



Melbourne Children's  
Excellence in clinical care, research and education



# The power of a parents' journey: Hearing Screener Reflections

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VIHSP RCH June 2015

# Presentation Goals



- The process behind parent panel presentation
- Exploring feedback from the hearing screening audience
- Impact on future continuing professional development planning



# CPD 2006 – 2015



# Why a parent panel?



- Powerful messages
- Hearing screening staff interest
- Parent feedback

# Parent Panel Composition



- Considerations
  - Hearing screening pathway experience
  - Post diagnosis
  - Public speaking capacity
- Early Support Service
- VIHSP – Hearing screening database



# Parent Panel Composition



Three mothers (1 father in audience)

- children who had bilateral cochlear implants
- currently enrolled in same Early intervention
- public speaking experience
- more than one child



# Parent Panel Safety



- Parents
- Hearing screening audience
- RCH Childrens Bioethics Centre



# Parent Safety Considerations





# Hearing Screener Safety Considerations



# Parent Panel Session format



- Parent sharing their baby's story
- 4 facilitated questions
  - (1 parent answered and the others could add their perspective)
- General discussion

# Questions



- **Q1.** What was memorable about your hearing screening experience?
- **Q2.** Can you tell us about what happened at your baby's diagnostic appointment? (Did you attend more than one appointment? What other specialists did/have you seen?)



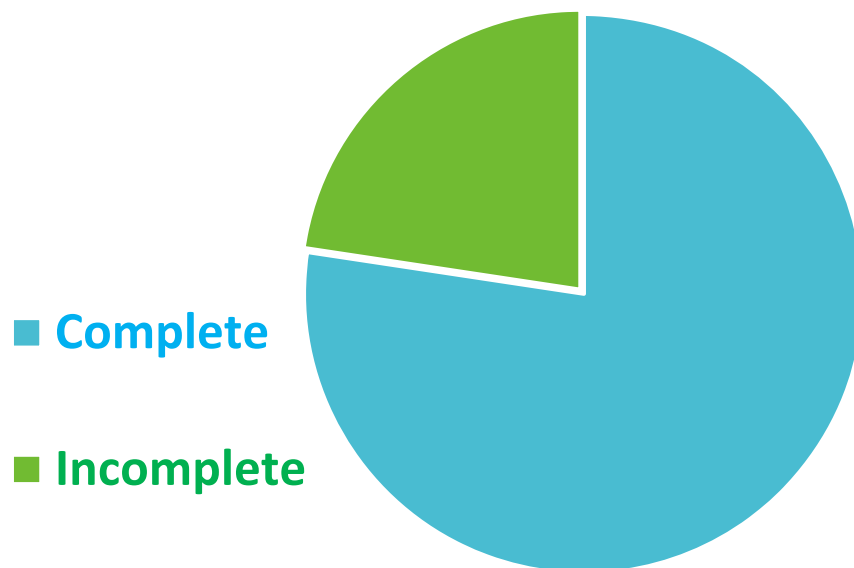
# Questions



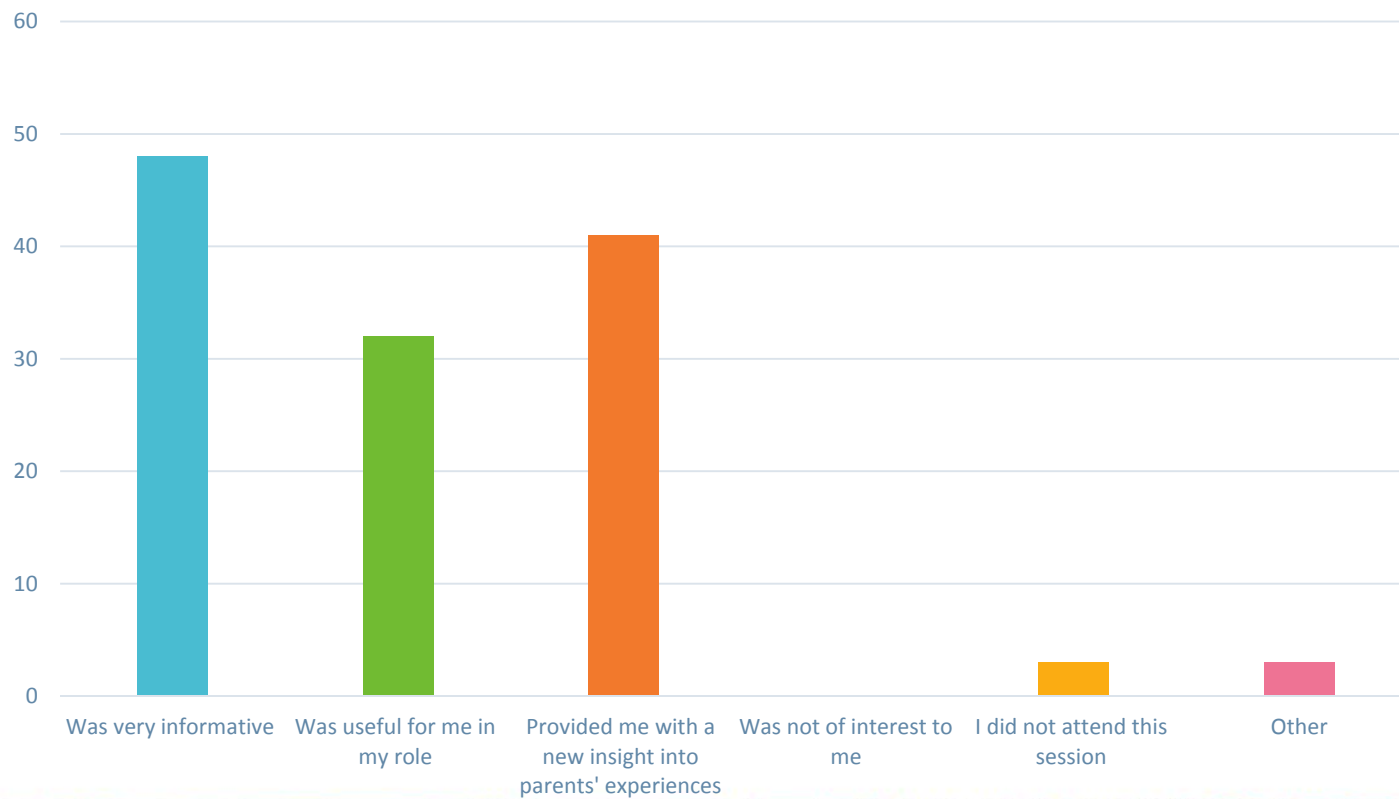
- **Q3.** Can you tell us about what a typical week is like for your family? Are you involved in an Early Intervention service?
- **Q4.** If you were supporting a family through the hearing screening pathway process that you have been working through, what are some of the things that you would change?



# Parent Panel staff feedback



# I found the “Parent Panel” session



# Having listened to the Parent Panel, how do you now view your role?

- Open text question
- 50/65 responses



# Themes



- Hearing screening role is important
  - Rewarding
  - First stage of a hearing screening pathway
  - Makes a difference





# Themes



- How refer screen results are delivered.
  - Wording
  - How you say it
  - Consistent information

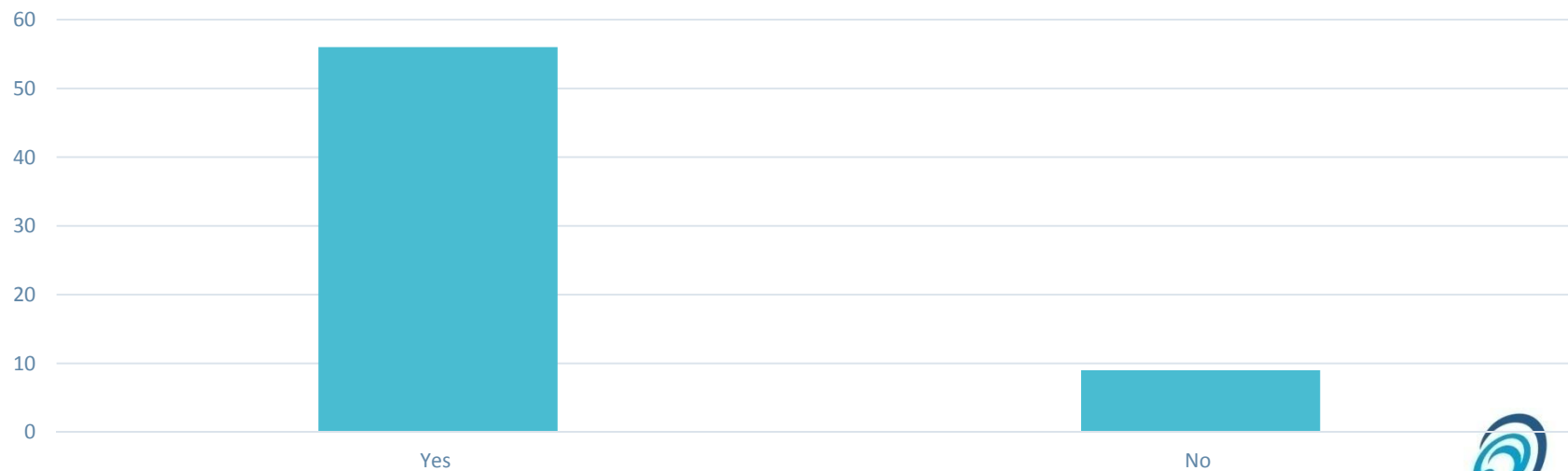
# Themes



- Early Support Service
  - Hearing screener is the link
- Hearing screener role generally
  - No change to how I view my role



# I now have a better understanding of why it is important to refer babies to audiology





To help with planning future CPD days, could you please provide any suggestions/topics.



# Parent Feedback - PS



*First post announcing VIHSP's birthday with picture of baby during screening*

*– 17 March 2015:*

- 21,400 People Reached
- 1,242 Likes
- 127 Comments
- 104 Shares

 **The Royal Children's Hospital,  
Melbourne**  
March 16 · Edited ·  

Gorgeous baby Alice might be fast asleep, but she's also completing her first major test – her infant hearing screening assessment.

The Victorian Infant Hearing Screening Program (VIHSP) now assesses 99 per cent of children born in Victoria within their first few days of life.

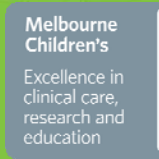
Early screening gives babies born with hearing loss the best possible opportunity to realise their full potential for language, academic and social development.

Tomorrow the RCH is celebrating the tenth anniversary of VIHSP – did your child receive an infant hearing screening? Tell us about your experience or post a photo below.



# The future





# Images: VIHSP/RCH/Shutterstock

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