



BRITISH SOCIETY OF  
GASTROENTEROLOGY  
E D U C A T I O N

# Current Gastroenterology Teaching in UK Medical Schools: A BSG Survey

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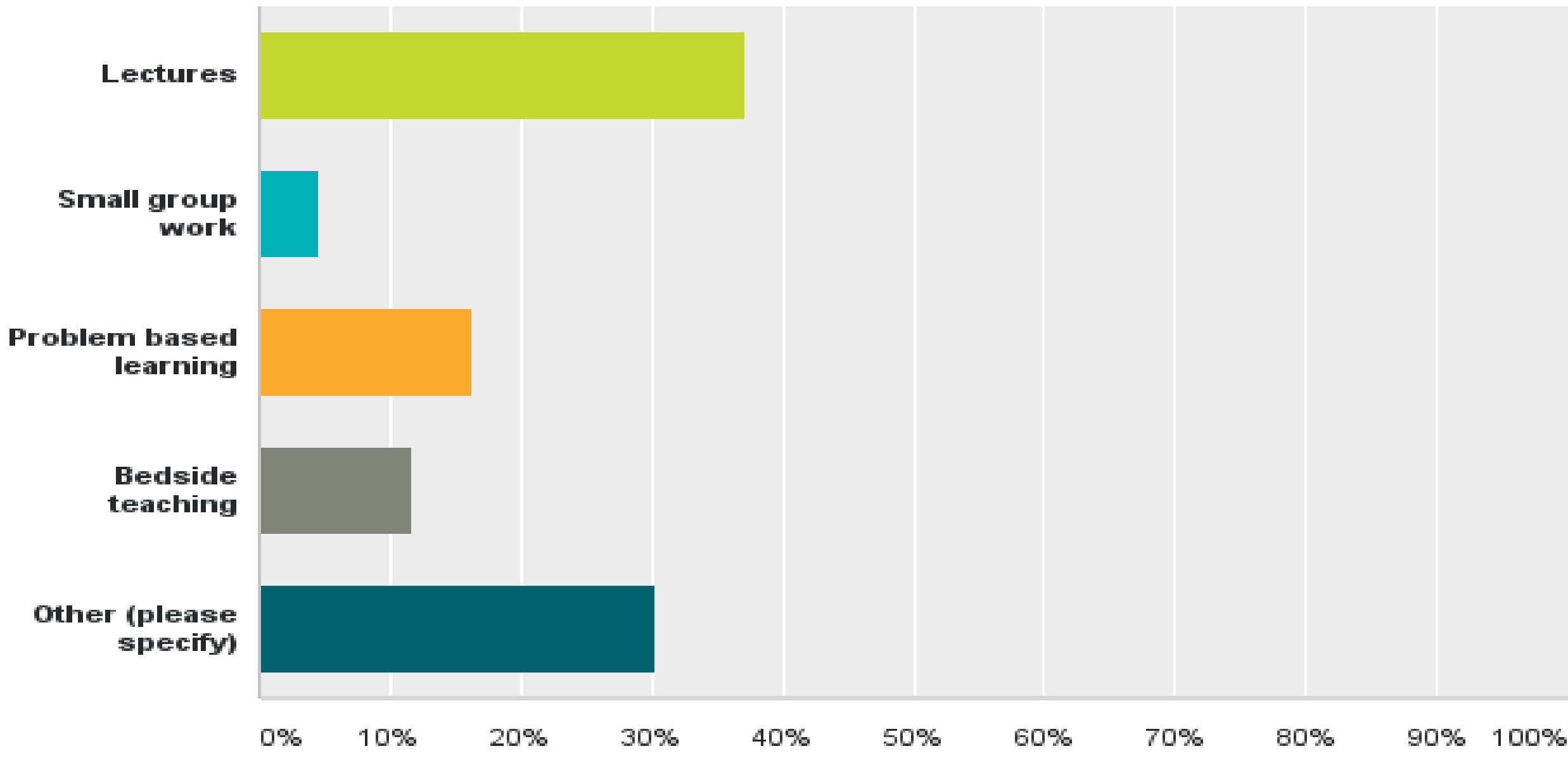
University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

## INTRODUCTION

- Little is known about undergraduate gastroenterology teaching in the UK
- This project aims to inform how the BSG could assist with undergraduate teaching across the UK, and ultimately inspire tomorrow's doctors to choose a career in gastroenterology

Q8 How is this teaching delivered?

Answered: 43 Skipped: 48

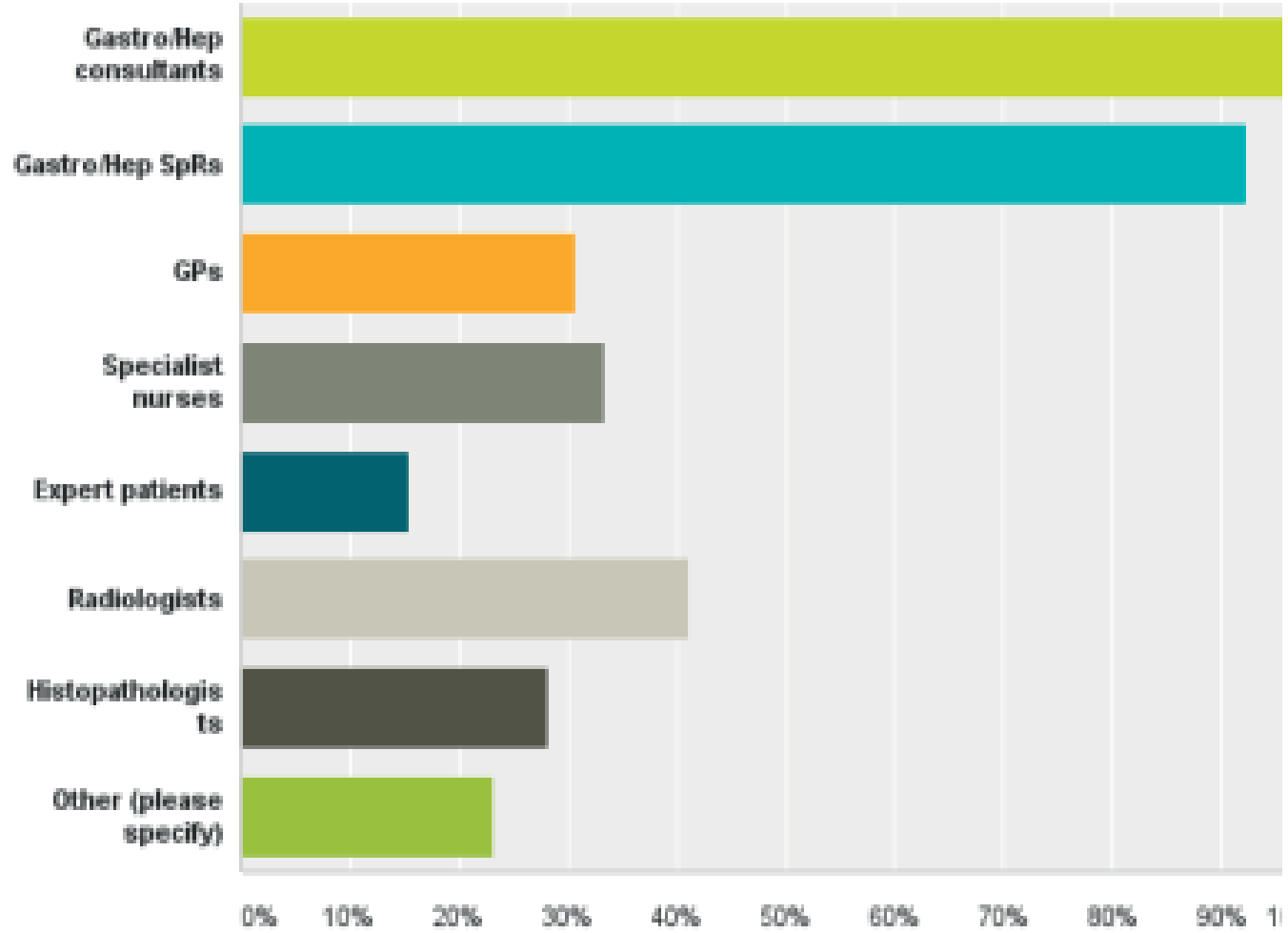


## METHODS

- An electronic survey was developed containing 27 questions on undergraduate gastroenterology training aimed at gastroenterologists
- Link to survey on BSG newsletter and via emails to gastroenterology champions and medical school directors
- Responses over 10 weeks = 91 representatives from 26/35 UK medical schools

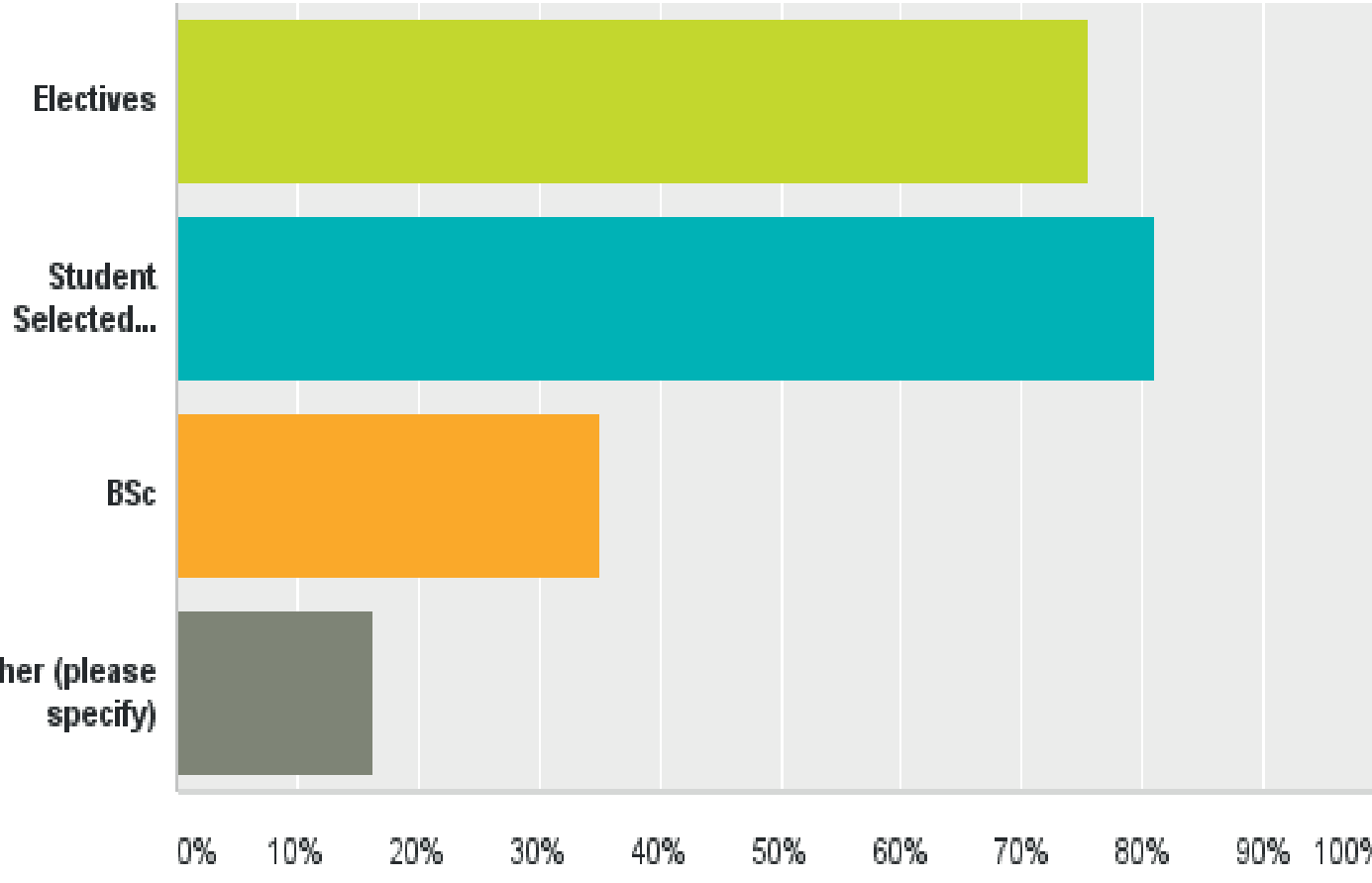
Q17 Who teaches Gastroenterology/Hepatology?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 52



Q18 Are there opportunities for extra gastroenterology experience?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 54

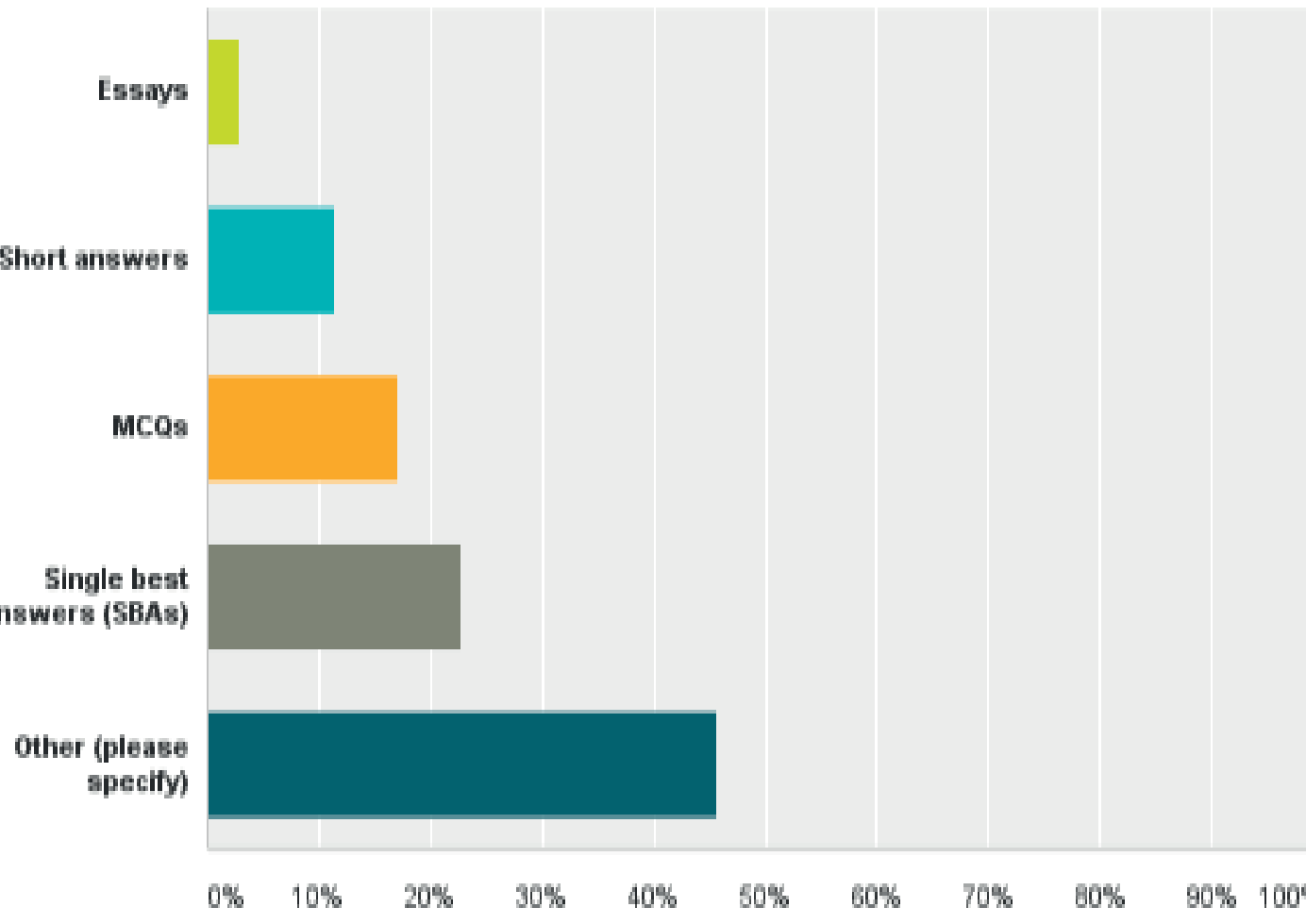


## RESULTS

- Number of students per year group ranged from 30-400 with mean of 244
- 49% had an integrated curriculum, 44% had traditional (preclinical then clinical)
- Students in only 43% of the medical schools undertook ≥1 gastroenterology attachment
- Gastroenterology blocks lasted between 1 to 10 weeks (usually undertaken from year 3) with mean 5.8 weeks
- Only 13% mandated a minimum number of observed procedures- on average OGD 2, colonoscopy 1, liver biopsy 4 and US/CT 4
- 37% of medical schools integrated gastroenterology and surgical teaching
- 89% had a copy of the Gastroenterology set of learning objectives within the MBBS curriculum and 86% respondents had read them
- Response rates for answering each question ranged from 16-100%, with mean of 53.1%.
- 60% respondents were willing to send a questionnaire out to their students, 40% were not
- 63% respondents did not have a student gastroenterology society, 11% did and 26% were unsure

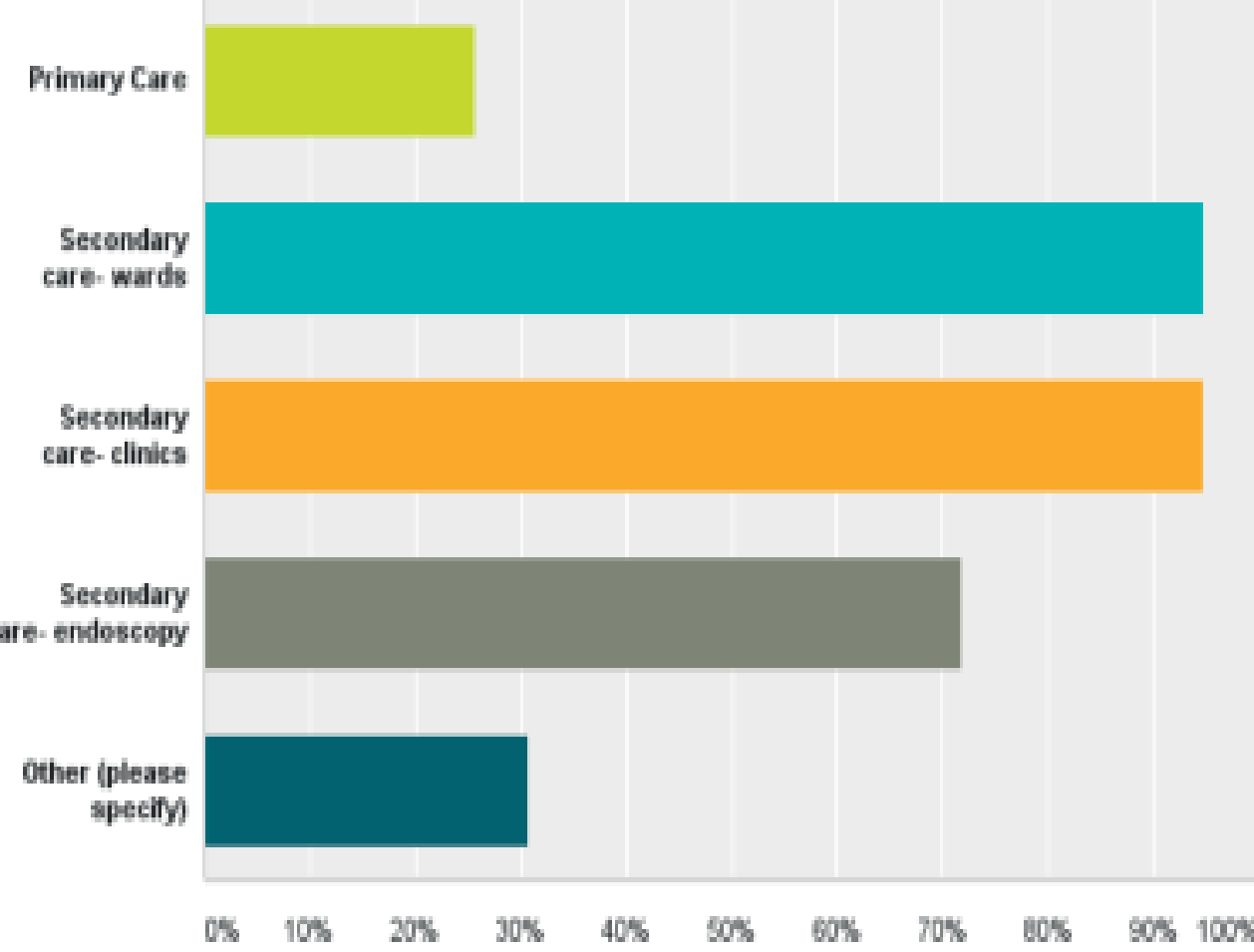
Q24 How is Gastroenterology/Hepatology assessed in finals?

Answered: 35 Skipped: 56



Q13 Where does Gastroenterology/Hepatology teaching occur?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 52



## CONCLUSIONS

- Nearly half of all UK medical schools do not guarantee a dedicated attachment on a gastroenterology/hepatology team
- Of medical schools offering dedicated attachments, the mean period was just 5.8 weeks
- There were questions skipped by doctors completing the survey, implying they are unlikely to be involved in curriculum development. The BSG should consider a position statement of what is considered the minimum standards of gastroenterology teaching/experience at an undergraduate level and encourage members with an interest in undergraduate teaching to promote this in the UK's Medical Schools.
- Promoting student gastroenterology societies may be an avenue for BSG to develop links and attract students towards a career in gastroenterology