Survey to investigate neonatal knowledge and experience amongst newly qualified general practitioners
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Method
An online survey distributed electronically, between May and June 2014, to newly qualified GPs within two GP Deaneries in the West Midlands. The survey consisted of 24 questions, mainly multiple choice and self-rating scales, assessing their knowledge and experience in neonatal medicine. Below are the responses to a sample of the questions.

Results
There were 38 respondents
58% had completed a paediatric placement, of various time lengths;
80% of respondents qualified in last 2 years.

Conclusions and Recommendations
42% of GPs qualified without completing a paediatric placement and even fewer are gaining neonatal experience. Post-qualification, there continues to be limited exposure to infants as dedicated health professionals often complete the neonatal routine care within practices. It is essential to recognise this lack of exposure and make changes to ensure confidence and experience in neonatal assessment and management amongst our front-line medical practitioners.