



The Bethlem Hospital MBU Acute Psychiatric Unit with independent Parenting Assessment Service

Jackie Davies and Priti Patel

Channi Kumar Mother & Baby Unit



Channi Kumar Mother & Baby Unit



14 beds: 12 Acute; 2 Parenting Assessment



HRH in the MBU nursery



MBU Acute Admissions (2016)

20% antenatal



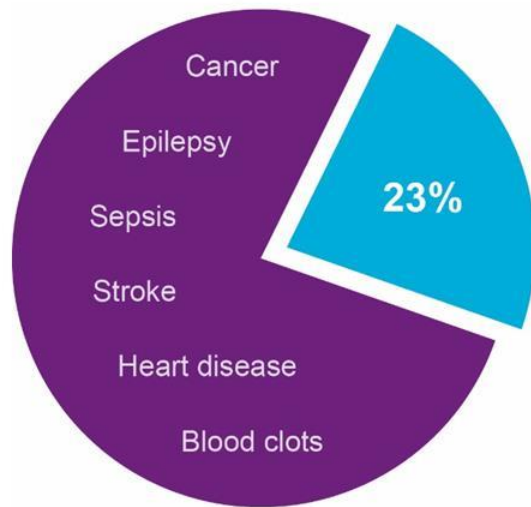
80% postnatal



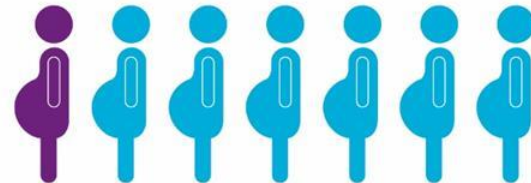
Mean length of admission: 73 days (range: 4 to 270 days).

Informal or on MHA Section.

Mental health-related deaths

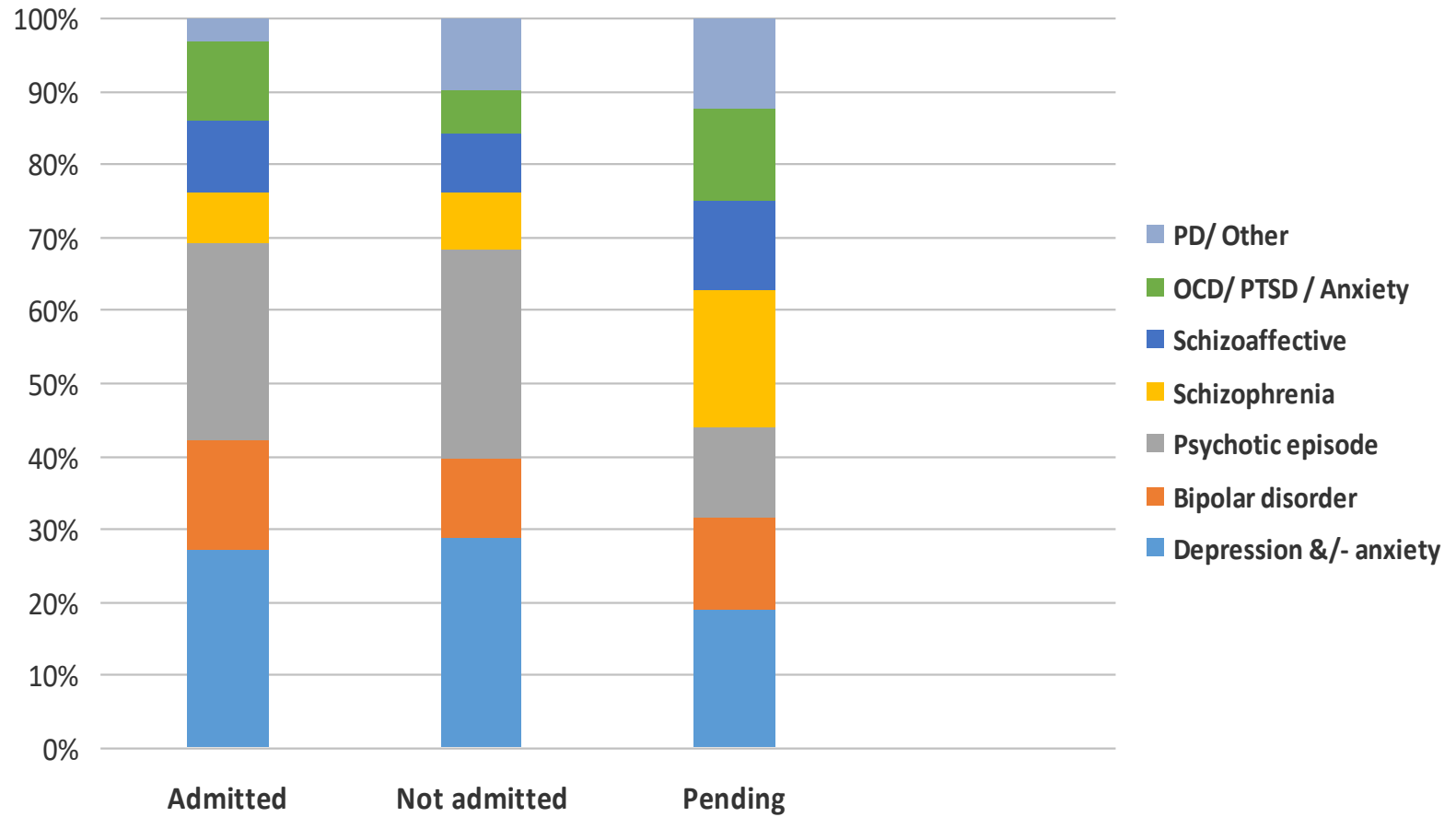


Almost **a quarter** of women who died between six weeks and one year after pregnancy died from **mental-health related causes**



1 in 7 women died by **Suicide**

MBU Acute Admissions (2016)



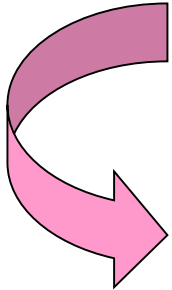
MBU Acute Discharge Outcomes (2016)

Together - own home:	71%
Together - elsewhere*:	9%
Together - MBU Parenting Assessment:	9%
Separate - mother to another psych ward:	8%
Separate - mother home / baby elsewhere:	3%

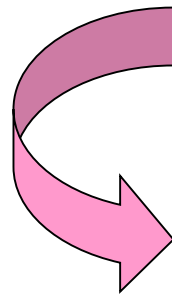
* Parenting assessment elsewhere or relative's home

Parenting Assessments at the MBU

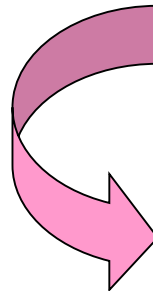
Referral



Network Meeting



Parenting Assessment



Report & recommendations

Parenting Assessments at the MBU

- Mother + baby (rarely + father)
- Residential for 6 weeks (9 with father)
- Optimum level of mental health
- Multi-dimensional assessment
- Referred pre-birth or post delivery



Multi-disciplinary Assessments

- Psychiatric and medical review
- Psychological and psychometric investigation
- Psychological and social functioning
- Occupational therapy assessment
- Mother-infant relationship and interaction
- Developmental assessment of the baby
- Family and wider context.

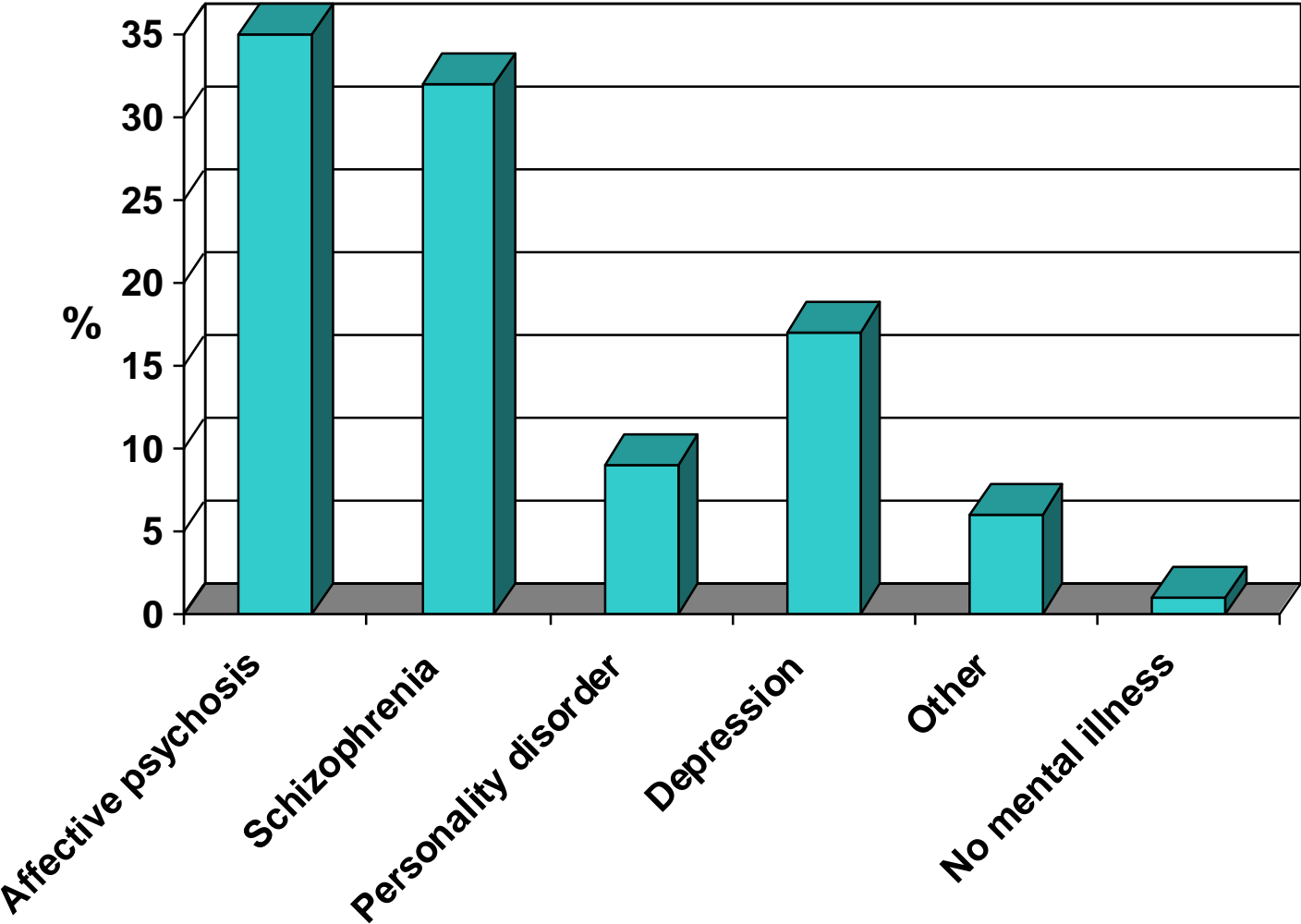


Aspects of Parenting Assessments

- Practical parenting
- Attachment between mother and infant
- Emotional stimulation
- Ability to adapt to baby's changing needs
- Ability to protect and safeguard child
- Insight into mental illness
- Ability to live independently
- Level of support needed in the community
- Coping mechanisms
- Ability to work with professionals



Clinical Diagnoses- Referrals



Babies

- Mean age at admission: 14 weeks (range: 1 - 76)
- Younger when placement planned before birth (inc. those with pre-birth concern only).



Planned:
9.36 weeks

Not planned:
13.92 weeks

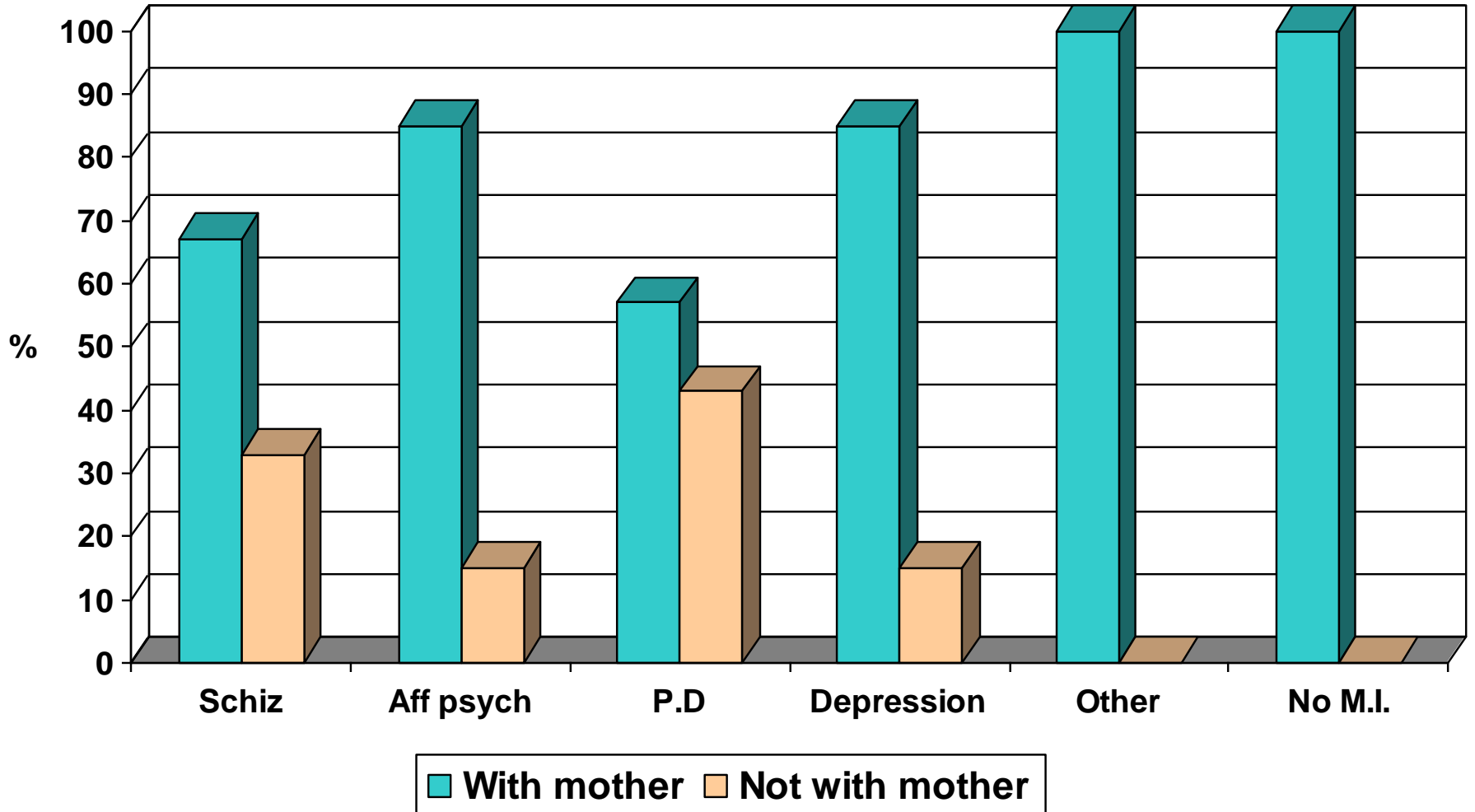


Casenote Study

- Antenatal concerns in 89% cases
- Lack of antenatal planning in some cases
- 43% separated from baby at admission
- 76% mothers discharged with babies
- LA decisions guided by MBU through consultation



Diagnosis and discharge outcome



What predicted discharge outcome?

- Family & Environment concerns
- Parenting Capacity concerns
- Non-white maternal ethnicity
- No partner
- Separation prior to admission

Logistic regression:

Parenting Capacity Index (Wald 4.88 (1) p=0.027)

PA audit conclusions

- Lack of ante-natal planning → separation of mother & baby prior to admission → separation at discharge
- Mothers separated at discharge unlikely to resume care later.
- Need for more integrated planning between mental health and children's services.
- Only Parenting Capacity and Family & Environmental concerns predicted situation at follow-up.
- Lack of specialist PA resources leading to unnecessary separations