

Kent and Medway Pathology Network Virtual Conference 26th April 2023

Summary:

The virtual conference was held on Wednesday 26th April from 11am to 3pm. The programme included a variety of presentations and speakers from the network team, our newly appointed Clinical Director – Supriya Joshi and Mark Knight, Chief Healthcare Scientist, Integrated Care Board (ICB) team, along with speakers from other Pathology networks on their network development and journey, the Institute of Biomedical Science Education leads and ended with some fantastic training, education and experiences presentations from colleagues from across the network.

The conference was well received and had plenty of engagement and support, with meeting rooms and conference rooms being made available on most of the hospital sites streaming the live sessions, enabling colleagues to drop in/ attend throughout the day. There were up to 82 attendees present during points of the conference.

We have had to date 27 evaluation responses following the conference, the majority of these responses were from those that had attended the live session. Overall the conference evaluation and feedback has been excellent with the majority rating the success of the conference between 8 and 9 out of 10 and most colleagues agreeing that the conference gave them an opportunity to engage with network projects, activities and other colleagues.

What worked well; colleagues provided fantastic feedback on the topics they found most interesting with a mixture from both the morning and afternoon session mentioned including presentations from Saghar Missaghian-Cully - NWLP, the Network Team, Mark Knight and many of the afternoon presentations topics being a highlight. Great feedback continued with 17 out of the 27 staff agreeing that attending the conference made them feel part of the network and its achievements, with a further 7 strongly agreeing. 78% of staff would be interested in attending and getting involved in future network conferences.

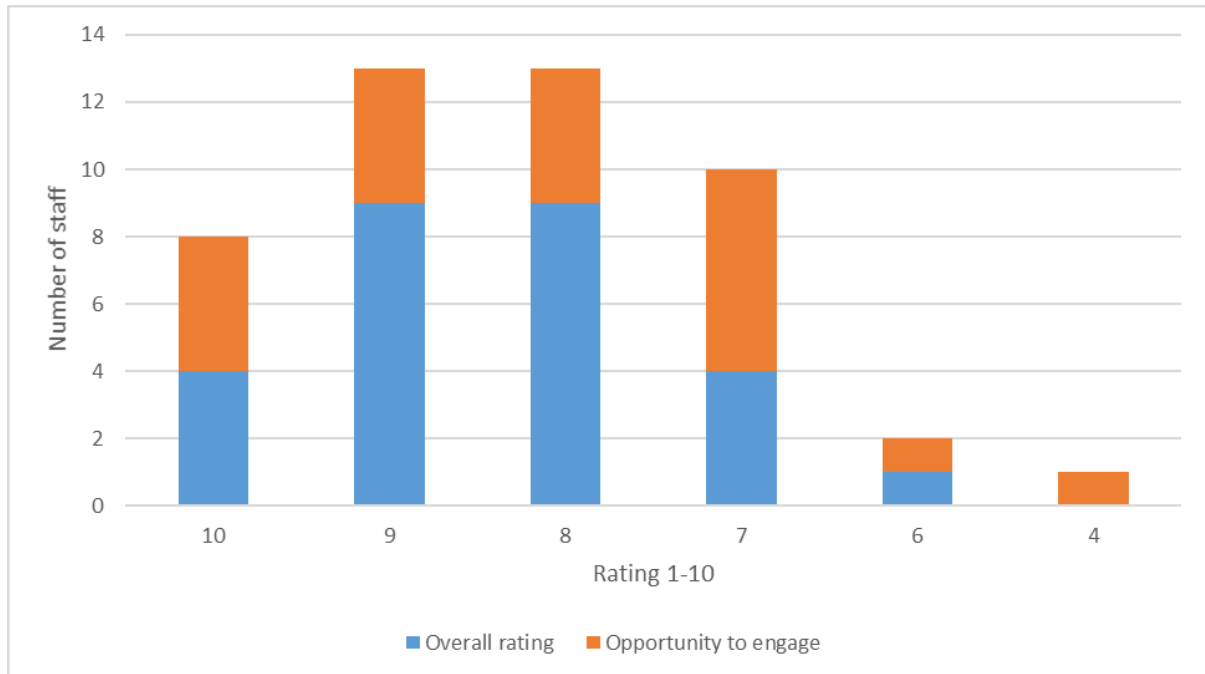
Staff also feedback areas for improvement with most comments detailing the connection issues and sound quality with the conference being delivered via TEAMS, improvements suggested included for all presenters to be supplied with adequate headsets. There was also suggestion of having a longer break as well as not having a break to allow staff to attend at lunchtime – these options will be considered for the next virtual conference. . There was a split in responses as to how colleagues would like future events to be delivered, with 52% of responses suggesting a blended approach and 44% suggesting to continue virtually, only 4% suggesting face to face. These comments and suggestions will be reviewed and included where applicable for future conferences.

Thank you to all of those who presented at and helped organised the event and to of you that were able to attend all or part of the live conference. The conference was recorded in two parts, the recordings as well as a PowerPoint presentations can be found on the SE HCS Network FutureNHS space: [Kent and Medway Pathology Network - Virtual Conference 2023](#). Please also take the time to complete a short evaluation, your feedback is key to

shaping and improving future events, you will also receive an attendance certificate - [Virtual Conference Evaluation and Attendance certificate form](#)

The next virtual conference will be in November – if you would like to present or be part of the conference, please contact m.bhogal1@nhs.net or speak to your Trust education lead. The next conference will be in November 2023, so do keep an eye out for advertising and call for speakers.

The below chart displays outcomes of two evaluation questions where participants are asked to score their **Overall rating of the conference (1= not successful, 10= very successful)** in blue and **on a scale of 1-10 'Attending the virtual conference has given me the opportunity to engage with network projects, activities and colleagues' (1=disagree to 10= strongly agree) – orange (Chart 2).**



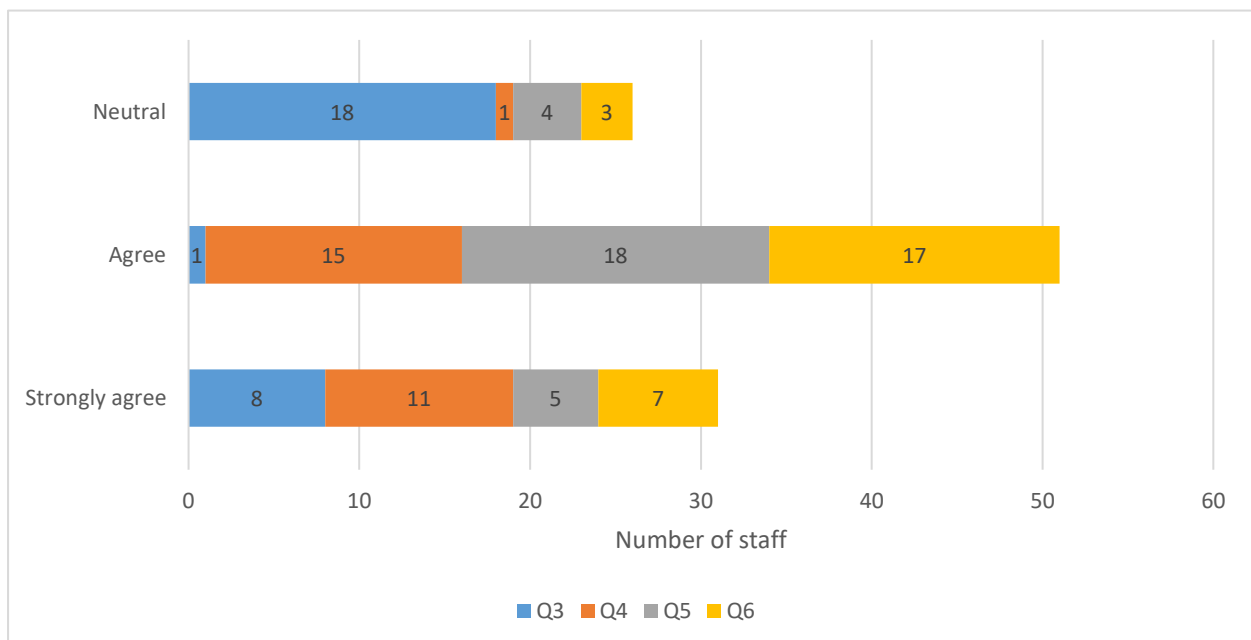
Multiple choice feedback questions summary (see graph below **Chart 3**):

Q3. Did the conference meet your expectations?

Q4. The subject matter was relevant, interesting and presented effectively

Q5. The pace and duration of the conference was satisfactory

Q6. Attending the conference makes me feel a part of the network and our achievements



Q7. Would you be interested in attending and getting involved in future conferences?

Yes – 21

No – 1

Maybe – 5

Q8. How would you like future events to be delivered (Chart 4)

