

Background



- Decisions at medical school consistent with future career path¹
- Academic interest & Control over lifestyle are key factors²

Outcomes



- Influential factors in career choice
- Impact of Mentorship
- Impact of Finance

Methods



Anonymous voluntary survey



6 Weeks April – May 2021



All medical students registered at Queen's University Belfast.

Results



n = 202
Response rate 15%

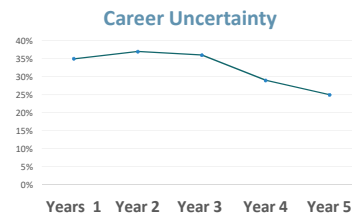


67% 33%



1/4 Post-Graduate entry

35% Undecided on career choice



Surgery least popular speciality



1. Academic interest
2. Flexible work schedule
3. Positive clinical experience



1. Lack of academic interest
2. Lengthy training scheme
3. Perceived workload



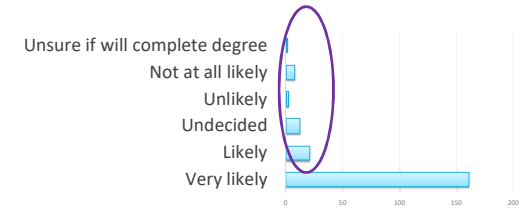
71% reported a subspecialty mentor would influence their career choice



2/3 reported that financial factors **would not** influence their decision

Unexpected findings

Attrition rate



Discussion



- Factors for career choice similar to other studies
- **Gender** remains a factor for certain specialties
- Significant demand for mentorship
- Career choice independent of finance
- Attrition rate requires further attention

References

1. Carter S. Most junior doctors are confident of achieving career goals, finds BMA study. *BMJ Careers* 2012; 345 <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.e6142>
2. Cleland, J.A., Johnston, P.W., Anthony, M. *et al.* A survey of factors influencing career preference in new-entrant and exiting medical students from four UK medical schools. *BMC Med Educ* 14, 151 (2014). <https://doi.org/10.1186/1472-6920-14-151>
3. Yang Y, Li J, Wu X, Wang J, Li W, Zhu Y, Chen C, Lin H. Factors influencing subspecialty choice among medical students: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *BMJ open*. 2019 Mar 1;9(3):e022097.

Contact details

Sarah Madden, Mob: +44741144435
Email: smadden16@qub.ac.uk

Mr Joshua Clements
Email: joshua.michael.clements@doctors.org.uk