The Emergency Department (ED) team see children on a daily basis. The availability of paediatric teaching can be very variable and the majority of teaching that occurs does not cover common paediatric problems. The unpredictable workload means delivering planned teaching during a shift is a challenge. Flash Mob Teaching (FMT) was designed to provide a solution to these challenges.

A small pilot of FMT was done in 2015 which received a good response. In March 2016 we started FMT in Poole ED department, it is still ongoing. To date 19 sessions have been delivered over 9 months. Teaching occurs throughout the 24hr working day (53% of sessions on a night shift, 37% on day shift, 5% on late shift). 153 staff, representing 18 different job roles, have attended between 1 and 6 sessions each, averaging 14 people per ED session (range 4 to 25 people).

We have covered the following topics:
- Rashes with infection
- Common rashes in babies
- Bronchiolitis
- Viral Induced Wheeze
- Gastroenteritis
- Bronchiolitis
- Fever in Children
- Febrile Convulsions
- Vomiting

Observationally the teaching appeared useful, however we wanted some feedback and participant information. We kept attendance data and surveyed the attendees from the teaching sessions (24 responses). We aimed to find out:
- Is paediatric teaching needed?
- Who attends FMT?
- How could FMT move forward?

Feedback

I thought the sessions were taught at a level appropriate for my experience and understanding.

I think the teaching was relevant to my daily work.

I feel more confident managing cases I have learnt about in FMT.

I think the format of FMT is achievable in a busy ED.

I am better with children’s rashes in triage.

Febrile convulsions, it usually only happens with a sudden increase in body temperature. There are 2 types of febrile convulsions.

Not all febrile convulsions need admission.

A vomiting child can be discharged from ED if they are not showing signs of dehydration and parents can safely continue a fluid trials and return if the child becomes dehydrated.

Summary

- FMT has provided MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEACHING on common paediatric problems.
- FMT is relevant to all professions.
- FMT is relevant to all experience levels.
- It has been provided over a sustained period of time in a busy ED.
- This is a sustainable idea which improves the management of common paediatric problems in ED while providing a consistent health message for patients and parents.

Sustainability and Moving Forward

- More teachers through the FMT group.
- Continue night shift teaching which is liked.
- Promotion at conferences have lead to this style of teaching being used in 3 further hospitals.
- The teaching session have been modified for training days of both doctors and nurses.