

The MiNT Academy: An Innovation Platform for Clinical Education and Neurotechnology Development - Initial Service Evaluation

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Purpose

The MiNT (Masterclass in Neurotechnology) Academy educational platform facilitates clinical adoption of neurotechnology, supports digital workforce transformation and promotes evidence-based practice.

Launched in 2022, an interdisciplinary team created therapy focussed educational content.

MiNT currently has 1399 UK based users.

One year post-launch, a service review evaluated current activities to help direct future developments.

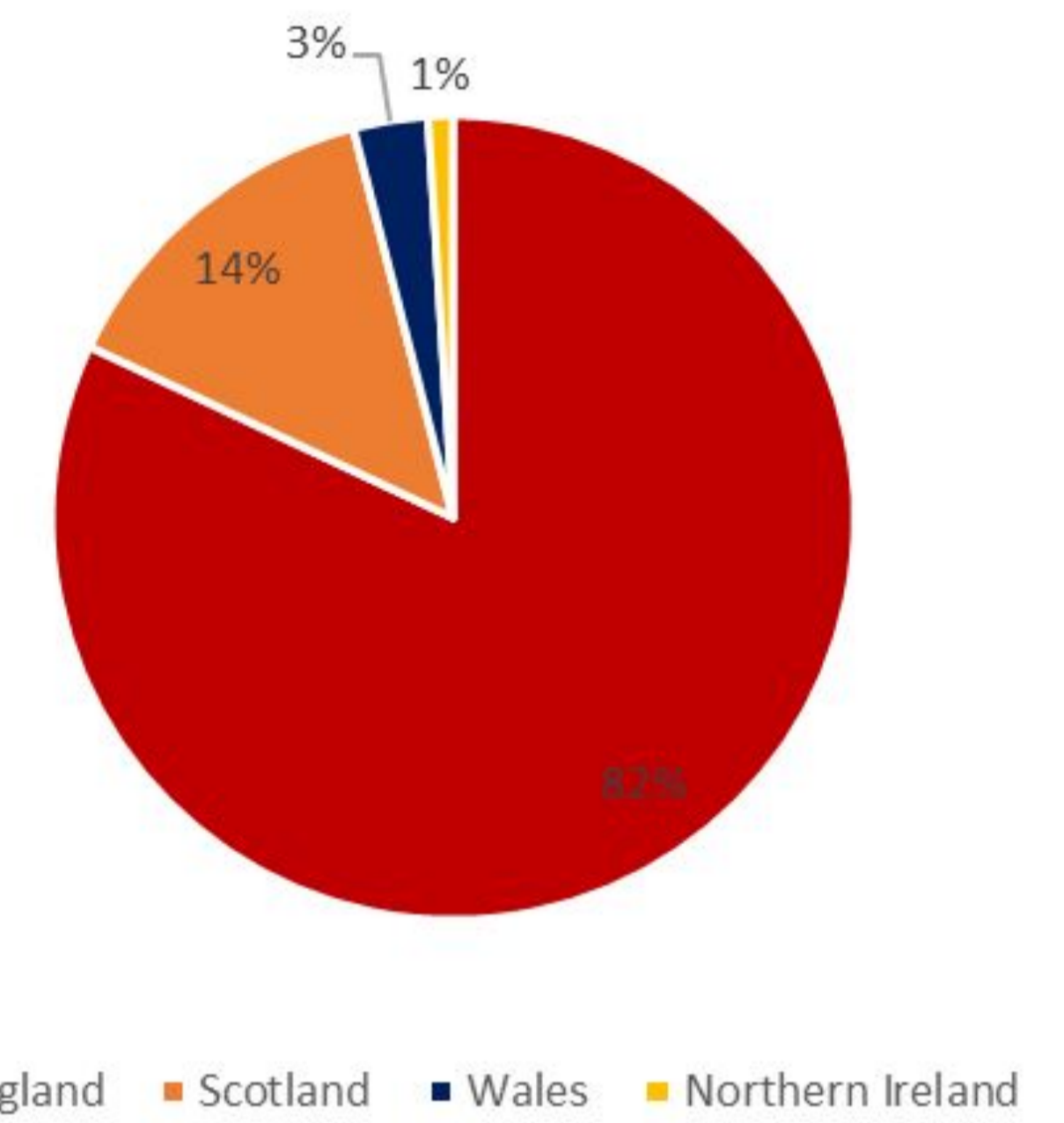


Fig. 1: Geographical split of UK based MiNT users

Method

Three core educational activities were reviewed:

- Completion of a free e-learning module on Neurotechnology Theory ('Level 1 Training')
- In-person Neurotechnology Study Day for pre-registration physiotherapy students
- MiNT UK 2023 Conference, attended by a cross-sector audience

All learners were provided with feedback questionnaires, which were analysed for themes and critical data points.



Fig. 2: Hobbs Rehabilitation presenting at MiNT UK 2023

Results - Part A

316 clinicians registered for Level 1 training

- 16% completed the module
- 100% would recommend to colleagues
- 100% gained 'some' or 'a great deal of' practical knowledge
- The end-of-module test 'did not fully reflect content'



Fig. 3: E-learning training ratings

Results - Part B

97 students from University of West England attended the Neurotechnology Study Day and identified the following common themes:

- 'Informative sessions'
- 'Benefits of hands-on training'
- 'Need more time'
- 'Knowledgeable trainers'



Fig. 4: Neurotechnology Study Day training ratings

Results - Part C

121 delegates attended MiNT UK. The conference 'met expectations' (60% 'strongly agree' / 40% 'agree').

Positive Themes	Negative Themes
Networking opportunities	Content repetition
Knowledgeable speakers	Day length
Content Quality	
Clinical Perspective	

Fig. 5: Themes identified from feedback questionnaire

Suggestions for future included 'hands-on sessions' and 'additional NHS examples'.

IMPACT

MiNT education is well received, however wider implementation will maximise potential. Further data and action is needed to address and target:

- 84% of Level 1 training being incomplete
- Low adoption in Wales and Northern Ireland

MiNT will use feedback to highlight practice relevance, expand networks and increase accessibility. Wider translation of neurotechnology theory into practice will occur as more individuals have positive learning experiences.



Fig. 6: The MiNT Academy clinician teaching students on a Neurotechnology Study Day



Fig. 7: Common themes identified across educational activities, which will be core in future MiNT education

Conclusion

From feedback, the following conclusions are made:

- MiNT topics meet clinical needs
- Elements including the e-learning test require improvement
- Therapists are strong educators, promoting a clinical teaching role
- Sufficient time is a crucial consideration in course planning
- Future events and online forums should continue to aid networking

The MiNT Academy Education is:

"Mind-Expanding"

UWE Student,
Neurotechnology Study Day 2023