

DEVELOPING A RISK MANAGEMENT COURSE FOR FORENSIC PROFESSIONALS

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INTRODUCTION

Forensic science provides continued impartial, robust and reproducible analysis of data and laboratory results through a rigorous scientific approach which is subsequently presented to judiciary systems.

Appropriate risk management is one of the pillars of good quality systems supporting forensic scientists in their daily work.

AIMS

To develop and deliver a training course targeting ISO 31000:2018 focusing on risk management strategies specifically targeting forensic science.

METHOD

- Core team of development led by pharmacists with experience in
 - i) pharmaceutical regulatory sciences and
 - ii) risk management
- Meeting with quality manager of the forensic science laboratory was set to explore gaps in knowledge that were required to be addressed in relation to
 - i) risk management and
 - ii) forensic science
- Course Planning
 - Learning objectives, Outcomes, Content, Delivery mode, Choice of tutors and Duration
 - Validated by an expert panel
- Expert Validation Panel (n=4)
 - quality manager of the forensic science laboratory,
 - a scientist,
 - an academic pharmacist with speciality in risk management
 - a pharmacist with experience in good quality management systems
- Course was designed over a total of 14 hours face to face with an additional 5 hours of independent learning through reading material provided.
- Course was evaluated by means of an anonymous online questionnaire.

RESULTS

- Agreement by expert panel that the
 - designed course content met the identified objectives and outcomes
 - course should be delivered in classroom mode using an interactive approach (quizzes and practical examples)
 - tutors were well versed in the area of training
- Quality manager of the forensic science laboratory noted
 - that course duration is compatible with the working schedule of the forensic professionals
 - that a total of three repeat sessions should be provided to target all the 60 forensic professionals in the laboratory.
- 58 forensic professionals completed the online anonymous evaluation.
- Table 1 shows how participants evaluated the training course focusing on risk management strategies targeting forensic science.

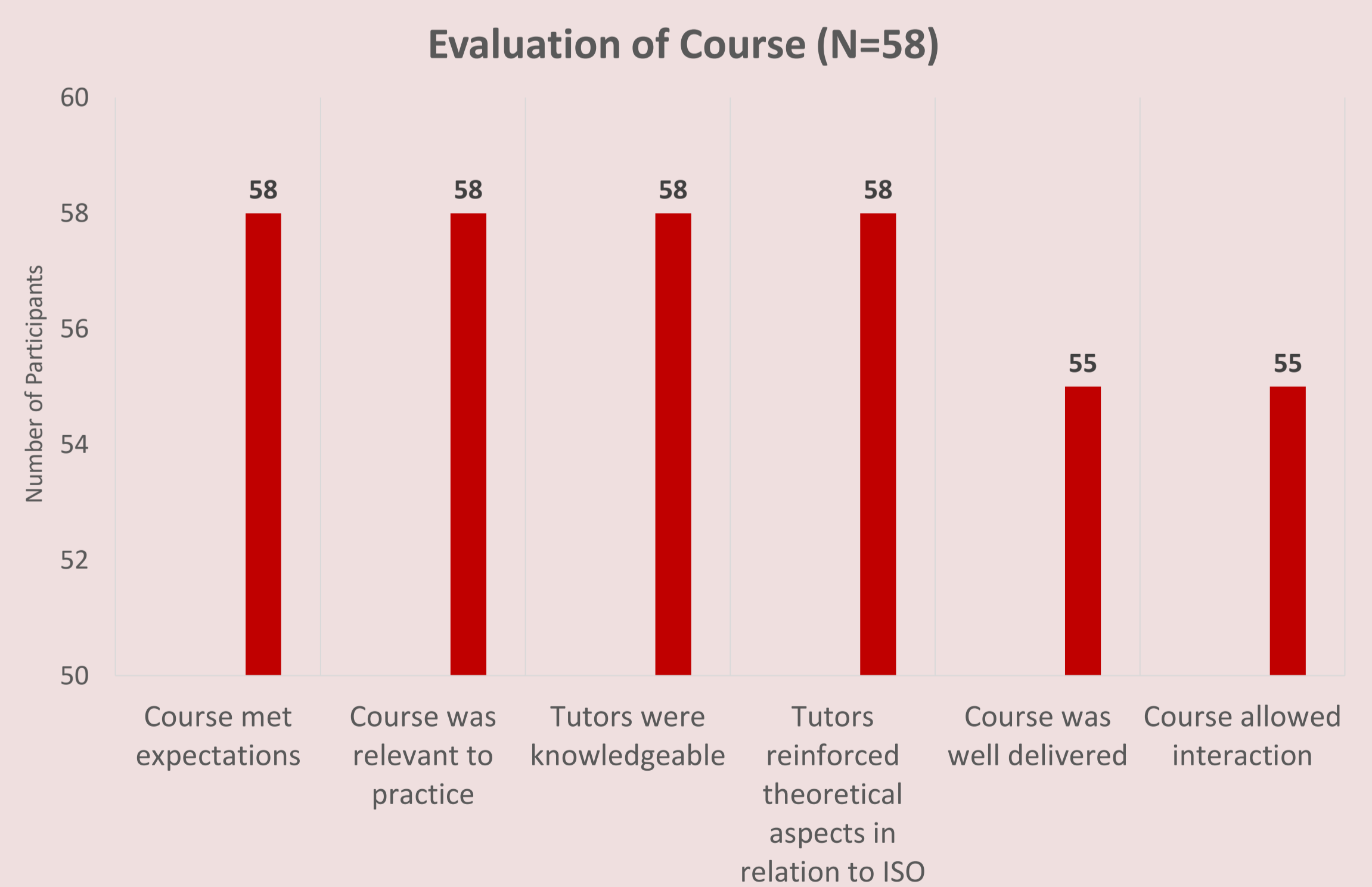


Table 1: Evaluation of Course by Forensic Professionals (N=58)

CONCLUSION

The developed course provided an academic platform bringing together different professionals with a scientific background led by pharmacists to share expertise and challenges in risk management. The course which focused on forensic aspects was well received and highlighted the need to further undertake interprofessional courses on scientific processes such as the provision of audits, good quality management systems as led by pharmacists.

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