



Antiracist Action Opportunities through Intentional Patient Experience Surveying within Inpatient Psychiatry



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BACKGROUND

- ❖ Implicit bias concepts are no longer adequate to address racism within academic medical centers (Calhoun et al., 2021).
- ❖ Antiracism is defined as “a powerful collection of antiracist policies that lead to racial equity and are substantiated by antiracist ideas” (Kendi, 2019).
- ❖ Antiracist actions include institutional missions and values; institutional policies/procedures/norms; racial inequity data; funding and support of antiracism initiatives; decrease burden of change on people of color; share/yield decision-making power; address racism intentionally; teach and expect antiracism practice; mobilize allies to leverage privilege positively (Argueza et al., 2019).
- ❖ Examination of patient experiences within an inpatient psychiatry unit associated with race-based content is important to understand identify opportunities for antiracist actions in care (Sukhera & Palaniyappan, 2021).
- ❖ Inpatient psychiatric care that intentionally attends to patients’ racial identity and addresses experiences of racism is needed (Argueza et al., 2021).

RATIONALE

- ❖ Racism is a pervasive issue in healthcare that is expected to occur within inpatient psychiatric settings.
- ❖ Patient experience surveying can assist with identification of areas dismantling racism within inpatient psychiatry care settings.

METHODS

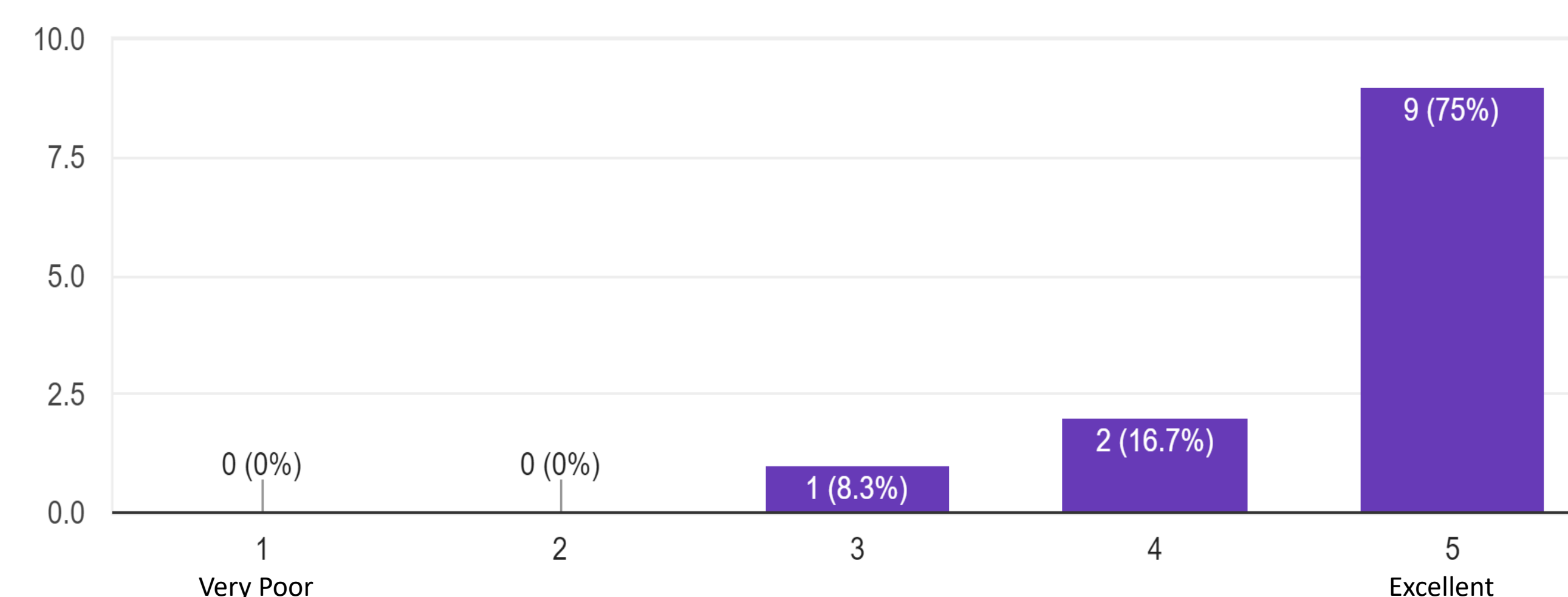
- ❖ Adults (N = 13) admitted to a locked inpatient psychiatric unit completed an anonymous and confidential survey.
- ❖ Google Form or paper form surveys in multiple languages provided between August and December of 2021.
- ❖ The survey was developed and constructed in conjunction with the 2 South Unit Antiracism Task Force at Brigham and Women's Faulkner Hospital.
- ❖ The instrument included self-reported items of demographics, attention to race/ethnicity/culture in care, knowledge of racism, perceptions of discrimination by race, and experience of communicating about race on the unit.

RESULTS

- ❖ The patient population was majority female (61.5%), majority BIPOC-identified (57.3%), and all were between 18-69 years old.
- ❖ Few patients indicated they felt discriminated against due to their race/ethnicity/identity while receiving care on the unit by professional staff (n = 1) or other patients (n = 1).
- ❖ Most patients felt comfortable speaking with professional staff (88.9%) over support staff (44.4%) and other patients (22.2%) about racism on the unit.

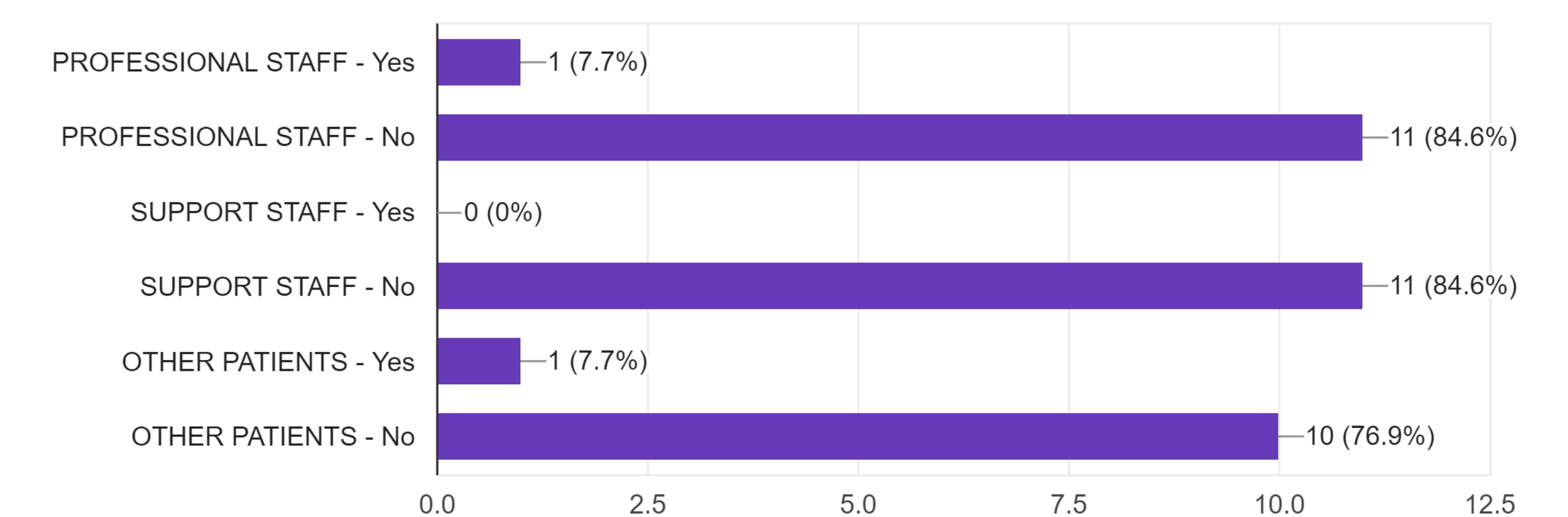
How well was your race, ethnicity, and/or identity addressed in your care?

12 responses



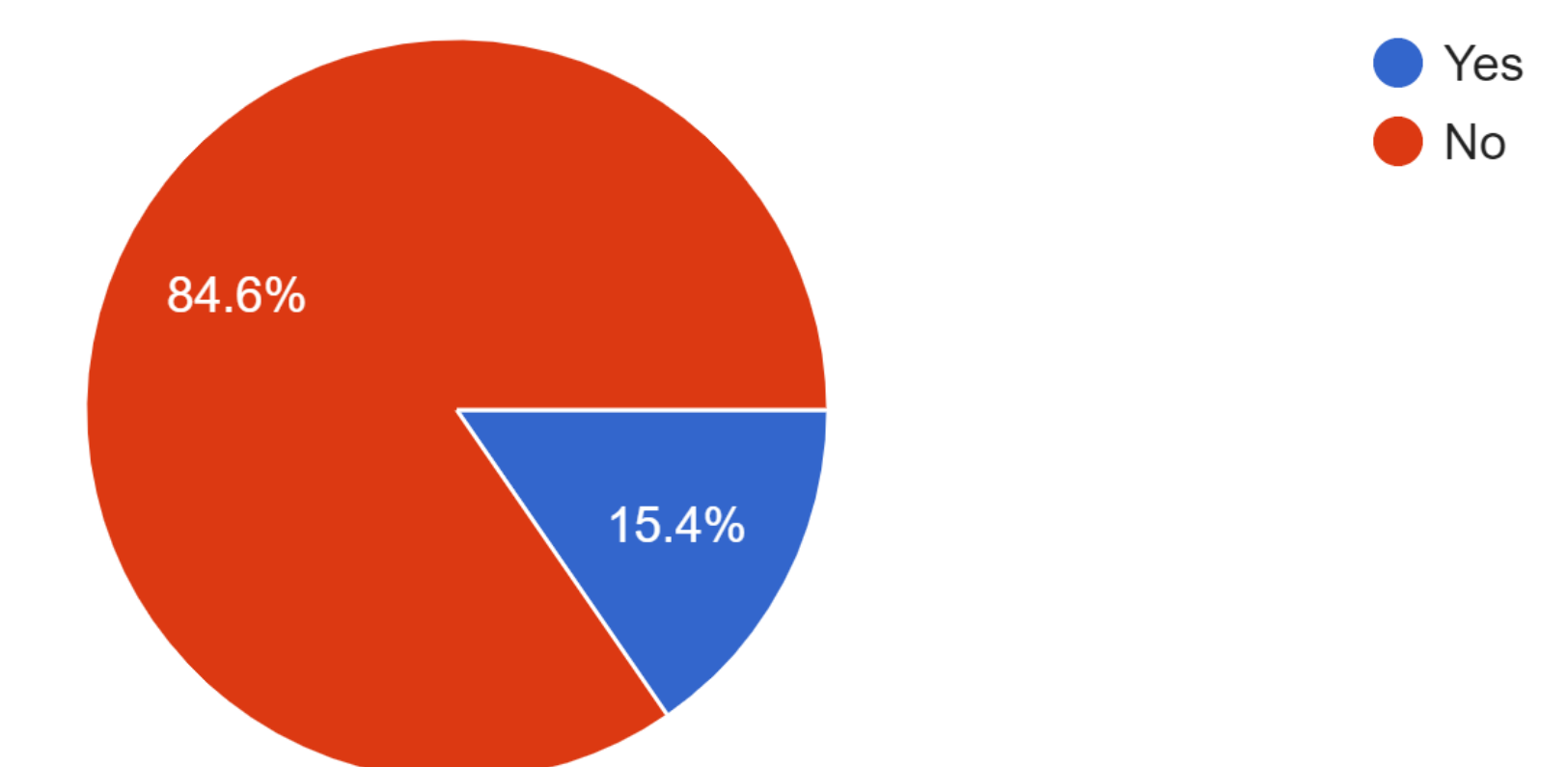
Have you ever felt discriminated against because of your race/ethnicity/identity while receiving care on this unit? (PLEASE SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)

13 responses



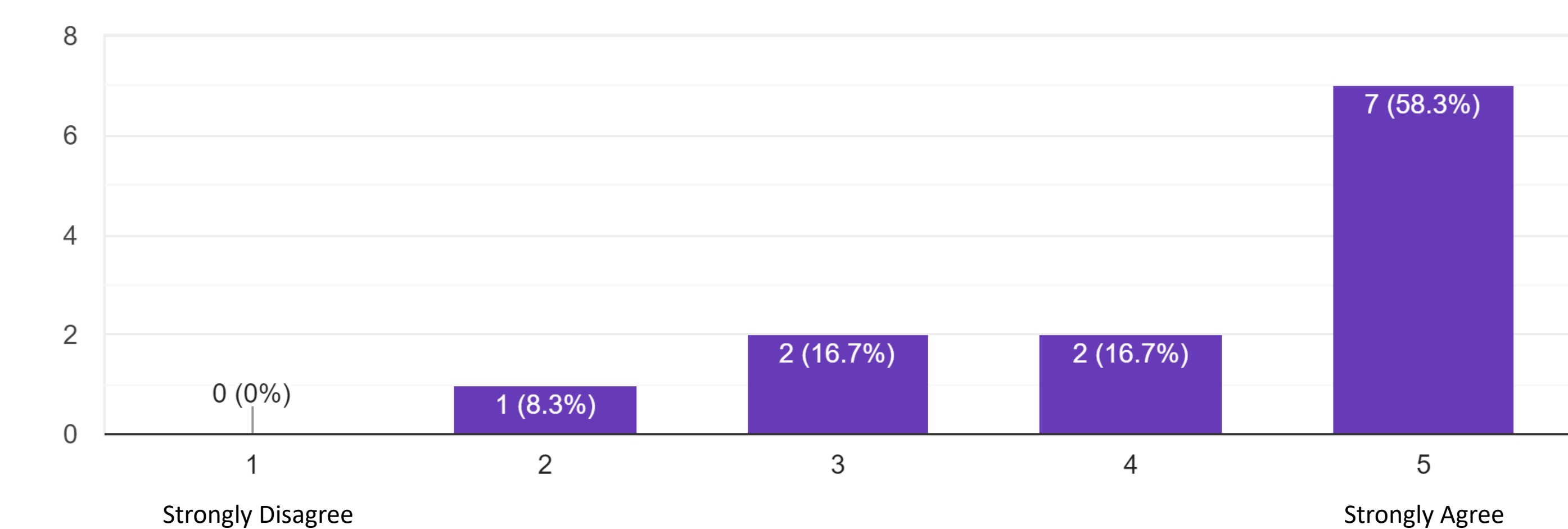
Have you witnessed someone else being discriminated against because of their race/ethnicity/identity while receiving care on this unit?

13 responses



I have been able to voice my opinions or feelings about race/ethnicity/identity on this unit.

12 responses



CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ Intentional actions to discuss patient experiences of racism within inpatient psychiatric care is important.
- ✓ Racism experiences were reported to a limited degree in our small sample yet efforts to respond in antiracist behaviors are needed by health care leaders.