

Understanding the diverse needs of research participants at a mental and cognitive health Clinical Research Facility

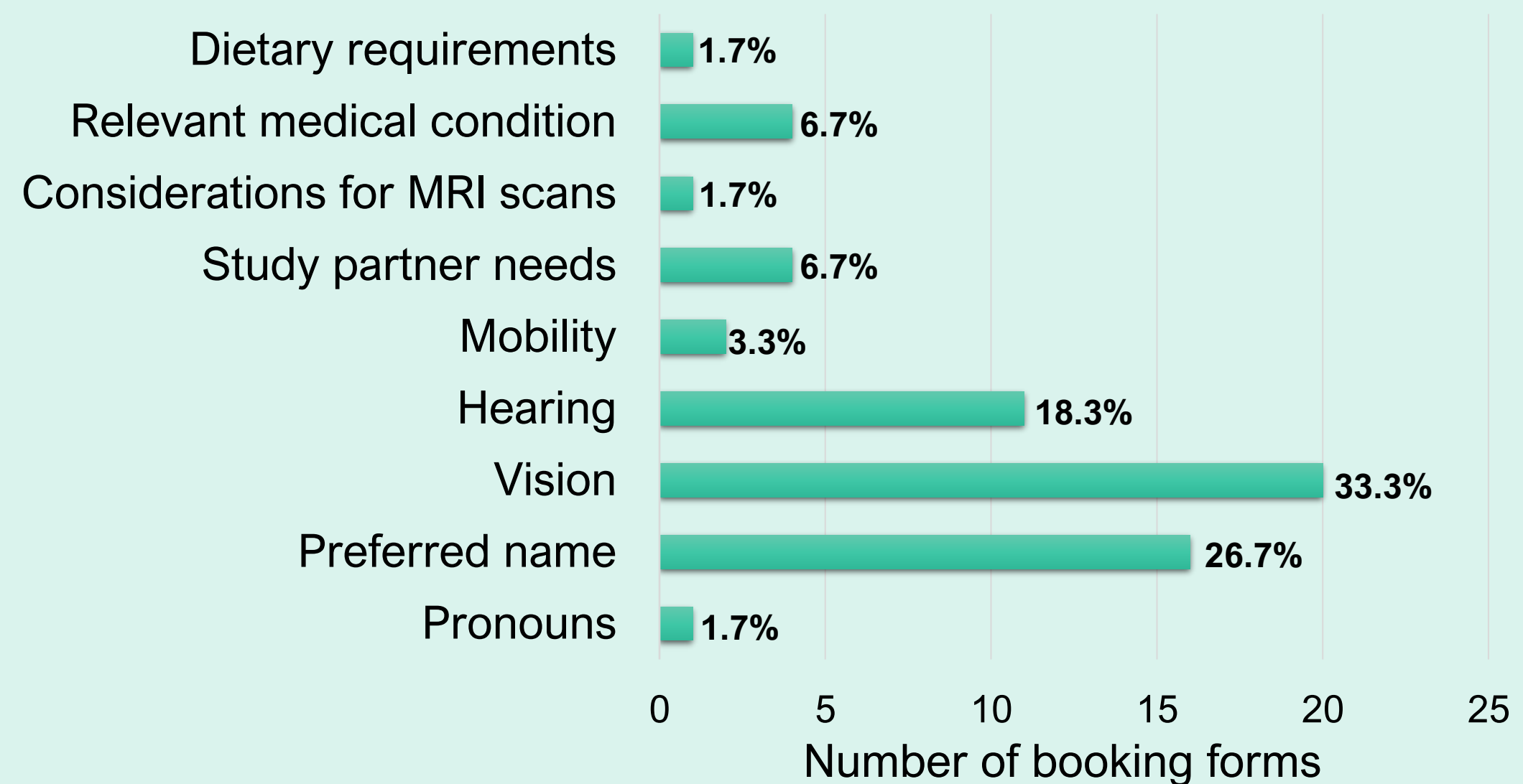
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with thanks to the ENGAGE group for their contribution to this project

Research plays a key role in addressing inequalities and improving health outcomes.¹ Diversity and representation within research populations is crucial, especially within mental health settings.^{2,3} NHS England highlights its duty to advance equalities in NHS mental health services by identifying and addressing the particular needs of groups who are at risk of experiencing health inequalities.³ As the only dedicated cognitive and mental health Clinical Research Facility (CRF), the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Team at Oxford Health CRF highlighted this as a priority.

WHAT DID WE DO?

Working with the ENGAGE group (CRF Patient and Public Involvement contributors), two questions relating to participant needs were added to the CRF booking form. The form was piloted with one study (The Impact of Semaglutide in Amyloid Positivity (ISAP) trial), before being adopted across all CRF studies.

AREAS FOR CONSIDERATION FROM EDI BOOKING FORMS



RESULTS: SEP 2022 – JUN 2023

75 ISAP Visits
68 (91%) Completed ISAP EDI Bookings Forms
34 (45%) Forms with areas for consideration

THE EDI BOOKING FORM

Visit date	Study ID	Name	DOB	Time	Duration	Activity/Staff
Does the participant have any special requirements or adjustments prior to their visit to the CRF?						
Is there anything we should be aware of that may impact participation? <i>E.g., mobility (walking aids), visual, hearing, preferred names/pronouns, interpreter needs, cultural practices (for example fasting), allergies, etc.</i>						

CONCLUSIONS

The majority of areas for consideration centred around mobility, vision and preferred name. Initial staff feedback indicates greater feelings of preparedness for research visits.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Project outputs will be used to inform training needs and outreach activities, to enhance participant experience and engagement in research.

REFERENCES

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-future-of-uk-clinical-research-delivery-2021-to-2022-implementation-plan/the-future-of-uk-clinical-research-delivery-2021-to-2022-implementation-plan#action-area-6-making-research-more-diverse-and-more-relevant-to-the-whole-of-the-uk>
- <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/documents/equality-diversity-and-inclusion-strategy-2022-2027/31295>
- <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/00159-advancing-mental-health-equalities-strategy.pdf>