

Joan O’Callaghan^{1,2}, Caitriona NiChoitir^{1,2}, Caroline Walsh^{1,2}, Laura McCullagh^{1,2}

1. National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics, Dublin, Ireland,
2. Discipline of Pharmacology & therapeutics, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.



INTRODUCTION

The National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics (NCPE) have a Patient Organisation Submission Process (POSP) enabling patients, families and carers to communicate their experiences to the drug-reimbursement decision maker. From 2021 to 2023 inclusive, 34 of 79 (43%) completed HTAs were associated with a Patient Organisation (PO) submission. To improve awareness, the NCPE developed a novel educational webinar for POs (April 2024).

METHODS

POs were invited to register via email invite, the NCPE website and social media. The webinar lasted 1.5 hours and provided an overview of the POSP as well as tips for completing a submission. At the start and end of the webinar, attendees completed a Likert scale poll to define their level of confidence on making a PO submission to the NCPE.

RESULTS

Representatives from 39 POs registered for the webinar and representatives from 33 POs attended. Represented POs ranged from groups run by volunteers to large national charities (Figure 1). Almost half of attendees indicated that they had not previously made a PO submission to the NCPE (Figure 2). At the start of the webinar over half of attendees (13 of 25; 52%) answered that they currently feel not confident at all or slightly confident about making a PO submission (Figure 3). At the end of the webinar 19 of 27 attendees (70%) answered that they currently feel fairly confident or completely confident about making a PO submission (Figure 4).

My Patient Organisation....

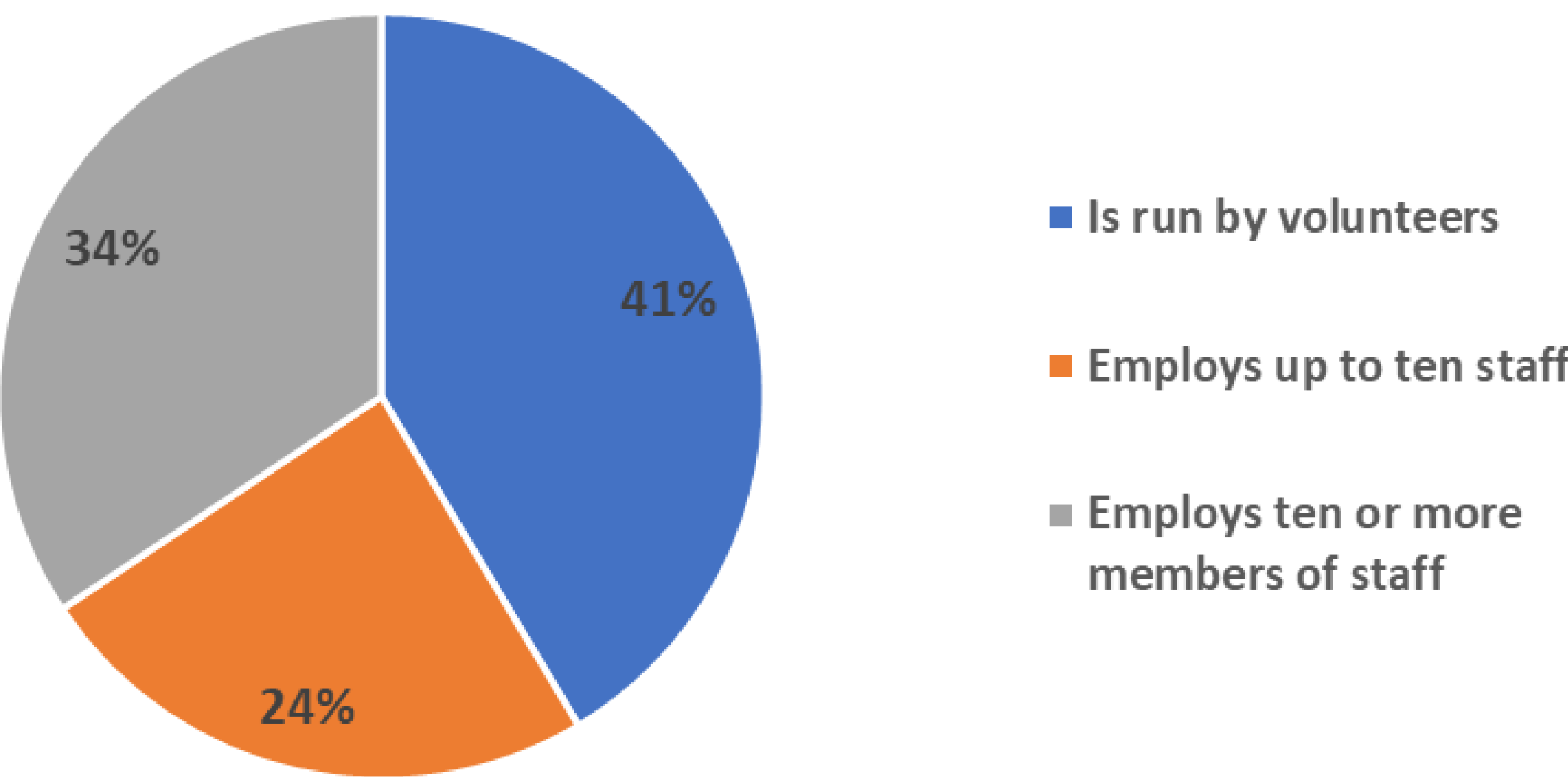


Figure 1: Attendee responses to type of Patient Organisation they represent (n=29)

Has your Patient Organisation made a submission to the NCPE previously?

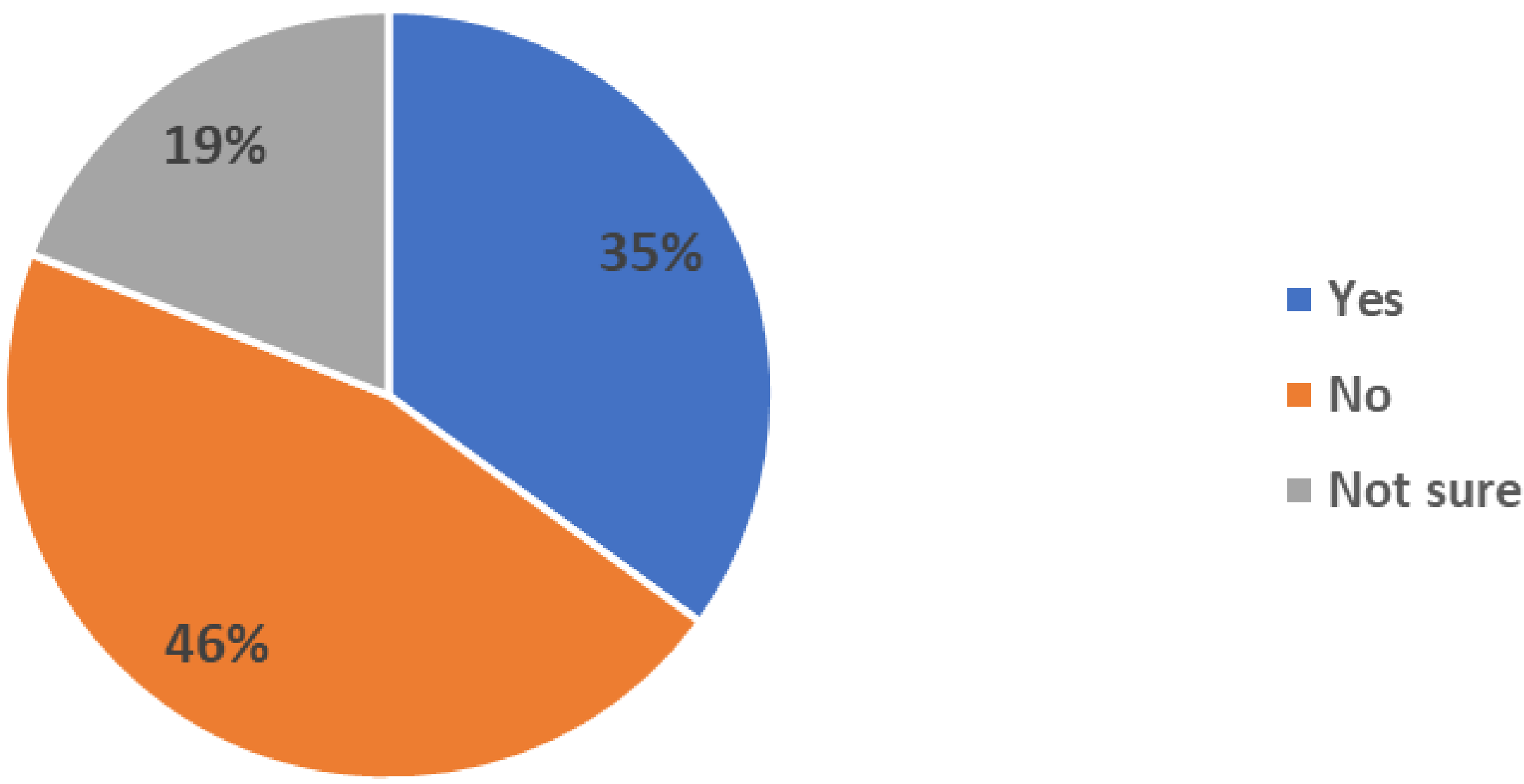


Figure 2: Attendee responses to poll on previous experience with the NCPE Patient Organisation Submission Process (n=26)

Start of webinar: How confident do you currently feel about making a Patient Organisation submission to the NCPE?

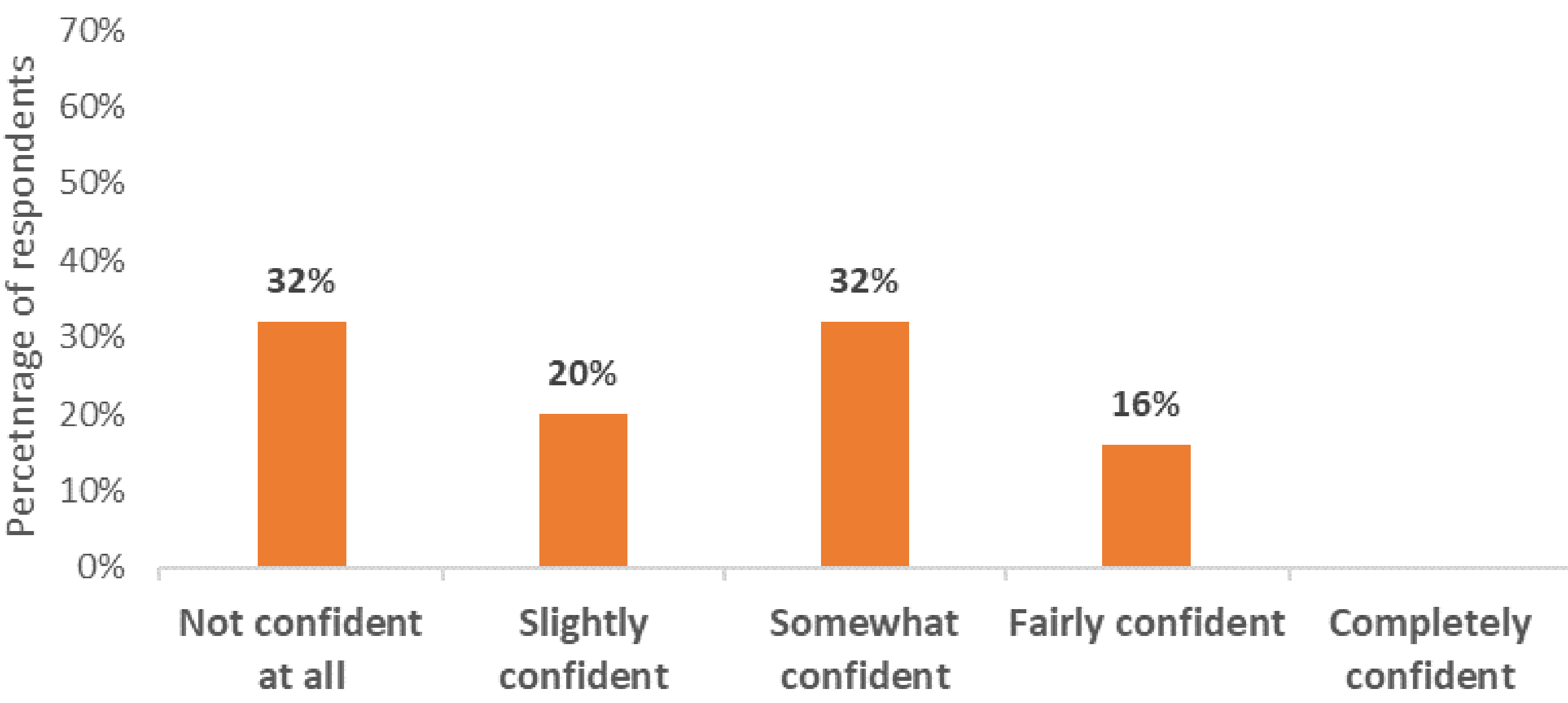


Figure 3: Attendee responses to poll on confidence about making a Patient Organisation submission. Poll run at start of webinar. (n=25)

End of webinar: How confident do you currently feel about making a Patient Organisation submission to the NCPE?

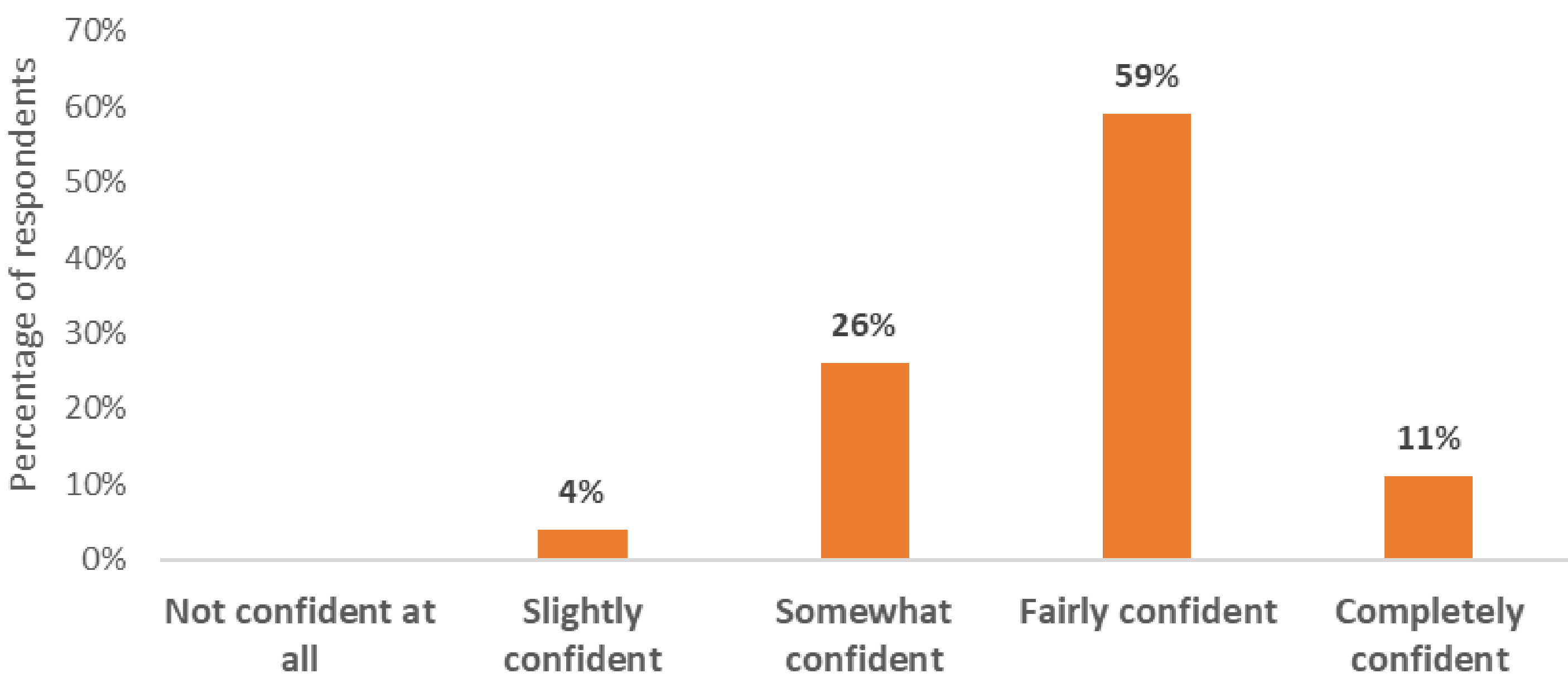


Figure 4: Attendee responses to poll on confidence about making a Patient Organisation submission. Poll run at end of webinar. (n=27)

Conclusion

Attending an online webinar on the POSP improved confidence among representatives of POs to make a PO submission to the NCPE. The NCPE will continue to liaise with POs and run initiatives to support POs and increase engagement with the POSP.