

# A clinical audit of biopsychosocial assessments and involvement of families and carers in those presenting with self harm to Maidstone Liaison Psychiatric Service

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## INTRODUCTION

The support of family and carers can be vital for individuals experiencing a wish to end their life. It is thus crucial to listen to their views, include them in management plans and ensure that they receive the support they need to perform this important role.

The impact of COVID-19 related restrictions on family and carers visiting hospital setting with their loved ones may have impacted on their inclusion in assessments of self-harm.

## AIM

To measure the quality of biopsychosocial assessments, including family and carer involvement, of individuals referred with self-harm to Maidstone LPS during the COVID-19 pandemic against NICE clinical guideline [CG133].

## METHOD

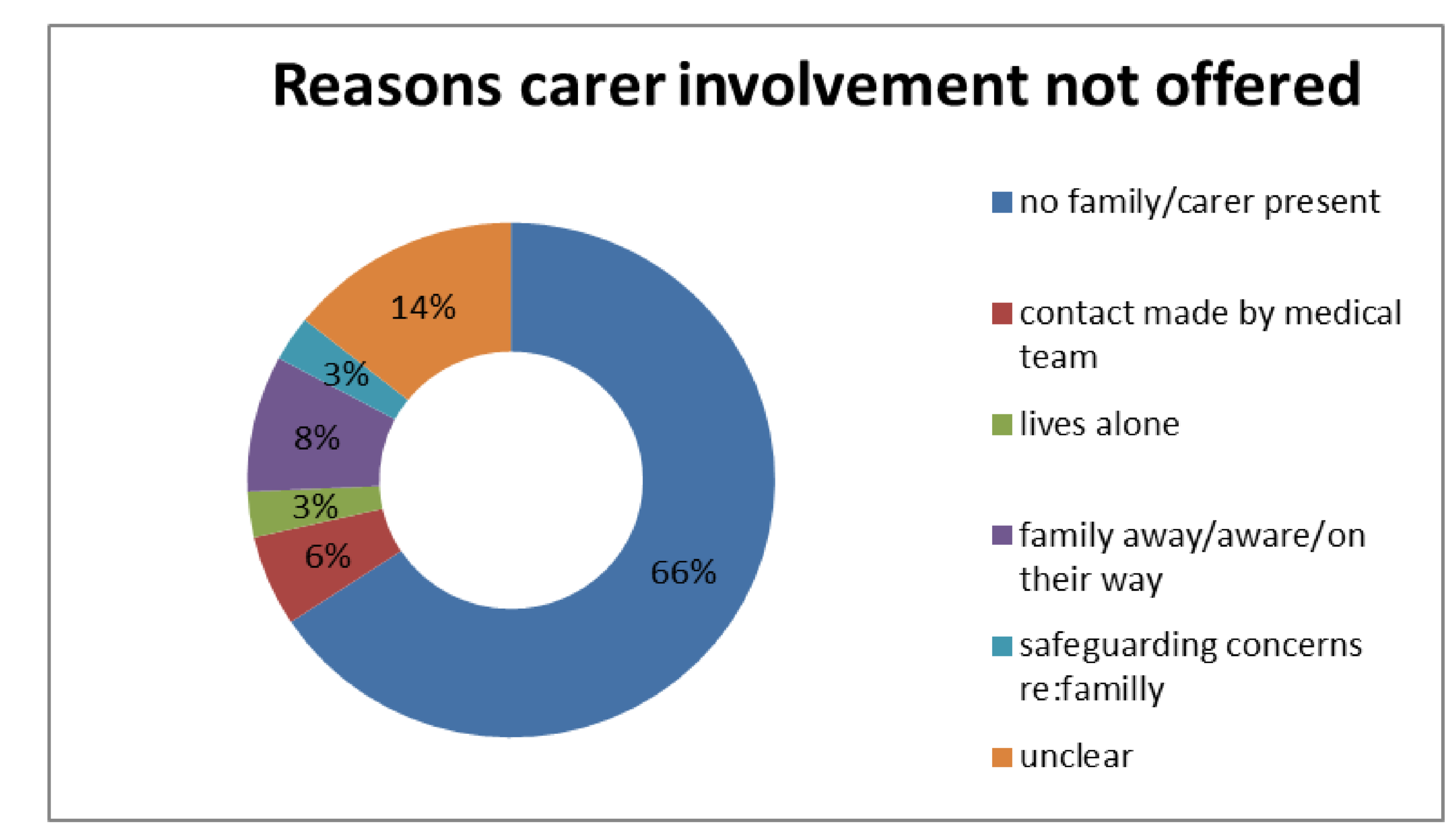
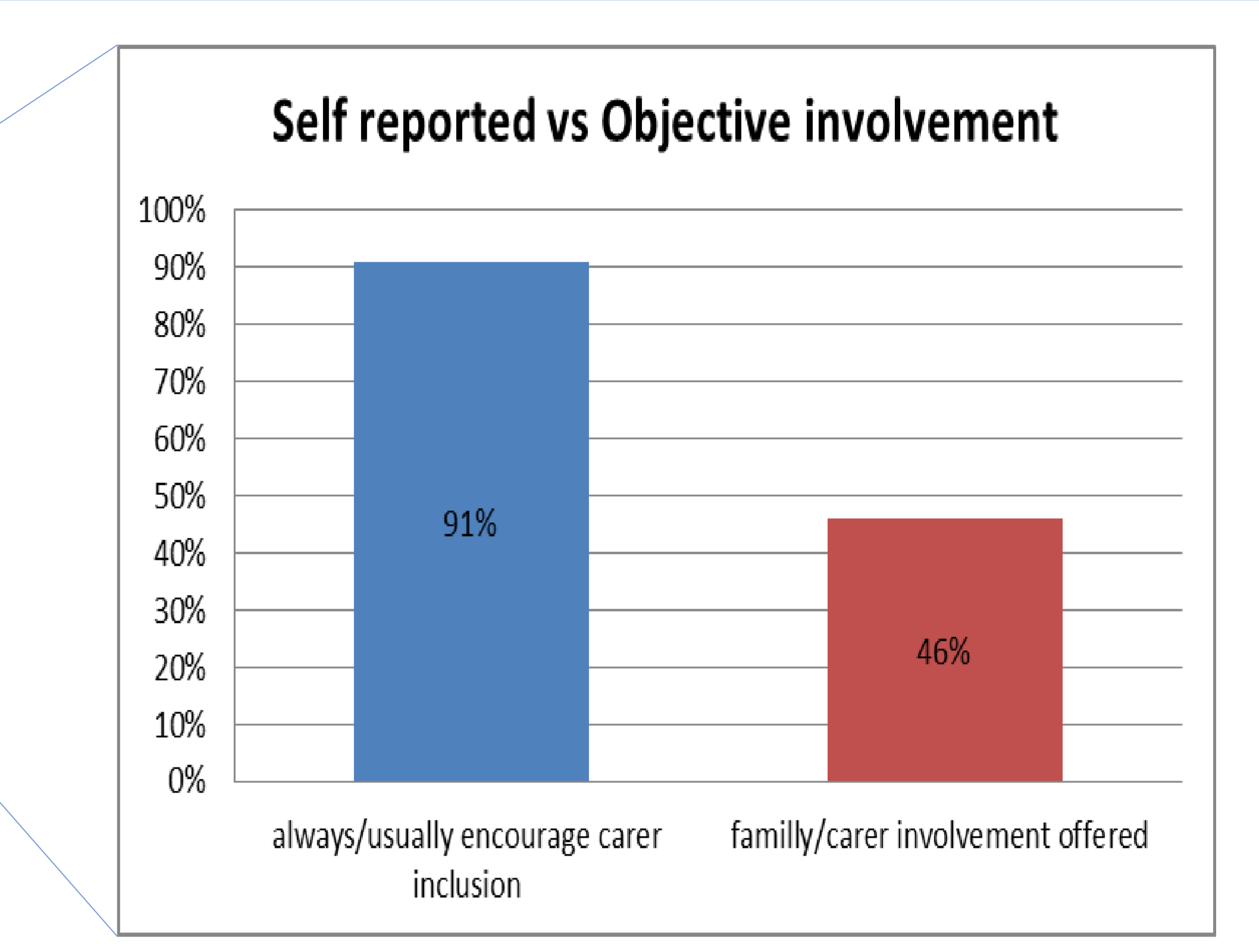
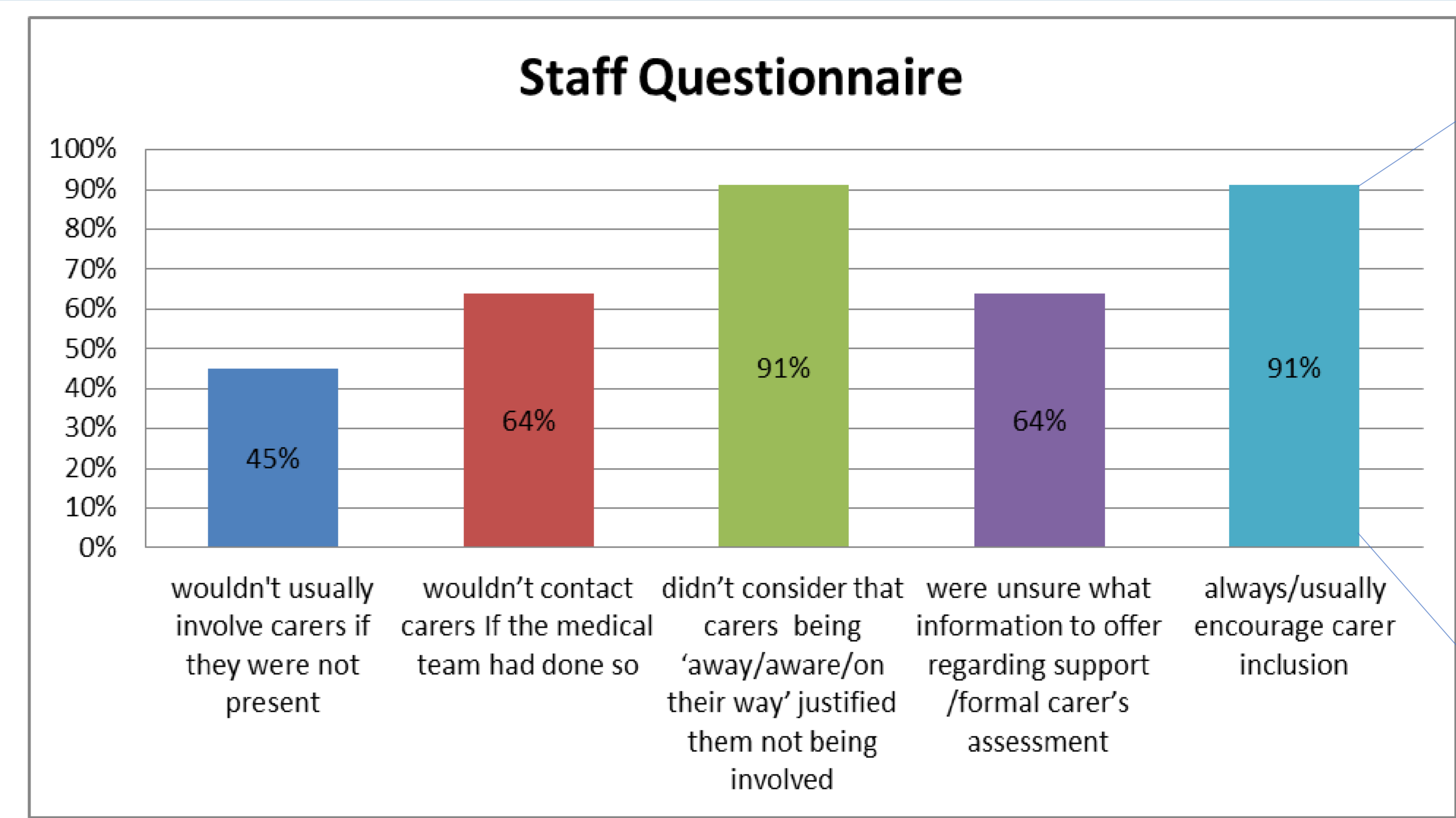
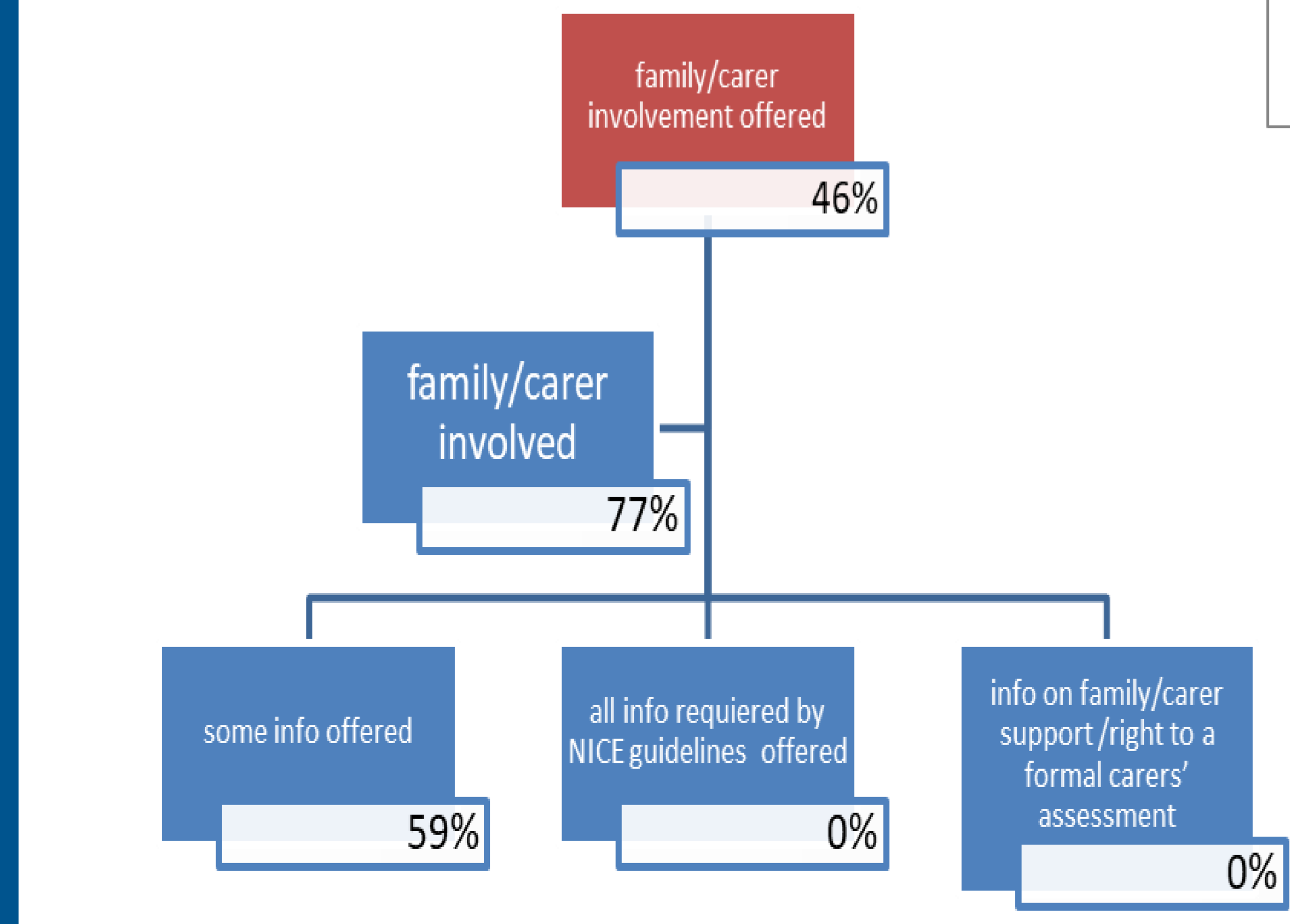
The medical notes of 121 referrals to Maidstone LPS during March 2021 were audited retrospectively. Data collection was stopped at this number as findings were consistent and no new themes were emerging. Of these 70 service users were included in the audit. Data was collected using a Microsoft Word data collection form and analysed using Microsoft Excel.

The quality was measured against NICE clinical guidelines for biopsychosocial assessment [CG133].

A semi-structured questionnaire was sent to LPS practitioners to identify barriers to carer involvement.

## RESULTS

Compliance with NICE guidelines	
biopsychosocial assessment	100%
family/carer involvement	18%



## CONCLUSIONS

Maidstone LPS maintained high standards of biopsychosocial assessments during the COVID-19 pandemic, however COVID-19 restrictions may have impacted on the team's involvement of carers and family.

An action plan has been formulated to address this issue and a re-audit is planned for December 2021.