



Result of student evaluation



European Medicines Research Training Network

EMTRAIN PhD Workshop 2014

Multiple questions using Survey Monkey. A total of 22 student participated in the survey, not all questions were answered by all students, however all questions were answered by at least 20 students.



The highlights of the workshop as expressed by the students

(A selection of comments..)

Excellent overview of pharmaceutical R&D: drug discovery and development. It provides an industrial perspective on opportunities and challenges during this process. Great presentations from the industry partners outlining real-life examples and solutions across all stages of drug development and regulatory aspects.

Networking, meeting lots of other PhD students

I really enjoyed Henrik Klitgaard's presentation on the discovery of levetiracetam

Great lectures and presentations after which you feel very motivated

The opportunity to present in front of my peers

I enjoyed the multidisciplinary environment and very high level of science being presented by the EMTRAIN participants together with everybody's engagement and interest in asking questions.

Meeting international PhD students and representatives of European pharmaceutical industry.

Networking with other PhD student involved in the same kind of PPP

Lectures on drug discovery - from bench to clinical application. Great with examples from the industry

Good idea with the drug discovery game.

Meeting a group of nice colleagues in the same field. I enjoyed the fact that it was a relatively small group, so that I could get in touch with all participants.

Opportunity to meet and network with other PhD students and post-docs.

Getting insight into drug discovery process, Drug Development Game by Keith



The highlights of the workshop as expressed by the students

(A selection of comments..)

Brilliant student presentations show high level of commitment and expertise that is being delivered at the fringe between academic and industrial research.

Guided tour of the site, visit of UBC pilot plant and laboratories

Visit in the UCB labs

Networking. Meeting people from different countries doing similar PPP PhDs

Visiting UCB site was very interesting to see how different pharma company operates.

Learn about drug development and clinical trials

Mix of students from different universities and topic

Learning of pharmaceutical world and surrounding constraint (clinical)

Marie Curie Fellowship presentation

Networking and that the representatives for the different companies were participating during the whole workshop, and that they were very open for all sorts of questions.

Getting a better idea of how industry works and how they see collaborations with academia.

Refreshing the reasons why PPPs are important. It help me to define what my competences.

Getting informed about future career opportunities and funding in industry and academia

Excellent organization and very friendly and cooperative organizational committee.



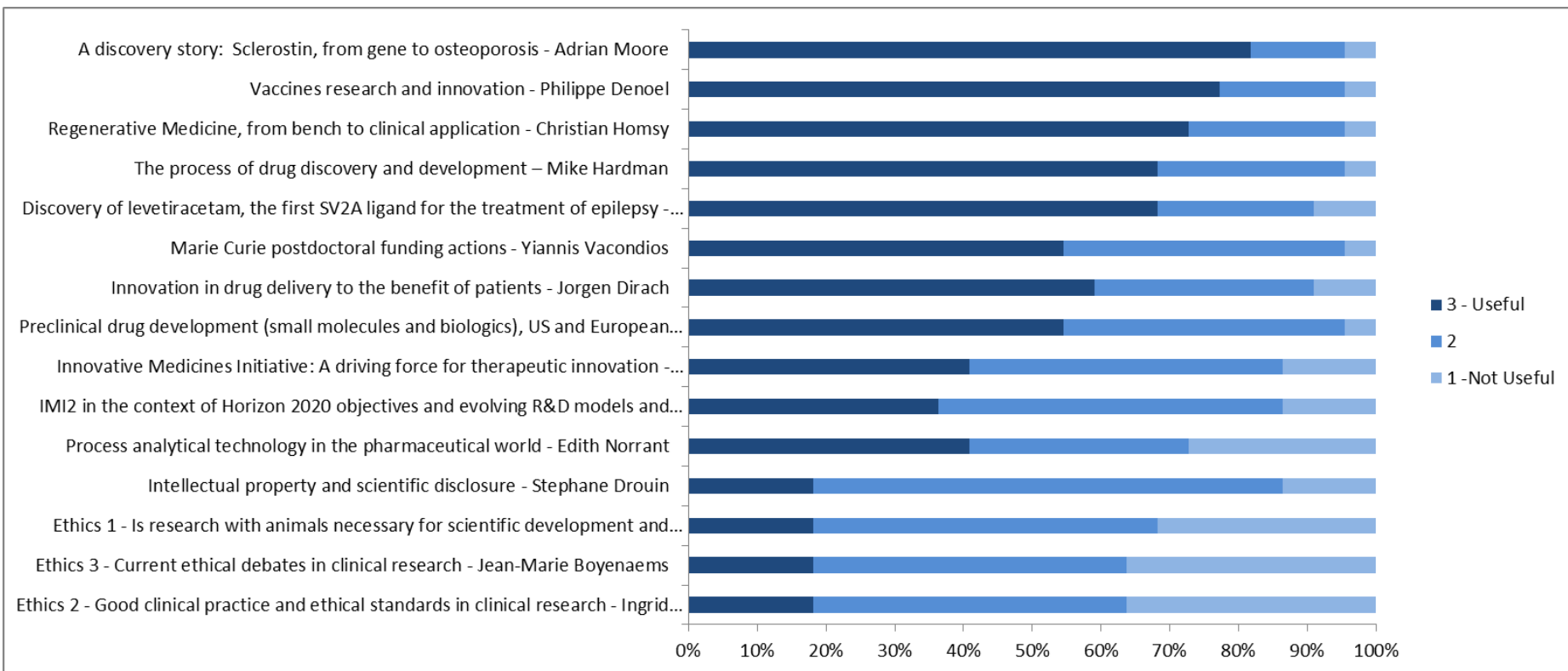
Please rate the lectures for their usefulness, did you learn something new, was the information of use for you in your PhD project

3 (useful) – 1 (not useful)

Most Useful lectures:

A discovery story: Sclerostin, from gene to osteoporosis - Adrian Moore

Vaccines research and innovation - Philippe Denoel

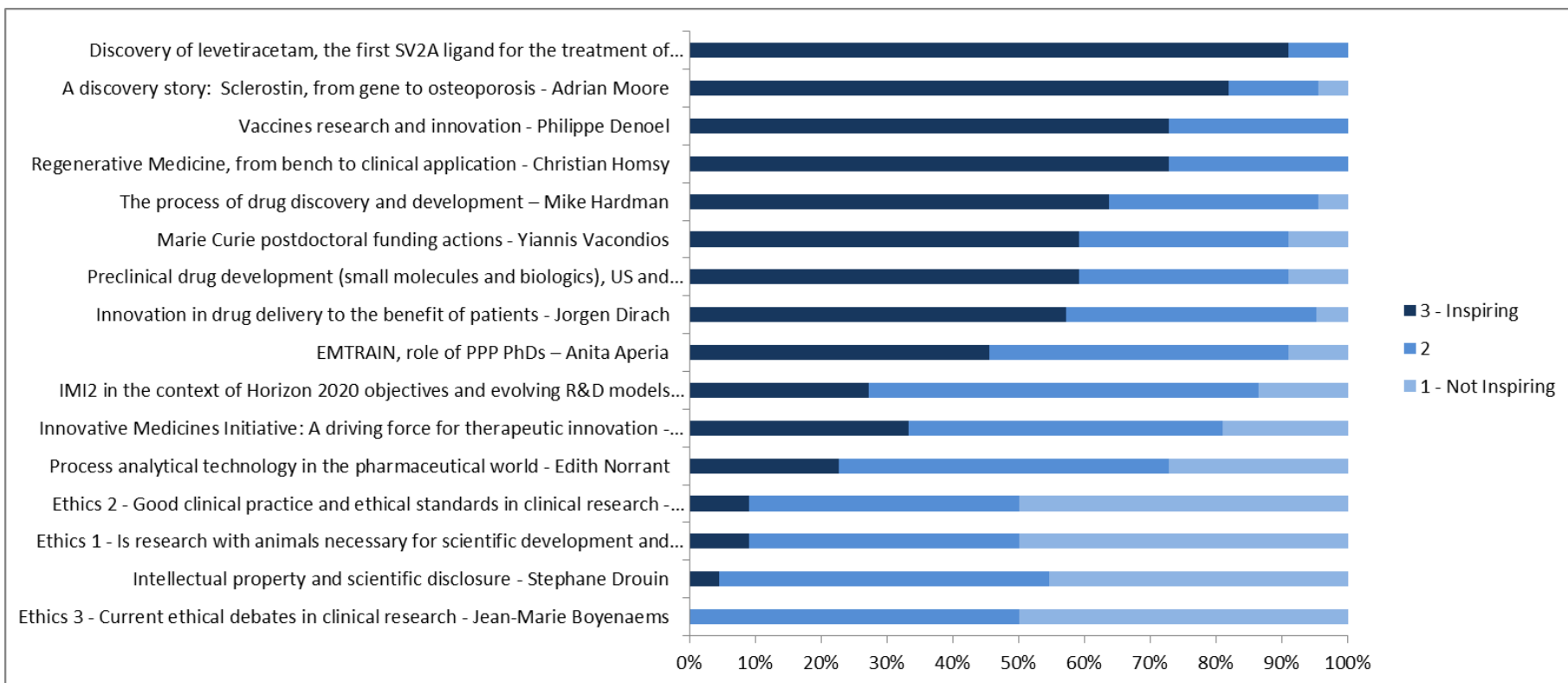




Please rate the lectures on how inspiring/exciting you found them: 3 (inspiring) – 1 (not inspiring)

Most Inspiring lectures:

Discovery of levetiracetam, the first SV2A ligand for the treatment of epilepsy - Henrik Klitgaard
A discovery story: Sclerostin, from gene to osteoporosis - Adrian Moore





What additional topics do you think we should cover in our future workshops? (A selection of comments..)

The role of Charities and Public/ government-funded associations in drug discovery

Other markets and regulatory agencies. What happens in South America, Asia or Africa?

More info about the transition from being a PhD student to working in a pharma company. Also what kind of opportunities one has after obtaining a PhD in science.

Career development. Biotech startups.

Presentations of new methods for drug development.

We mentioned a lot personalized medicines as it will be one of the main research area in the future. I think that having a complete topic about it may be interesting for everyone. And more globally, what will be the future challenge and develop them a little bit

Other future possibilities (other than IMI and Marie Curie) / how to prepare for your future career. Are there other options in drug industry than post-doc.

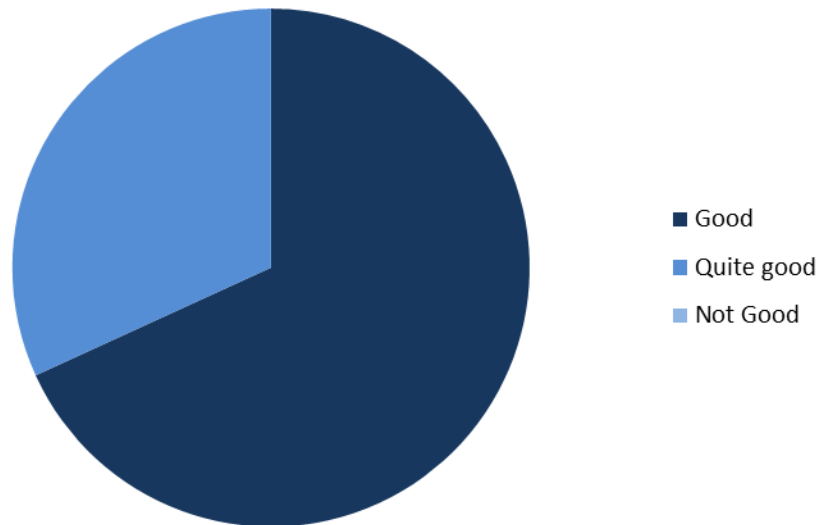
Maybe include a bit more input from academics. Their experience in collaborations. It would be nice to get an overview of how to get a career in both industry or academia.

I think the spectrum of topics is well covered.

Drug withdrawal from the market: Examples, reasons for withdrawal and implications



Please rate the usefulness of the “Drug discovery game” on day 1 – Keith Williams. * 3 (best) – 1 (worst)



Comments:

Useful in illustrating the issues raised in the lectures. Also and enjoyable activity to get to know people at the workshop.

This was really good!

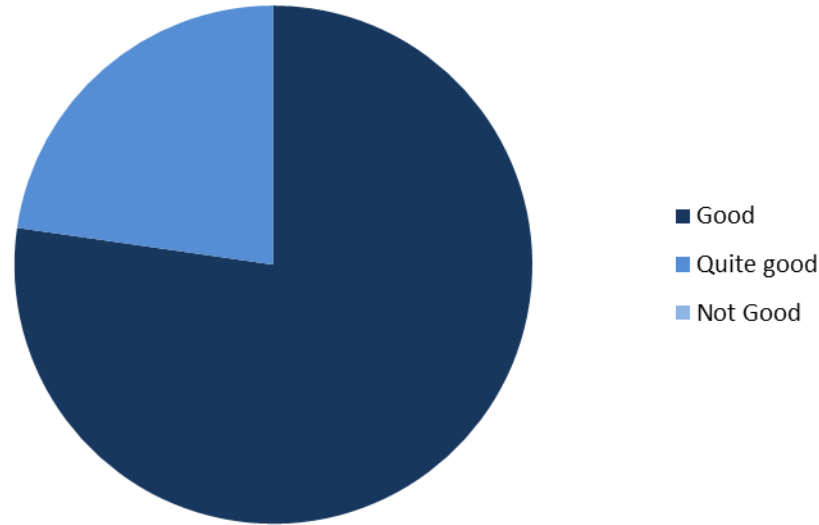
In some way this game help me to talk with people from my group and know them more.

I thought this was an excellent way of understanding the decisions and pit-falls through the drug discovery process. Being from different backgrounds we, as a team, had good debates on the best decisions to take

A helpful tool to have a global understanding of the process of drug discovery with realistic flavor. It would have been better if the evaluation of the groups was discussed more in detail.



Please rate the usefulness of the Pre-dinner interactive session on day 1. * 3 (best) – 1 (worst)



Comments:

Meeting so many new people, it is good to have an "ice-breaking" session. It was a good way of getting to know a little about everyone.

Really nice and simple. Many thanks to the organizers, it was really funny

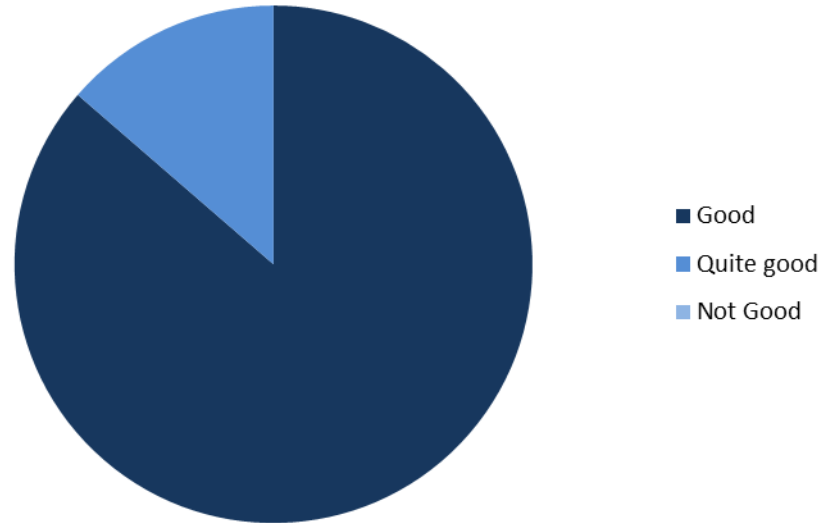
It got very noisy in and crowded in the room and it was too short time to really get a rewarding conversation. I would instead suggest small groups of 4-5 persons to have a walk-and-talk session, provided with questions we would have to pose to each other. If there is time slots (needs just 10-15 minutes) the other days, new groups could be formed for similar sessions.

Very helpful in terms of getting to know the other students.

Very effective way to break the ice between the participants.



Please rate the usefulness of the “informal sessions” (dinners, breaks, etc.). * 3 (best) – 1 (worst)



Comments:

The sessions were very useful, but more breaks would be beneficial, especially during long afternoon sessions. Also, a break before the dinner would be better, this would allow everyone to refresh before the evening dinner and networking.

Very useful. It gave us time to discuss our science in an informal medium, as opposed to the more formal presentations.

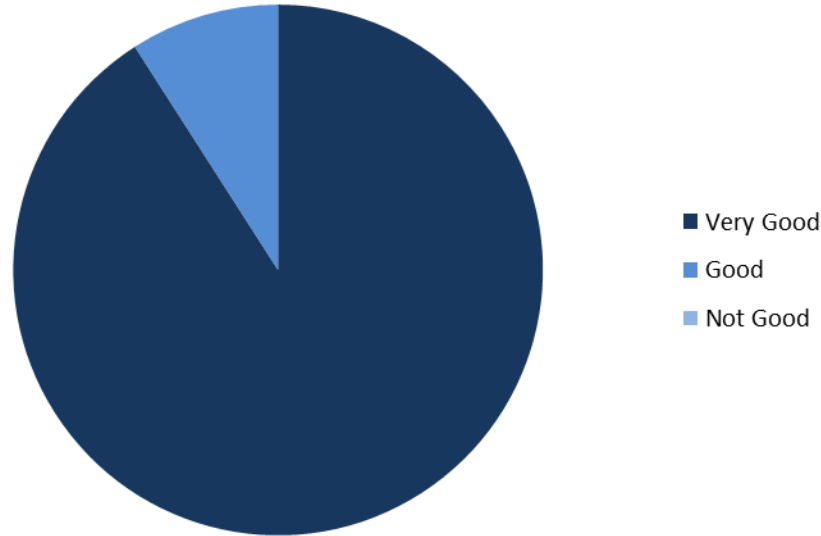
There could have been more breaks or activities. A break before dinner would have been nice!

It was friendly and also dedicated to science, really enjoy

Maybe make the program a bit less packed, to allow an "off-campus" trip during dinner one of the nights.

How did you like the student presentation sessions?

* 3 (best) – 1 (worst)



Comments:

Very high level! also, seen by the amount of great questions asked at the end of each presentation.

These sessions took significant time, I would prefer different format (e.g. posters)

Fantastic representation from a spectrum of different research areas.

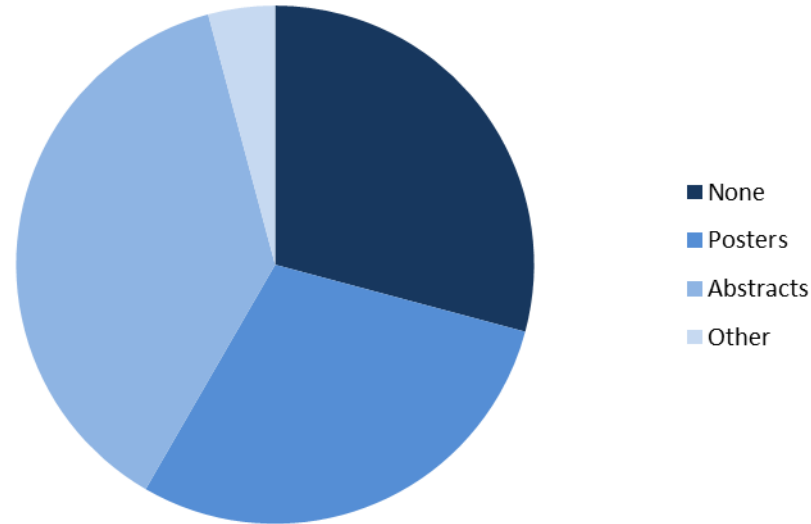
Like to discover other fields. It's good to go out of your comfort zone.

Very informative and I have made some useful contacts with other students with similar research interests.

In an occasion where ca 30 students with different backgrounds and PhD topics present their projects in a clear and understandable way, I would say the student presentations were done successfully.

Most of the student presentations were very good. The diversity of the topics presented was advantageous.

What other formats of information sharing do you suggest?



Comments:

I wouldn't change anything! I think presentations are the best way to share info.

Presentations are nice

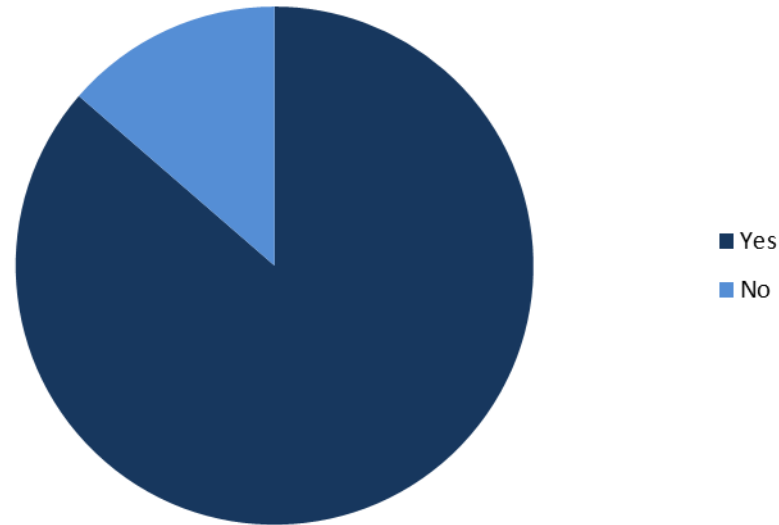
I would especially like to have poster session, I think that PhD student communicate enough without need of posters

Abstract. Should be provided in writing to all participant before the workshop. That would give a better opportunity to prepare questions or look up information.

Elevator talks

I'm not sure how much more complications would it add to the organizers, but an abstract book would be of great help.

Do you think it would be good to include the PhD supervisors in the workshop?



Comments:

Supervisors will support the work of the PhD students, however they should be more familiarized with the contents of the meeting.

I think it's good to have the experience of standing on your own feet presenting to an external audience. It ensures good preparation for questions as the supervisors aren't there to answer.

Most of the PhD supervisors are too busy with other stuff. I think it will decrease to chance to participate for a lot of students.

I don't understand how you would do that ? I don't think they will not have time to participate.

The focus might shift from PhD students towards the supervisors and their projects/interests

I think the atmosphere with only students and representatives from industry/ funding organizations is perfect.



How satisfied were you with the time schedule (overall length, timing and sequence of sessions, breaks, etc.) for the workshop?

Comments:

I think you should allow "free" time before dinner, so it is possible to change clothes etc.

Long days... but interesting.

The organizers managed to fit in a packed timetable without compromising on breaks. The ethics lectures could have been broken up more to allow the digestion of the information

Very long days. I suggest each day ends at 5pm with a break before dinner.

The sequence of sessions and breaks were ok but the overall length was much too long.

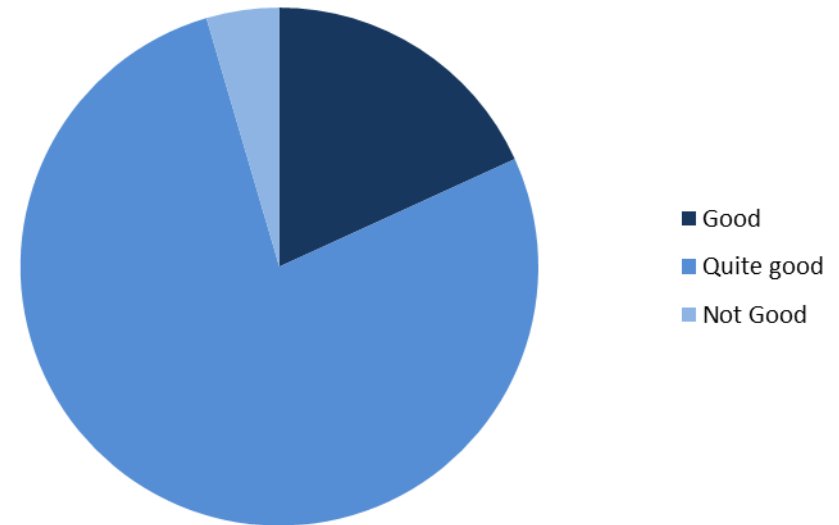
Less theoretical lessons and more interactive sessions

Perfect except, the day where we had ethic

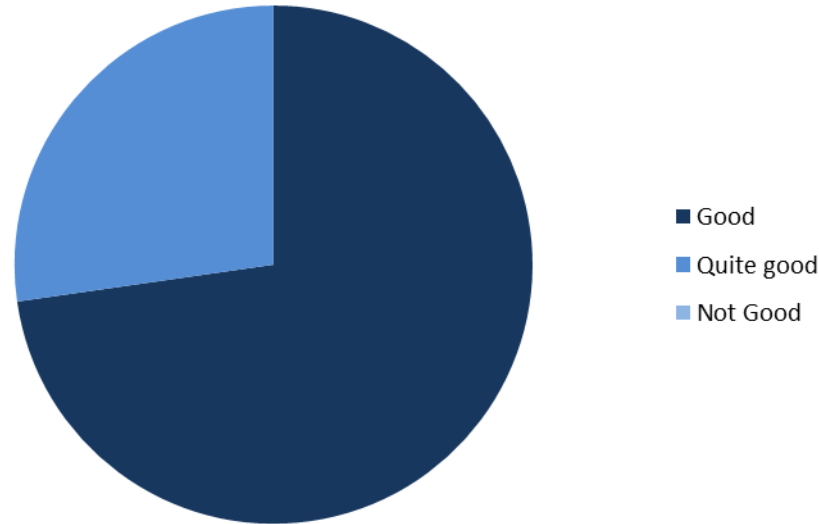
I would prefer the workshop to start on Monday instead of Sunday.

Overall length of workshop- perfect In my opinion, the only thing that should be better structured is the ethics1-2-3.

The overall length of the workshop was fine . I think there should be more frequent breaks between lectures especially in Day 3 which was so long with 3 successive lectures in the same topic (ethics).



How satisfied were you with the workshop venue (meeting room and equipment, break area, sitting order, etc.)? * 3 (best) – 1 (worst)



Comments:

Overall great, but more ventilated room would be better. It got a bit too warm at times

The venue was ok, very nice.

The venue was more than adequate for our needs. They were very good hosts

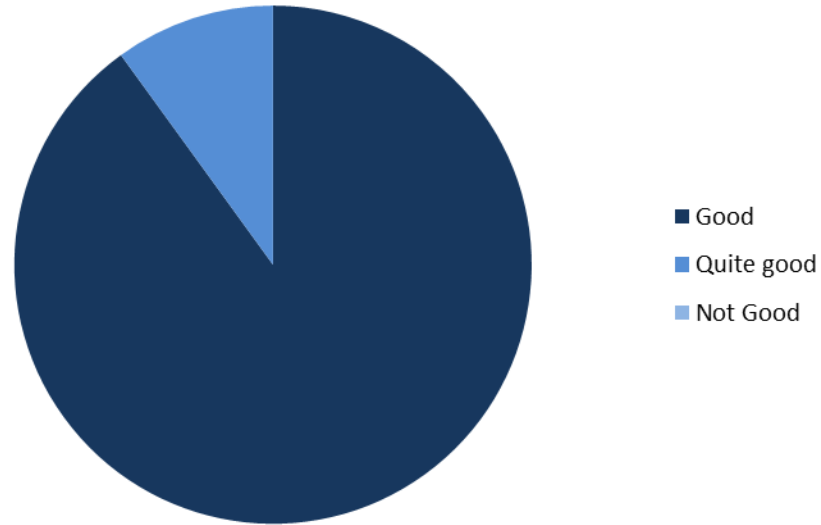
UCB was great

It was a pleasure, thank you!

Like to move, not to stay all the time in the same room

A short visit of the surrounding place would have been nice

How satisfied were you with the hotel? * 3 (best) – 1 (worst)



Comments:

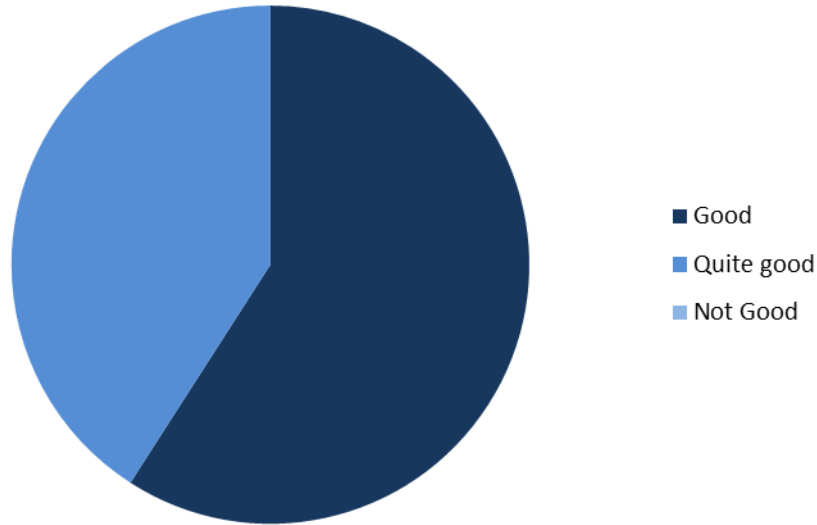
The hotel was ok, but very expensive.

It could be nice with a hotel closer to the city

The hotel was very nice. the free WiFi was useful

Perfect.

How satisfied were you with the food? * 3 (best) – 1 (worst)



Comments:

The food was good in quality, not surprising in variety.

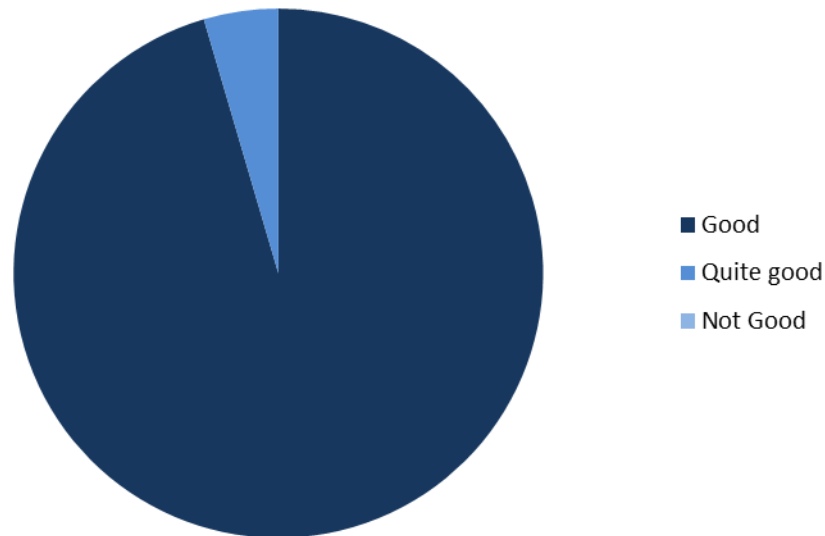
All the food was very good quality and tasty
excellent

You already know the pasta issue. Otherwise, the buffets were awesome, except for the Chinese buffet.

Some more fruit or other healthy fresh food would have been nice



What is your overall opinion of the EMTRAIN PhD workshop?



Comments:

BEST EVER!

I thought it was awesome! The lectures were really interesting and the fact that I got to meet so many other PhD students from other countries was really amazing!

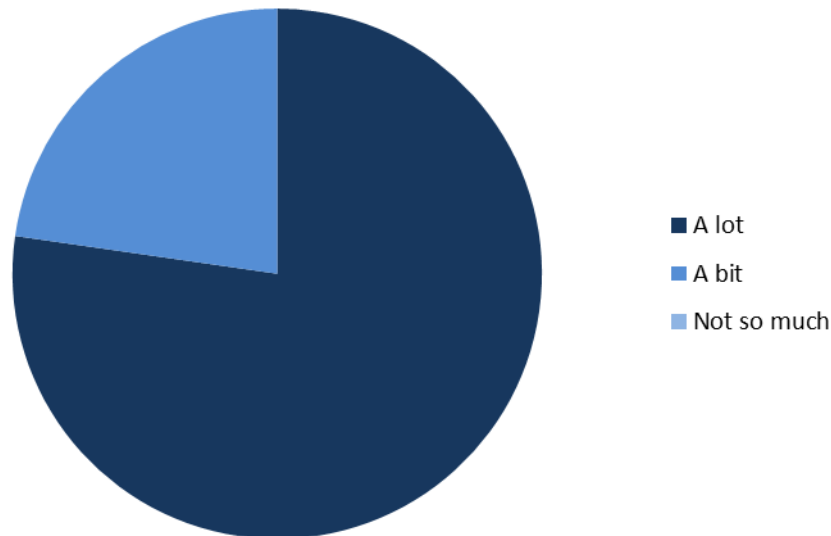
Very well organized, with excellent speakers and a good variety of students

Good combination of meeting international PhDs and learning more about pharmaceutical work/jobs.

The most informative and productive workshop/conference that I have attended as part of my PhD.

I think it's an excellent idea to promote connection between industry and academia by directly acting and promoting exchange of ideas between students from both sides. I'm not sure how many applications you received from PhD students in academia, but i have a feeling it should be more advertised in this domain. From this point of view, for sure you can count on me as an ambassador of this workshop in academia.

According to your opinion, how has your awareness of drug industry increased during the workshop?



Comments:

I definitely feel my awareness of the later pre-clinical/clinical awareness has improved, being focused on the early stages on a day-to-day basis

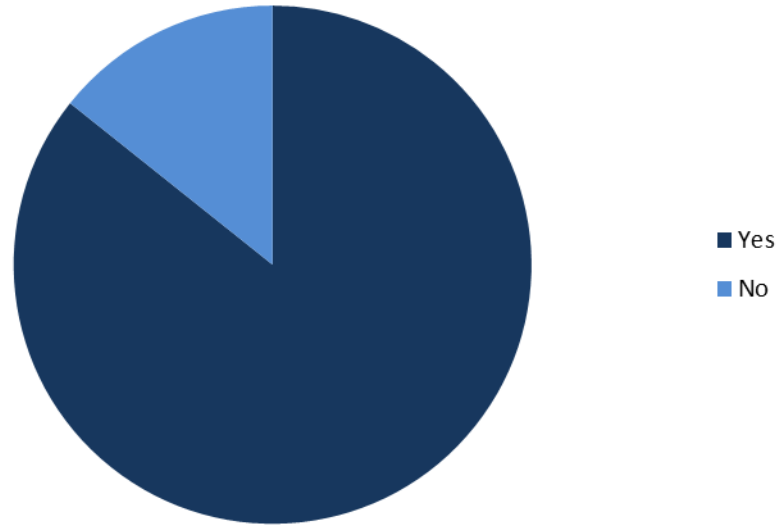
I now have a greater interest in pursuing a career in drug industry.

Hugely. I knew very little about drug development and the pharmaceutical industry before attending.

I definitely benefit a lot from this workshop. I arrived with quite some number of questions about drug industry and I was lucky to have an opportunity to specifically address all of them.



Would you be interested to participate in a future EMTRAIN PPP PhD Workshop?



Comments:

Yes, great presentations and excellent networking opportunity.

Yes, But I think it is good to keep the variety of students, making new students a higher priority

No, Then I would like more lectures on future career possibilities

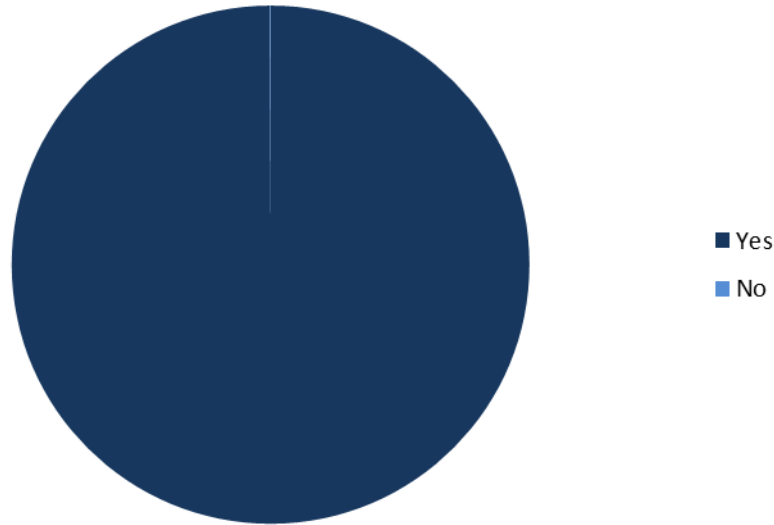
No, Most info would be double.

Not sure. Depends if I have time available and whether the programme is significantly different.

Yes, It gave me new energy on my project, it could open doors for the future

Yes, I would definitely support the idea of maintaining this workshop. I guess since I used my opportunity this year, next year somebody else should get this place, but if there is any way that I could provide support with organization, as a former participant, I would be very happy to do it.

Would you recommend the workshop to others?



Comments:

Yes, given the highlights and excellent networking opportunity.

Yes, it points out many very interesting aspects of the drug discovery process

Yes, I would recommend EMTRAIN PhD Workshop to all PhD students as a really important event that provides good networking, great lectures and useful group discussions

Yes, It was an excellent forum to share ideas and meet fellow PPP students

Yes, I would recommend the workshop to PhD students who plan to work in the industry. It is helpful to meet representatives before you apply for a job and it is also interesting to see how it works in other countries.

Yes, It is definitely a very useful workshop for those PhD students doing their research in fields relevant to drug development.

