

Collaborative work between paediatric endocrinologist in Arab countries was demanded

H. Alsaffar, A. Alawa, F. Aljaser, D. Chaturvedi, S. Ehtisham, A. Habeeb, A. Deeb

Arab Society for Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes (ASPED)

Introduction

Over years, countries promoted research and encouraged innovation; that subsequently led to increasing the number of researchers. The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) had witnessed increasing number of researchers over last decade for example in 2016, the number of researchers per million inhabitants was 2.4K in UAE, 1.1K in Morocco, 680 in Egypt and 242 in Oman. Research and Development investment among Arabic countries was the highest in Tunisia, Egypt, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, ranged from 0.6% to 1.0% as a proportion of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Collaborative strategies that pool resources and knowledge thought to be vital especially when it comes to the rare diseases²

Aim

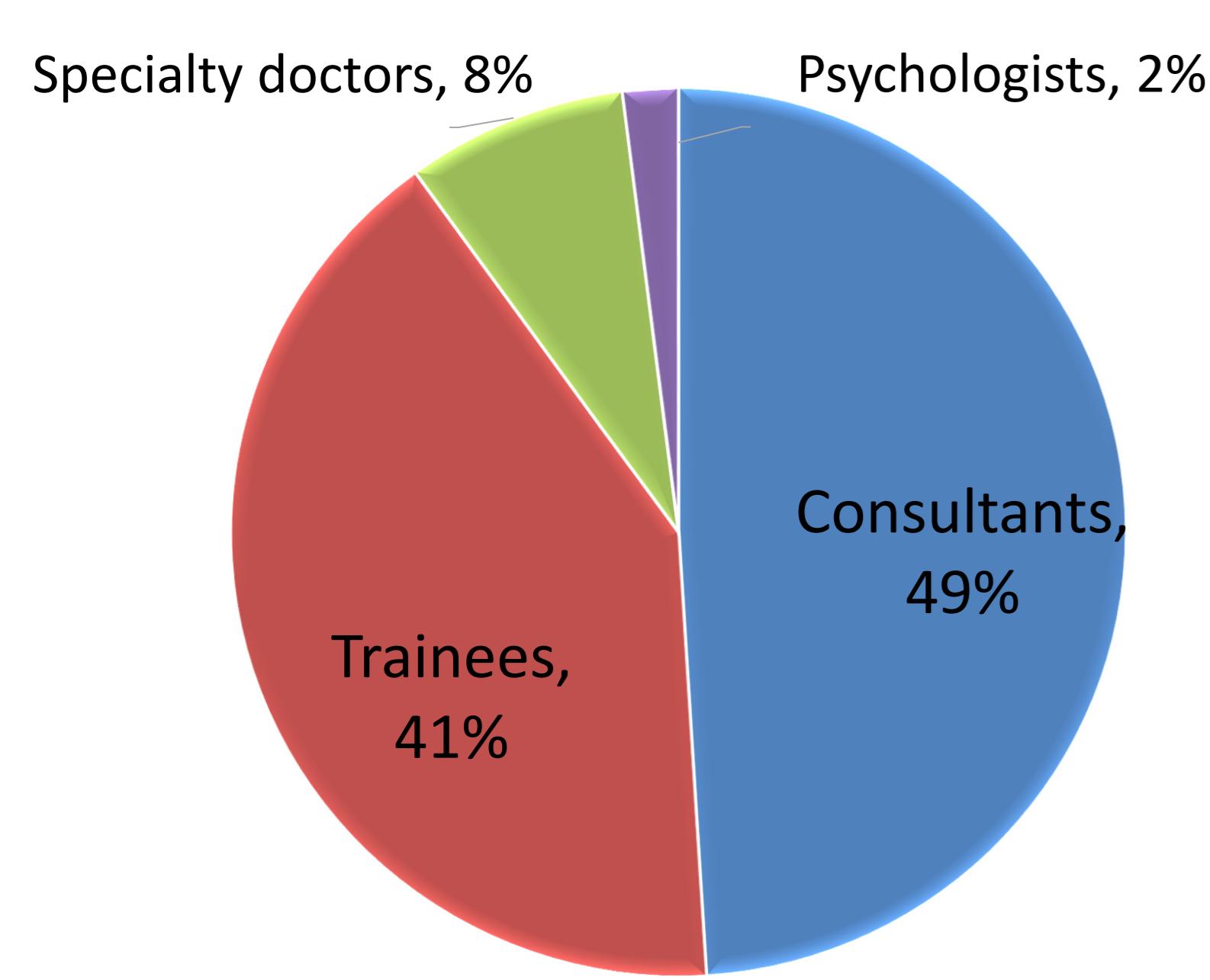
To identify the demand for collaborative work amongst paediatric endocrinologist who attended the ASPED-ISPAD Lilly Diabetes Academy between 11-13 April 2019.

Method

An online survey was cascaded to all participants of the above-mentioned educational activity, excluding the faculty member and guests.

Results

37 participants



100% emphasized their interest and eagerness for collaborative work.



Conclusion

As the research is advancing and researchers are increasing worldwide; As this cross-sectional review shows the eagerness of our researchers to work collaboratively. Therefore, we would encourage the endocrine societies to take a lead in overviewing the researches and opportunities, adopting the hub-and-spoke model to give extra help and guidance to researchers, especially the young ones. This approach may increase the number of working researchers on different projects resulting in better outcomes.

References;

- 1- R&D Data Release, Institute for statistics, UNESCO, Available at <http://uis.unesco.org/en/news/rd-data-release> (accessed online 15/04/2019).
- 2- Kym M Boycott, Lilian PL Lau, Christine M Cutillo, Christopher P Austin, International collaborative actions and transparency to understand, diagnose, and develop therapies for rare diseases. EMBO Molecular Medicine (2019). DOI 10.15252/emmm.201910486.

