight into factors affecting career choice.

-Approval by The Health Research Authority and Trust Research & Development departments.

-Demographic & background data analysed quantitatively.

-Semi-structured interviews to saturation with participants (N=14) asked questions exploring their subspecialty choice.

-Thematic analysis of responses disseminated to inform recruitment & retention.

Results:

Emergent findings were analysed into key higher level themes:

Working with children

Early intervention

Work life balance

Quality & supportive Training

"consider the impact I could make"

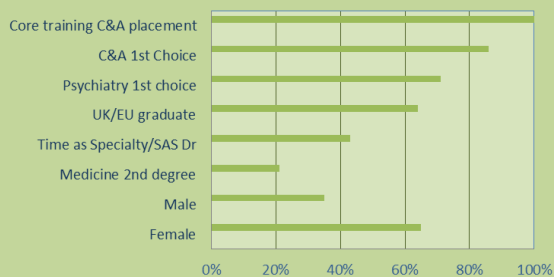
"I love interacting with children"

"supportive consultants...they act like no stupid questions."

"work life balance is important"

Demographics & Background:

Participant Information



Conclusions:

This Research provides novel findings re factors influencing career choice of C&A Psychiatry to inform future recruitment and retention.

Clear themes emerged re important recruitment/retention factors.

The study highlights need for more research to investigate reasons why C&A is not chosen.

making a

difference

together