

## Supplementary Data

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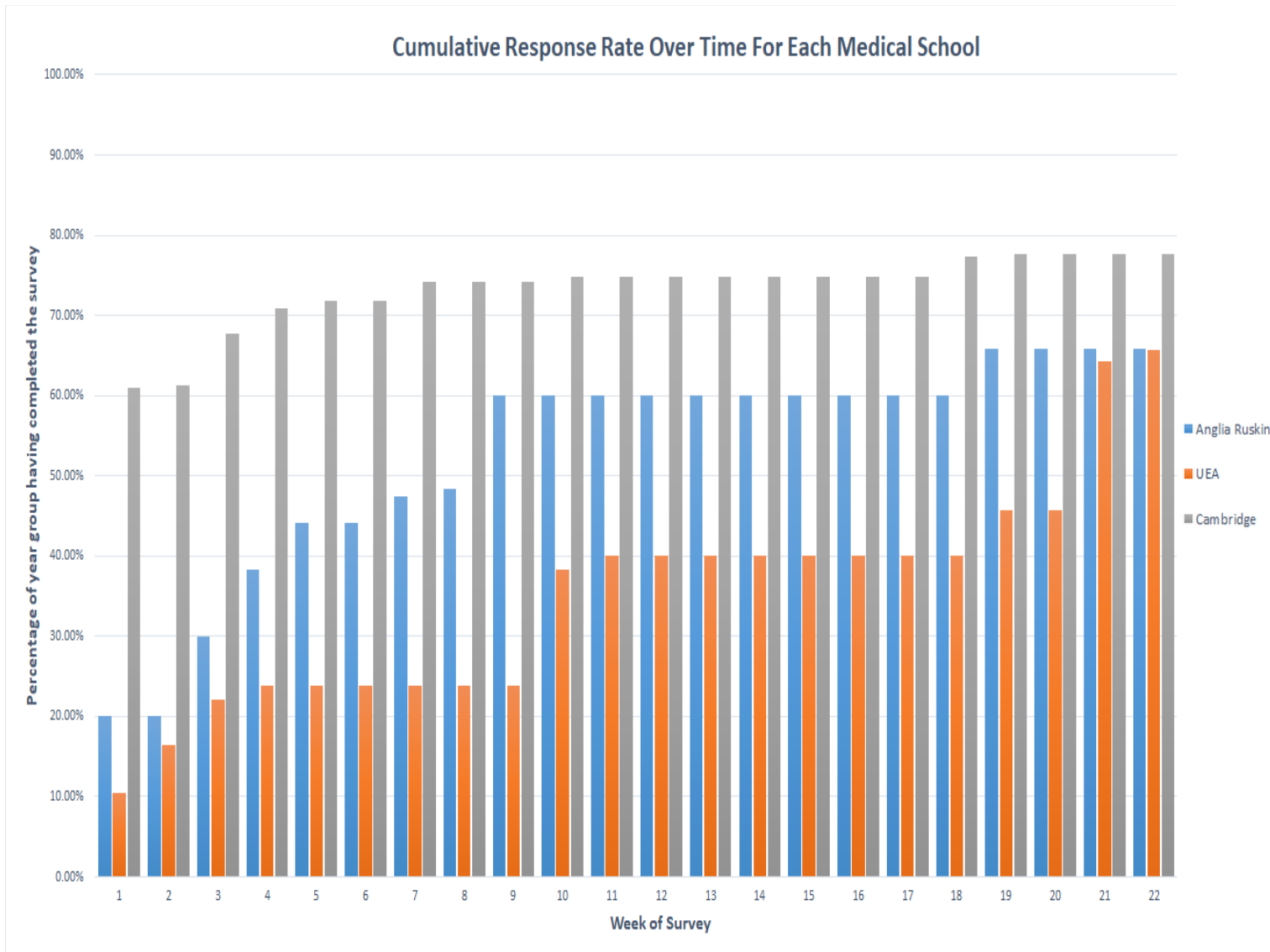
**Supplementary Table 1. Demographic characteristics of the sample.**

| Variable                 | ARU<br>(N=79)                                    | UEA (N=151)                                      | UOC<br>(N=253)                                   | Total<br>(N=483)                       | Chi-square test<br>(p-value) |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|------------------------------|
|                          | N (% over the respondents of the medical school) | N (% over the respondents of the medical school) | N (% over the respondents of the medical school) | N (% over total sample of respondents) |                              |
| Gender                   |  |  |  |  |                              |
| Female                   | 55(69.62)  | 97(64.24)  | 137(54.15)                                       | 289(59.83)                             | 8.31 (0.081)                 |
| Male                     | 24(30.38)  | 53(35.10)  | 115(45.45)                                       | 192(39.75)                             |                              |
| Other                    | 0(0.00)  | 1(0.66)  | 1(0.4)   | 2(0.41)                                |                              |
| Age groups               |  |  |  |  |                              |
| (17-20]                  | 65(82.28)  | 112(74.17)                                       | 215(84.98)                                       | 392(81.16)                             | 12.64 (0.049)                |
| (20-25]                  | 11(13.92)  | 35(23.18)  | 27(10.67)  | 73(15.11)                              |                              |
| (25-30]                  | 3(3.80)  | 4(2.65)  | 10(3.95)   | 17(3.52)                               |                              |
| 30+                      | 0(0.00)  | 0(0.00)  | 1(0.40)  | 1(0.21)                                |                              |
| Ethnicity                |  |  |  |  |                              |
| Asian                    | 41(51.90)  | 42(27.81)  | 71(28.06)  | 154(31.88)                             | 29.86(0.000)                 |
| White                    | 25(31.65)  | 85(56.29)  | 124(49.01)                                       | 234(48.45)                             |                              |
| Black/ Mixed             | 8(10.13)   | 14(9.27)   | 29(11.46)  | 51(10.56)                              |                              |
| Chinese                  | 0(0.00)  | 2(1.32)  | 17(6.72)   | 19(3.93)                               |                              |
| Other/ prefer not to say | 5(6.33)  | 8(5.30)  | 12(4.74)   | 25(5.18)                               |                              |

**Supplementary Table 2. Uncertainty scores in the three medical schools**

|                | Uncertainty score |     |                             |              |        |                             |     |
|----------------|-------------------|-----|-----------------------------|--------------|--------|-----------------------------|-----|
| Medical School | Mean (sd)         | Min | 25 <sup>th</sup> percentile | Mean (sd)    | Median | 75 <sup>th</sup> percentile | Max |
| ARU (N=70)     | 22.89 (5.55)      | 12  | 18                          | 22.89 (5.55) | 23     | 26                          | 35  |
| UEA (N=143)    | 24.42 (5.38)      | 10  | 20                          | 24.42 (5.38) | 24     | 28                          | 39  |
| UOC (N=229)    | 24.10 (5.08)      | 12  | 21                          | 24.10 (5.08) | 24     | 27                          | 40  |
| Total          | 24.01 (5.27)      | 10  | 20                          | 24.01 (5.27) | 24     | 28                          | 40  |

Supplementary Figure 1. Cumulative Response Rates Over Time For The Three Groups



# Supplementary BOX 1: SURVEY INSTRUMENT USED

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Survey of perceptions of uncertainty, careers and general practice 2020

Full Name

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Email Address (.ac.uk)

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If you are happy to take part in the questionnaire parts of the study, please click on the boxes below :

I have read the information sheet version 2.3, dated 25th November 2020 (1)

I have had the opportunity to ask questions and to have them answered (2)

I understand that participation is voluntary, and my decision about participation will have no impact on my progress on the course. (3)

I am happy to take part in this questionnaire study (4)

I understand that anonymised databases will be available to members of the research team in the University of Cambridge (5)

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(review the Information Sheet [here](#) )

Firstly, about yourself :

What gender are you ?

Male (1)

Female (2)

Prefer not to say (3)

**Which medicine course are you on?**

- Five year standard MBBS course (1)
- Five year MBBS course (plus intercalated masters) (2)

**What age are you in years?**

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**What ethnicity are you?**

- White (1)
- Asian (2)
- Black (3)
- Chinese (4)
- Mixed (5)
- Other (6)
- Prefer not to say (7)

**In this first section you will find a series of statements which describe how people may react to the uncertainties of life. Please use the scale below to describe to what extent each item is characteristic of you.**

**When I am uncertain, I can't function very well**

(1 = not at all, 5 =entirely)

1            2            3            4            5



**When I am uncertain, I can't go forward**

(1 = not at all, 5 =entirely)

1            2            3            4            5



**I should be able to organise everything in advance**

(1 = not at all, 5 =entirely)

1            2            3            4            5



**Uncertainty makes me uneasy, anxious, or stressed**

(1 = not at all, 5 = entirely)

1            2            3            4            5



**It frustrates me not having all the information I need**

(1 = not at all, 5 =entirely)

1            2            3            4            5



**The ambiguities in life stress me**

(1 = not at all, 5 =entirely)

1            2            3            4            5



**When it's time to act, uncertainty paralyses me**

(1 = not at all, 5 =entirely)

1            2            3            4            5









**So far during your medical course, have you had a positive role model who happens to be a GP?**

Yes (1)

No (2)

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**So far during your medical course, have you encountered an academic who is a GP?**

Yes (1)

No (2)

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**Have you attended a GPSoc (student GP society) event?**

Yes (1)

No (2)

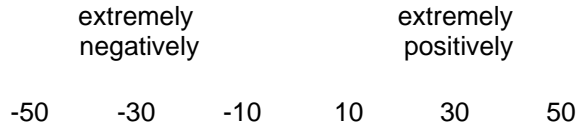
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**Do you have a friend or a member of your family who is a GP?**

Yes (1)




No (2)

**How would you say GPs and general practice have been represented in the media in the last 6 months?**



**So far, to what extent have you encountered the following -**

Not at all a great deal

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Negativity towards general practice from academics, clinicians and/or educational trainers? |  |
| Negativity towards general practice from other medical students?                            |  |
| Negativity towards general practice from family and friends?                                |  |

**So far what has your experience of general practice as a patient or as a relative of a patient been like?**

very negative                      Neutral                      very positive  
-50      -30      -10      10      30      50



**So far what has your experience on GP placement been like?**

very negative                      Neutral                      very positive  
-50      -30      -10      10      30      50



*Why is this?*

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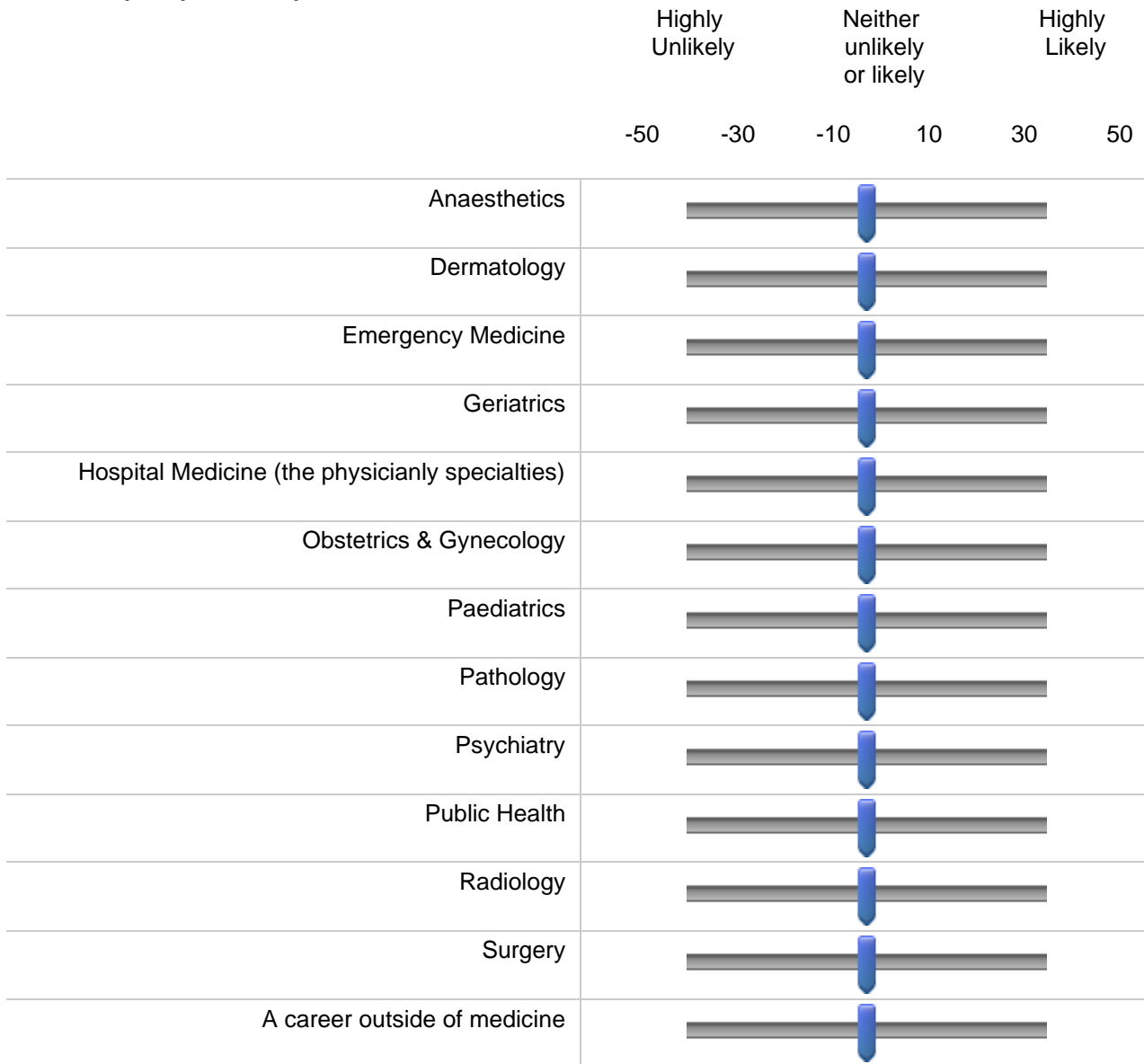
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**How likely do you think you are to choose one of these areas as a career?**



**Finally, please indicate whether you want your name put into the hat for the prize draw or not.**

Yes please enter my name into the prize draw (1)