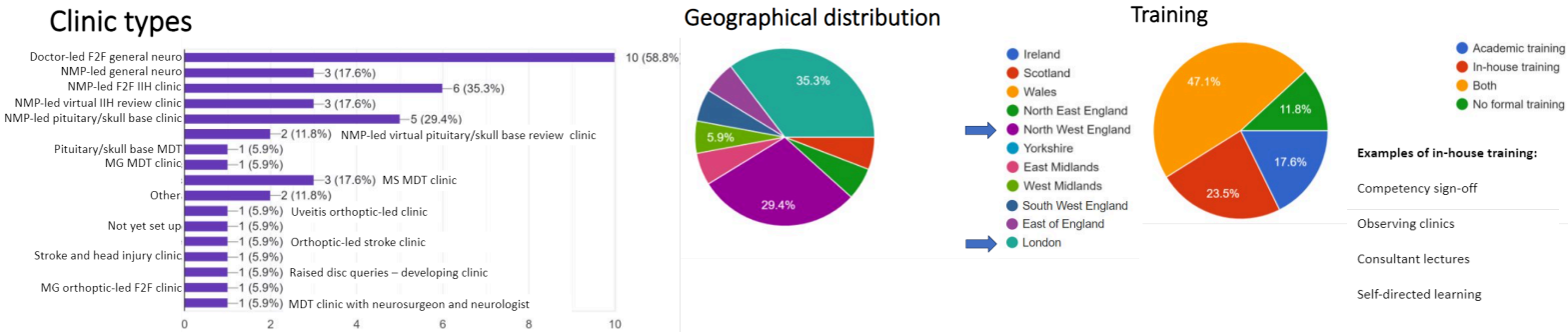


# Non-Medical Professionals in Neuro-Ophthalmology

## Background & Aims:

- Form a network for non-medical professionals in neuro-ophthalmology
- Provide support to those developing their role
- Share best practice in training (awareness of formal training options, competencies, sign off, visiting other departments)
- Share knowledge on how roles work, what patients are seen etc
- Share information on pathways and guidelines
- Work towards standardising training across trusts

## Survey Results 2023:



- 100% of responses came from orthoptists
- Length of experience was very varied with almost 50% in their first 2 years and 18% having practiced in neuro-ophthalmology for over 5 years
- It was felt that in-house training or both in-house and academic training were more beneficial than academic training alone
- The majority had slit lamp training informally, learning as they went along, whilst 18% had formal in-house training and 12% had academic training
- The majority took part in doctor-led face-to-face general neuro-ophthalmology clinics, other popular clinics included non-medical professional-led face-to-face IIH and pituitary/skull base clinics
- The most used support resources were found to be the BIOS neuro-ophthalmology CAG and other online resources

## Success stories:

We presented four examples of career development of non-medical professionals working in neuro-ophthalmology. Experience varied including managerial roles and higher education. Find the full storylines in our presentation slides.

## Future of this Network:

### Bi-annual meetings:

- Separate meeting for non-medical professionals working in neuro-ophthalmology (potentially in a virtual setting)
- 'Breakout'/breakfast meetings at UKNOS

Creating a forum for sharing ideas around progression and supporting each other – subcategories for people working in different areas e.g. IIH, MS, brain tumours

## **Formal Training currently available:**

### Practical

- A slit-lamp practical module/day course\* --> [Haag Streit course](#)
- Course on neuro-imaging interpretation\* --> [Oxford Imaging Course](#)
- [OCT Interpretation in Neuro-Ophthalmology | Gloucestershire Retinal Education Group | GREG \(gregcourses.com\)](#)
- GONE project: Glaucoma disc evaluation training site - <https://gone-project.com/newgone/>

### Academic

- Liverpool Masters module: neuro-ophthalmic advanced clinical practice
- Liverpool are currently creating a more specific neuro-ophthal ACP masters
- UCL Ophthalmology MSc module: neuro-ophthalmology, strabismus and paediatric ophthalmology
- UCL neuro-ophthalmology masterclass