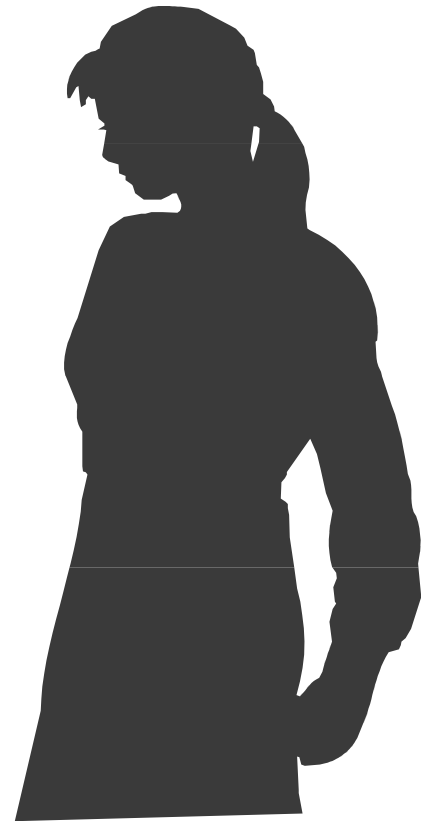


Experiences of abuse among medical students in south west Nigeria

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“It could have been such a wonderful thing to be a doctor - but it's not. It's just a disaster”



Introduction



- A profession that trains people to be caring and compassionate, would be expected to display these attitudes also in training future professionals.
- However, all over the world medical education has been charged with a legacy of aversive teaching methods [1].
- Medical student abuse is an international phenomenon with prevalence ranging from 74% to 96%, with verbal abuse being the most common. [1].

Introduction

- A lot of attention has been paid to professional behaviour and professional competencies during medical training;
- however these efforts will be thwarted unless the learning environment espouses the underlying values and professional norms being taught.



Objectives

- This study was conducted to assess the experiences of abuse by final year clinical students in a Nigerian university.



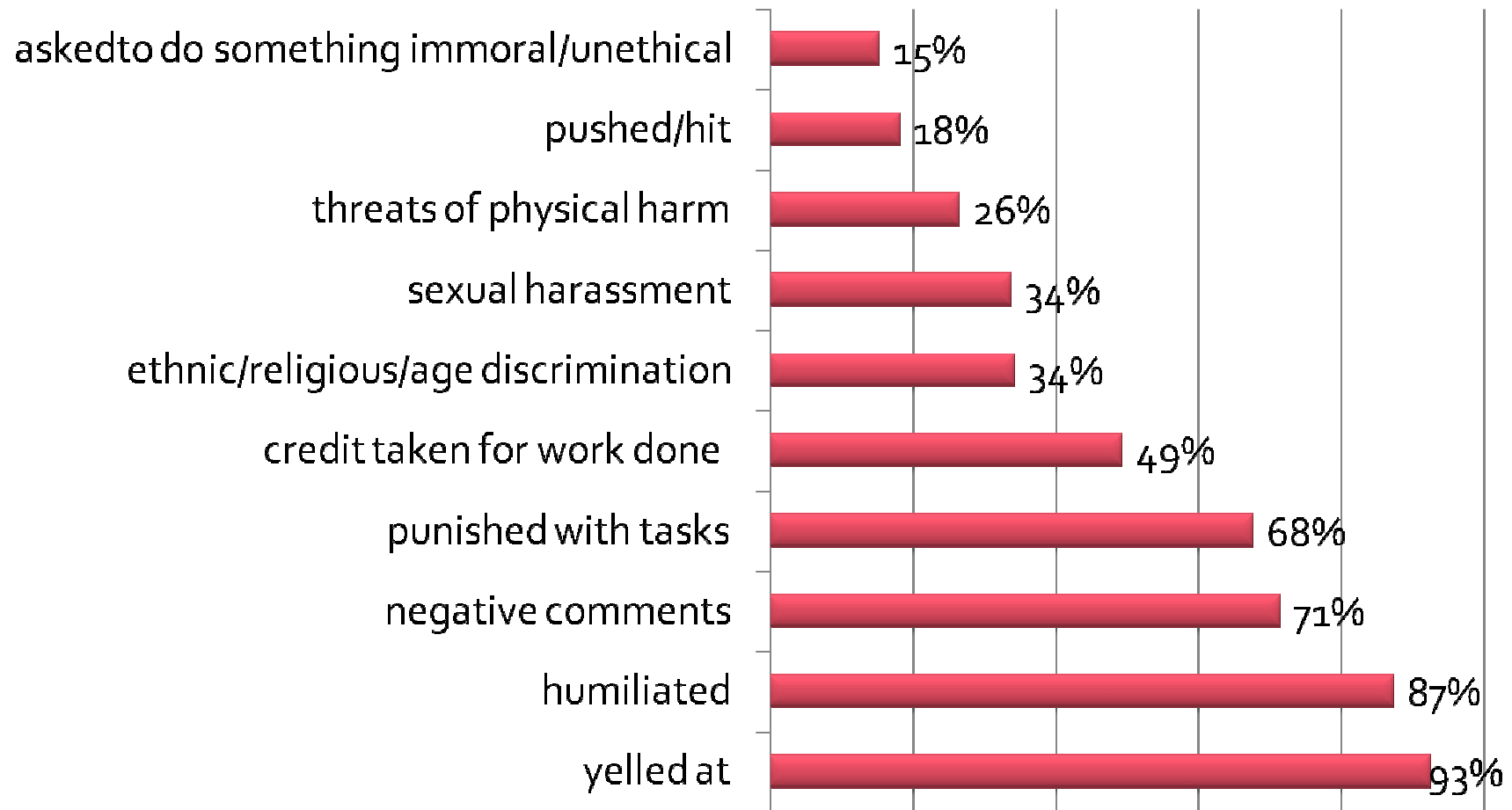
Methods

- The study was conducted in the College of Medicine of the University of Ibadan which is the oldest medical school in Nigeria.
- Participants were the final year medical students. A total of 269 questionnaires were administered and all were returned
- Permission to conduct the study was obtained from the Heads of Departments and informed consent was obtained from the medical students.

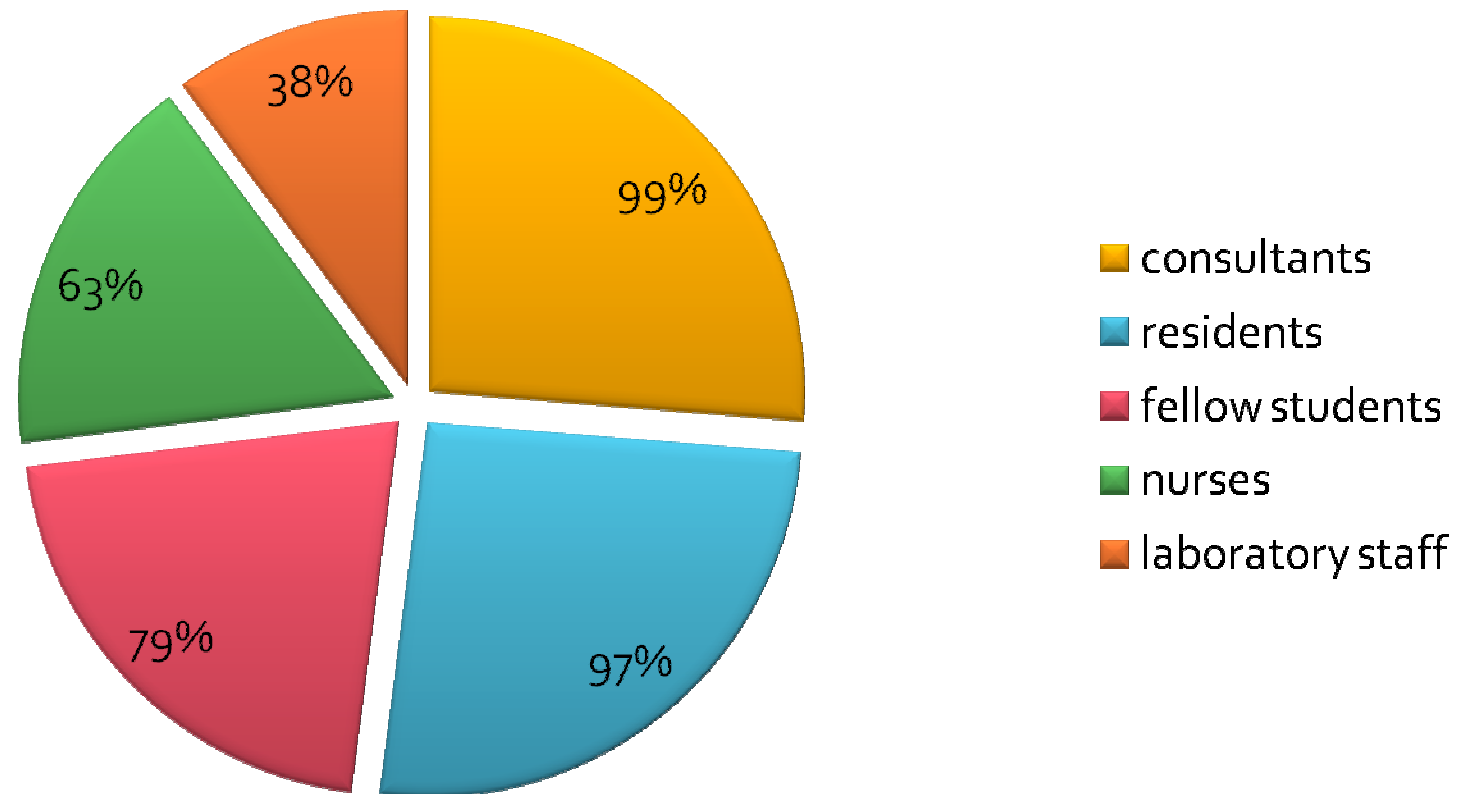
Results

- The mean age of the respondents was 26.1 ± 2.5 years and 61.3% were males.
- Almost all the respondents (98.5%) had experienced one or more forms of abuse during their training.
- There was no significant gender difference

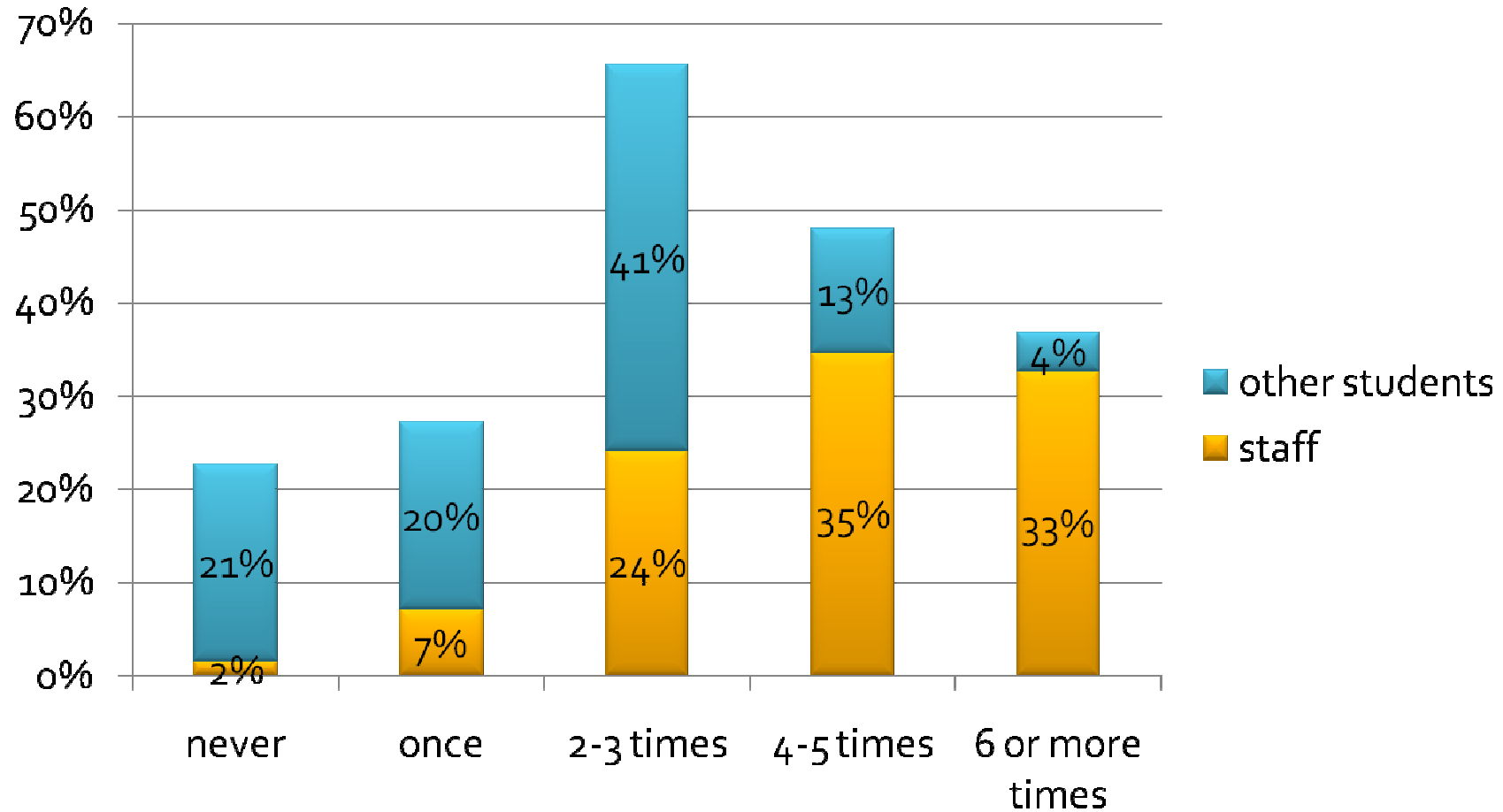
Forms of abuse experienced



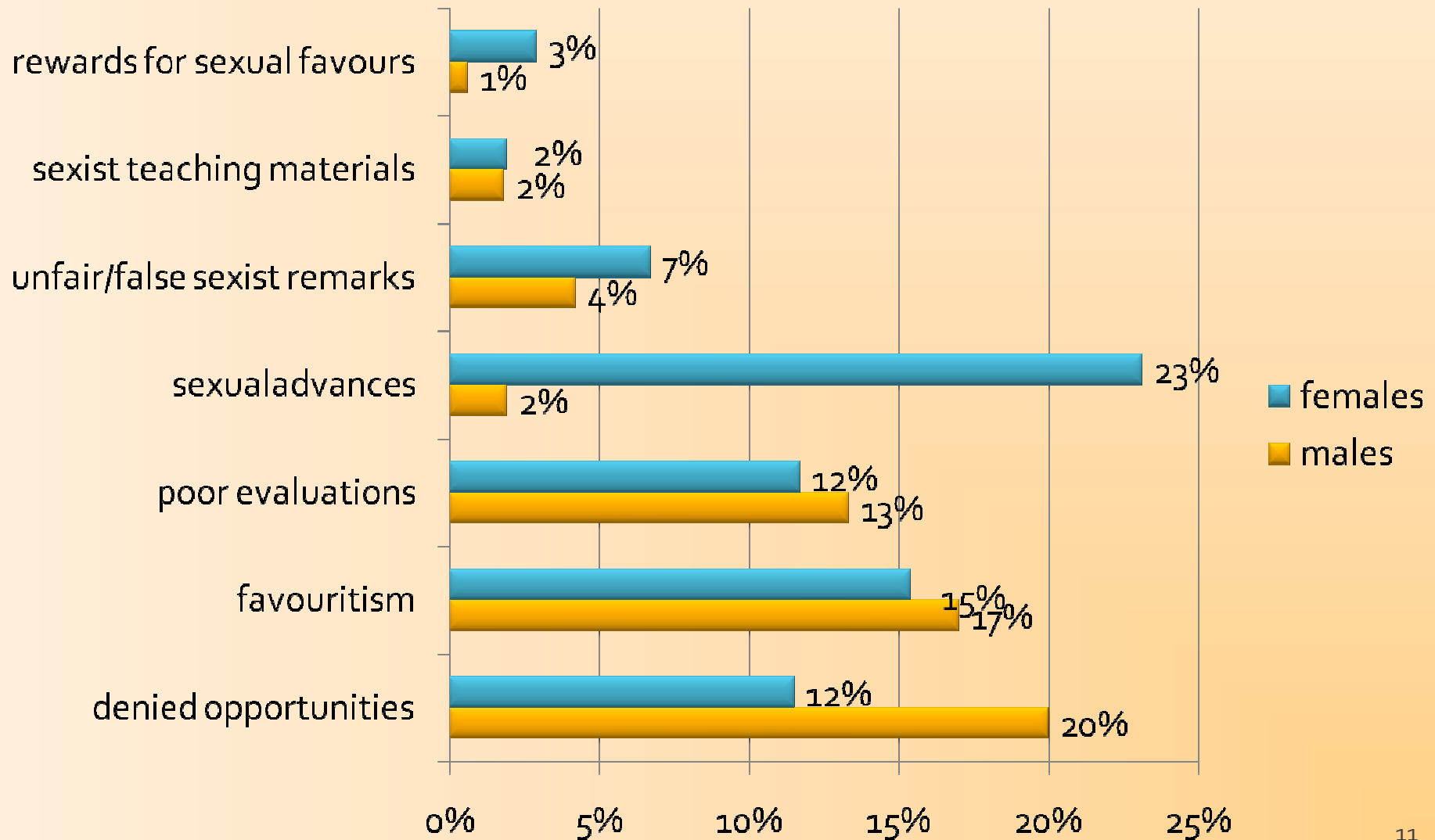
Perpetrators of abuse



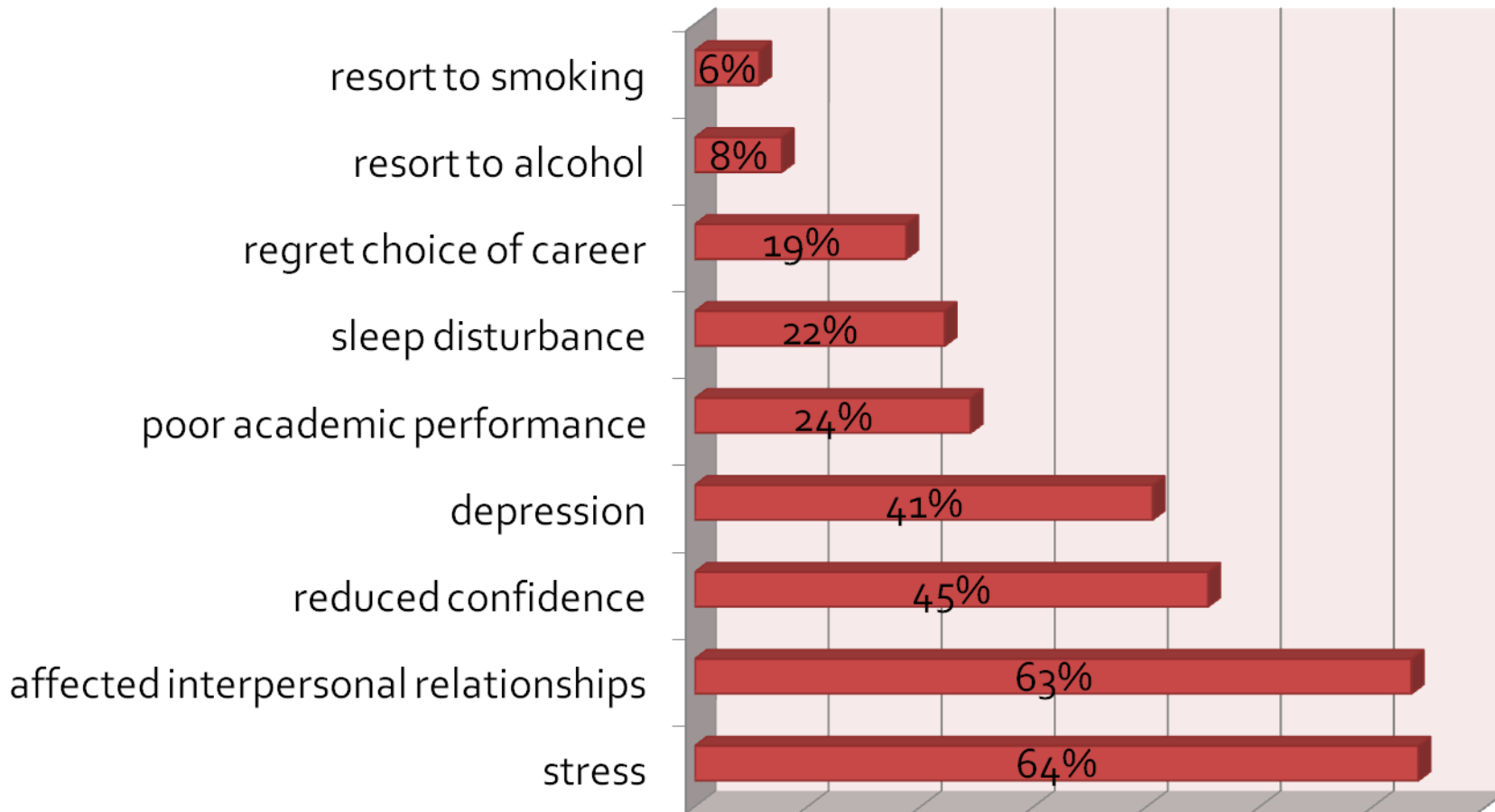
Frequency of abuse by perpetrators



Gender-based abuse



Reported effects of abuse



Perception of mistreatment



- Almost all, (92.6%) of the respondents thought that medical student abuse should not emulated, 82.9% felt that it was unacceptable behaviour.
- However 28.3% felt that mistreatment was a normal part of the training in medical school while 19.7% felt that it was a normal display of power

Discussion



- Like in other studies[4-7] medical student abuse is a common occurrence in this university especially verbal abuse
- These findings emphasize the need to cultivate a supportive environment for students during the medical training and to develop appropriate strategies for the prevention and reduction of medical student abuse

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