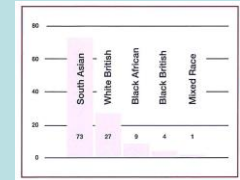


## Experience of Educative Workshops in Paediatric Epilepsy for Parents of Ethnic Minorities in Luton.

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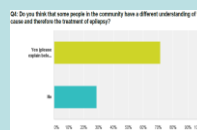
**Background:** Luton is 2nd highest area of social deprivation in East of England. Paediatric epilepsy services face a unique challenge of varied cultural practices and beliefs in local South Asian population. Luton had highest accident emergency admission with seizures as per Atlas of variation of England. This variation is attributed to lack of understanding, poor access of services, varied cultural beliefs and influence of family and community. We aimed at improving the epilepsy management by educating local population



**Intervention:** We conducted educative workshops involving hospital paediatricians with in parents' own community outside hospital setting. These workshops specifically addressed improving knowledge, understanding the paediatric epilepsy and also the cultural beliefs. These sessions were simultaneously interpreted into in Urdu and Bengali. We have also conducted monthly South Asian parents' group meetings in local community children centres enabling parents to network and share their experience with other parents.



### Beliefs?



### Impact and Findings

Qualitative survey results from these workshops demonstrate that there is a significant improvement in knowledge and understanding of epilepsy in South Asian parents.

Improved understanding of epilepsy by South Asian parents helped in accessing epilepsy care breaking the cultural belief barriers and building trust in professionals.

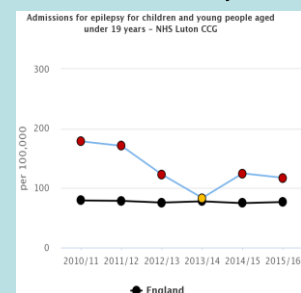
### Impact on knowledge



### Qualitative feedback



### Impact on emergency admissions with seizures over the years



**Conclusion:** Based on our experience, we recommend that children's epilepsy service provision should be collaborative, culturally sensitive in areas of diverse population and should travel an extra mile beyond standard care