

AUDIT INTO POST DIAGNOSTIC SUPPORT IN NEWLY DIAGNOSED DEMENTIA PATIENTS

Dr Madhumanti Mitra

ST5 Psychiatrist, Supervised by Dr Raghupathy Paranthaman
Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust, United Kingdom

INTRODUCTION

A diagnosis of dementia can be life changing and hence post diagnostic support for dementia is key. This audit aims to identify whether newly diagnosed dementia patients are offered post diagnostic support, what is included and potential factors influencing patient choice in accessing support.

AIM

The aim of this audit was to identify whether dementia patients are regularly attending post diagnostic support groups and whether there are factors which may potentially influence the attendance rates.

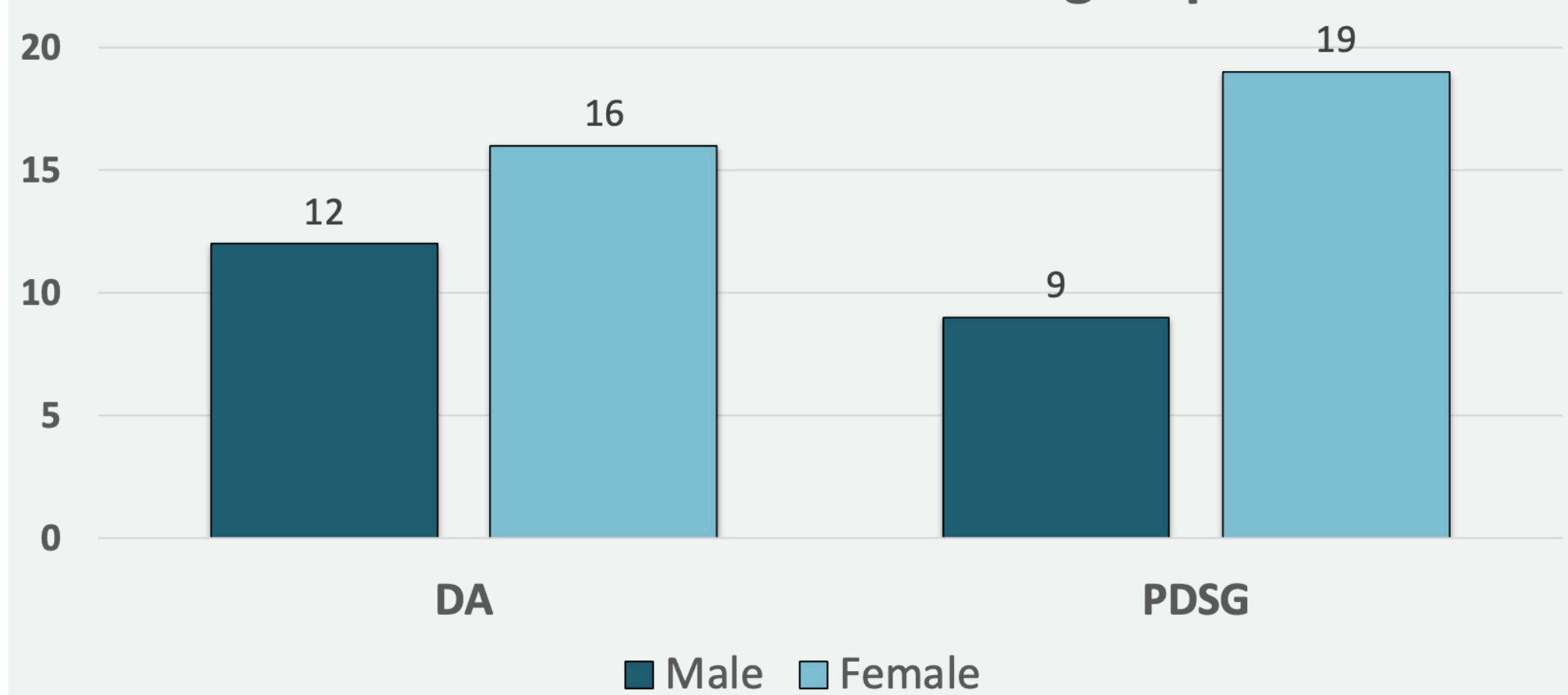
METHODS

- ✓ Data was collected for 40 patients diagnosed with dementia, around 20 who opted for post diagnostic support group (PDSG) and 20 who chose dementia adviser (DA).
- ✓ Using random number generator, we selected patient group from pool for all patients diagnosed with dementia between July' 2017 to December' 2017.
- ✓ Data was collected to include whether they had been offered support during the initial appointment and what post diagnostic support was offered.
- ✓ Some demographic details were obtained to identify patterns of support accessed by patients.

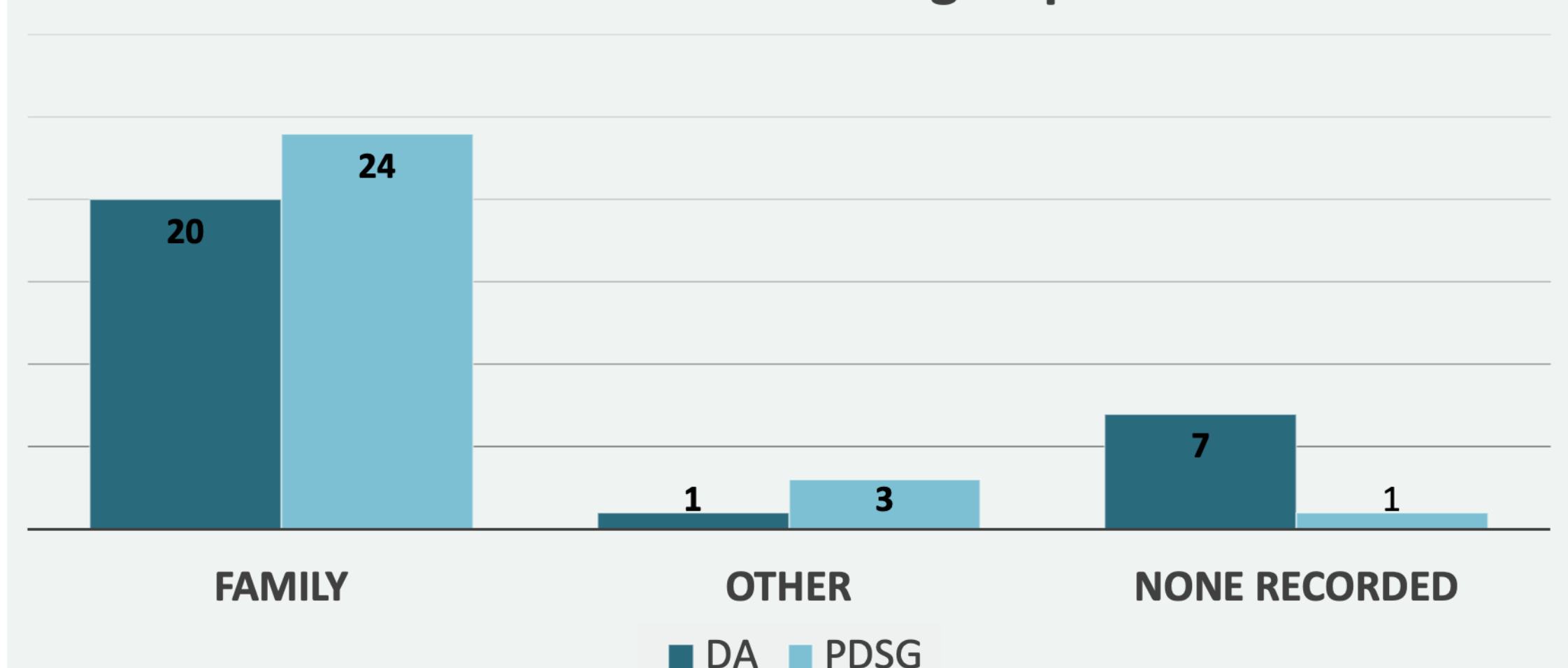
RESULTS

- ✓ All patients were offered post diagnostic support.
- ✓ Diagnosis was discussed in appointment in about 93% of patients.
- ✓ Medication was discussed in 82% patients.
- ✓ Driving was discussed in only 64% patients and LPA was discussed in only 63% patients.
- ✓ When given choice between PDSG and DA, slightly more women tend to choose PDSG group. The only 2 ethnic minority patients chose DA.
- ✓ 21% more patients opted for PDSG group rather than DA who had a carer. §

Gender distribution in two groups



Main carer in two groups



RECOMMENDATIONS

- ✓ Present in local MATS team meeting
- ✓ To discuss driving and LPA routinely in clinic and appropriate documentation
- ✓ To discuss diagnosis and medication routinely in clinic and appropriate documentation
- ✓ To encourage patients from ethnic minority to attend PDSG/ organise alternatives
- ✓ Re-audit

CONCLUSIONS

The positive is that some post diagnostic support is offered to all patients. Although discussion of diagnosis with patients was done well, discussion of medication, driving and LPA can be improved upon. Ethnicity and family structure/ carer may have a bearing on which option patient chose and whether they engage.