

- There is a high perceived value of Non-Medical Prescribing in Pelvic Health Physiotherapy
- Organisational governance locally and nationally implicates the barriers and facilitators to practice
- Facilitating self-efficacy appears to enable Non-Medical Prescribing practice

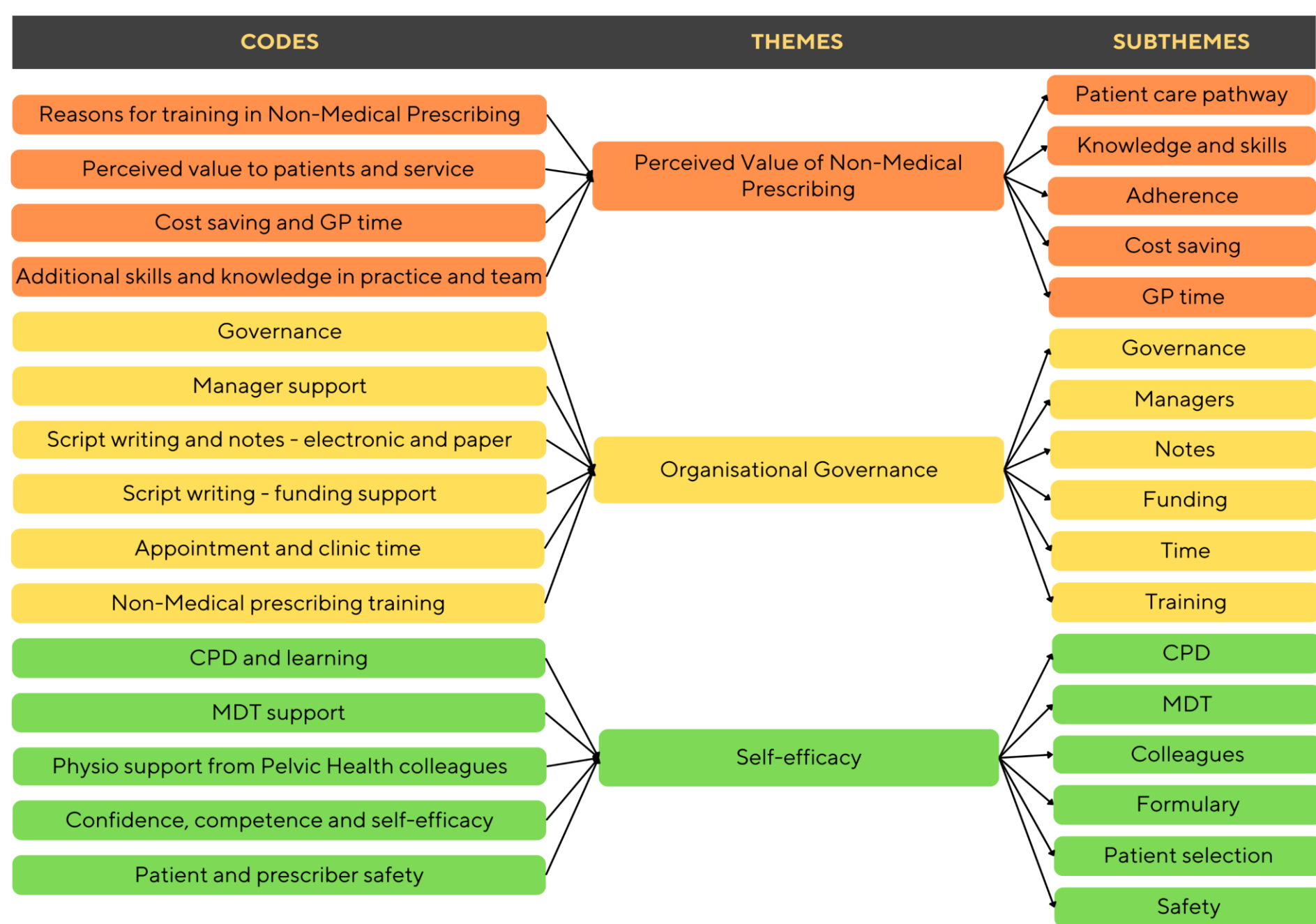
A qualitative study to explore pelvic health physiotherapists' experiences of non-medical prescribing in the UK

Background: The Department of Health (2006) promoted non-medical prescribing (NMP) to improve patient access to medicine, enhance public health and recognise the expertise of Health Care Professionals. Pelvic Health Physiotherapists (PHPs) can optimise NMP for those with pelvic floor conditions. Understanding the experiences of this un-researched group may facilitate future implementation by; exploring enablers and barriers to the implementation of NMP, providing insight for stakeholders on the perceived value of NMP and exploring areas for further research.

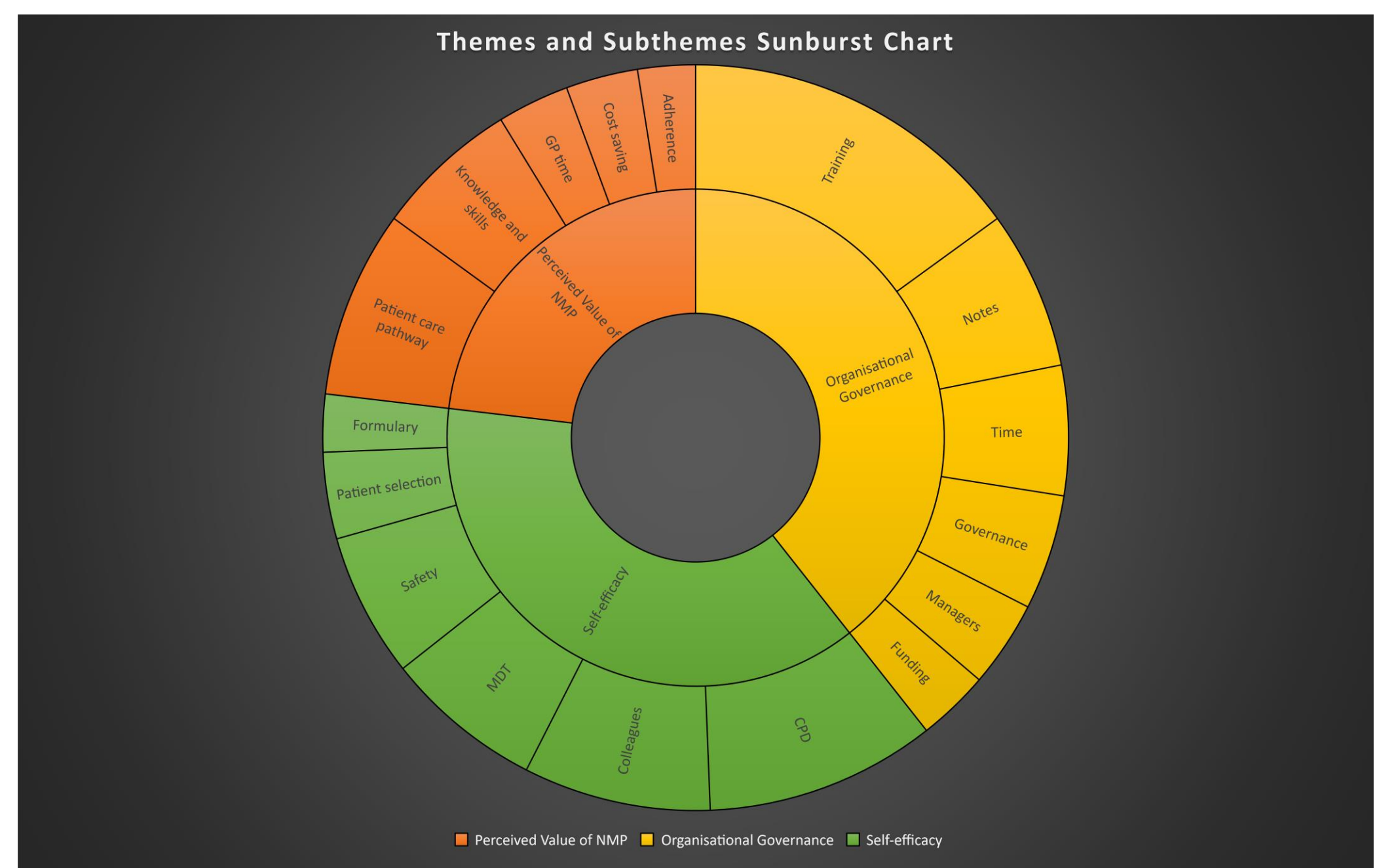
Methods:



Results: Coding and thematic analysis process.



Results: Content Analysis; quantity of data per theme.



Limitations: The main limitation was low participant numbers, impeding transferability of findings and study rigour.

Recommendations: Within the study limits, recommendations to improve implementation of NMP for PHPs should be considered by all stakeholders. These include; adequate managerial provision for NMP training, national and local governance development, peer support, prescription funding, speciality specific CPD, further pharmacology training for physiotherapists, and easy electronic access to patient information. Further research regarding clinical and economic impact, with a larger pool of participants, will help improve data quality and rigour, confirm results and provide further recommendations.

References: Department of Health. (2006). *Improving Patients' Access to Medicines: A Guide to Implementing Nurse and Pharmacist Independent Prescribing within the NHS in England*. www.dh.gov.uk/nonmedicalprescribing