

Delivering a Final FRCA teaching programme for the Northern Ireland region.

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INTRODUCTION

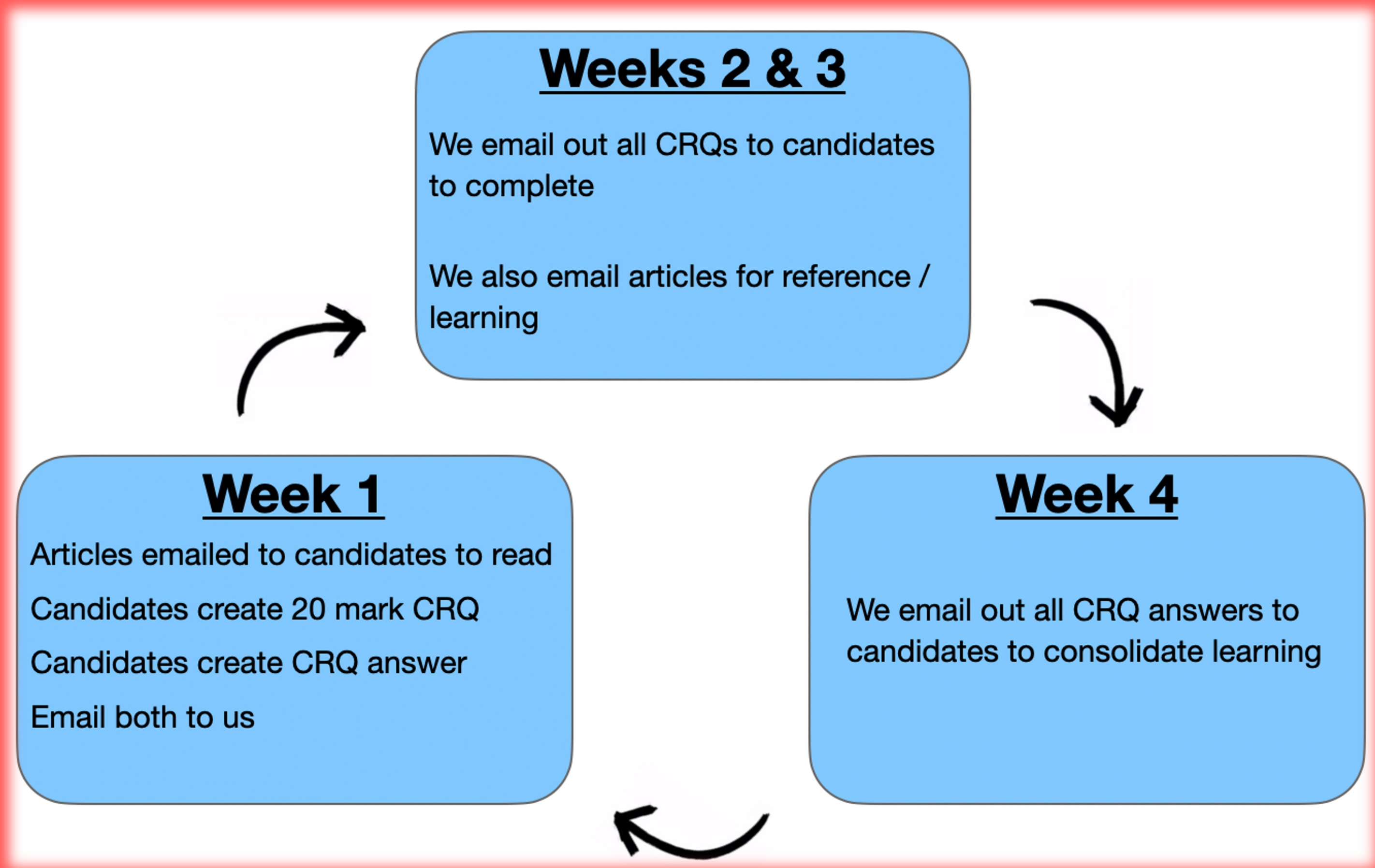
As teaching fellows for the academic year, we designed a Final FRCA teaching programme which catered to the needs of candidates across Northern Ireland. We delivered sub-specialty anaesthesia study days in the tertiary centre, complemented by general duties topics, which were facilitated within district general hospitals. In addition, we ran an online “CRQ exam club” and two mock-Final FRCA SOEs, timed in the lead up to the College exams.

METHODS

Building upon the work of previous teaching fellows, we began planning the year ahead. Logistics and organisation were key; deciding on dates, liaising with college tutors, booking rooms, contacting speakers and delegating topics mapped to the curriculum. Timetables were produced and disseminated to candidates prior to study days. We utilised a ‘Google Drive’ for communication, which we found to be very useful. On the teaching days, our role was to ensure flow of the day, sub-in for last minute changes and deliver our own teaching. We also gathered feedback from candidates for ourselves and speakers.

In addition, we ran an online “CRQ exam club” for candidates over a four-week cycle. This involved selecting and disseminating recent BJA articles to candidates and advising them on creating a CRQ. In week one they created the CRQ and returned it to us with suggested answers. All CRQs were distributed to candidates, and they completed these in week two and three. The answers were then distributed in week four for self-marking and the cycle repeated. This allowed for vast areas of the curriculum to be covered efficiently. We also organised and ran two mock-Final FRCA SOEs; developing questions, organising the logistics of examiners and candidates, encouraging feedback and facilitating the exam.

CRQ EXAM CLUB FORMAT



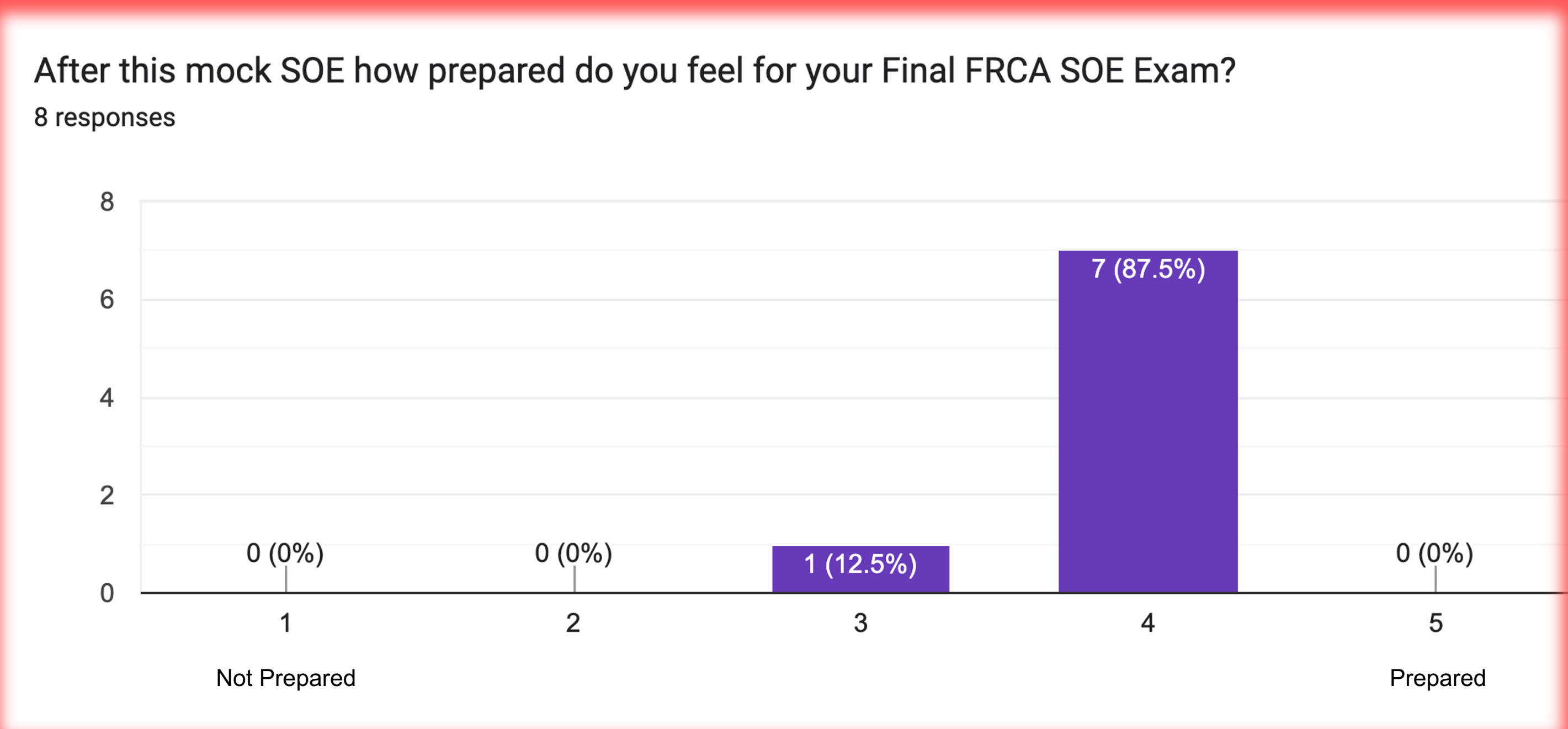
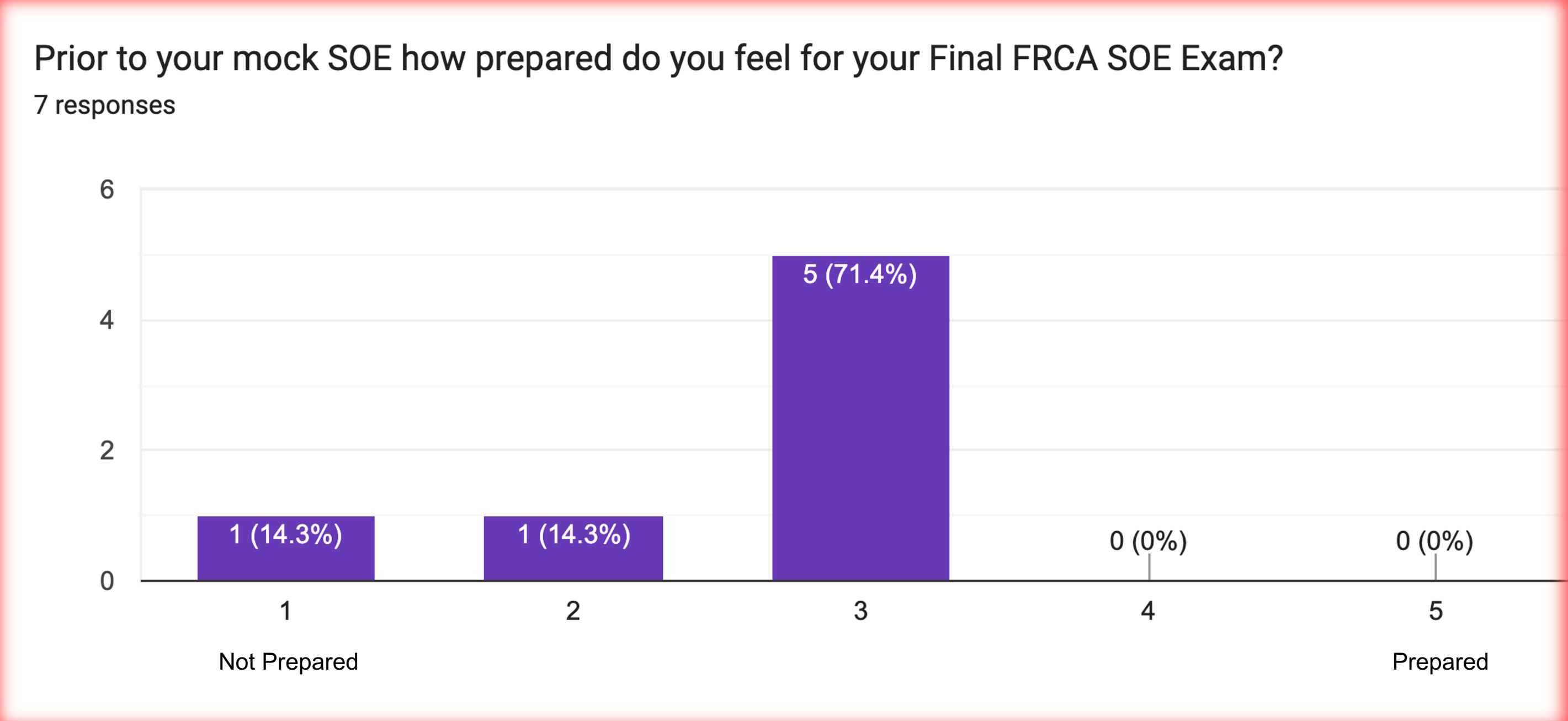
RESULTS

We successfully delivered ten study days prior to the first sitting of the Final FRCA written examination. We have also completed 5 months (cycles) of the CRQ exam club and delivered our first mock SOE.

Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive from the candidates on all aspects of our teaching program. Candidates have responded that the teaching days are well organised and have helped with their revision. They report that the CRQ club, although time-consuming, has helped them initiate their private study and aid revision of topics they may not have covered.

Feedback from the mock SOE has been overwhelmingly positive. When asked, candidates reported an increase in perceived preparedness from **39.3% to 71.9%** following the mock SOE.

Of the 11 candidates who attended the mock SOE, nine have achieved their FRCA.



DISCUSSION

Delivering a regional teaching program comes with its challenges; but organisation and communication are key to ensure success. We have enjoyed our time as teaching fellows and look forward to hearing about the candidate’s success.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We’d like to acknowledge previous fellows A McIlroy and J Lavery for their support