



# Evidence-based practice integration in physiotherapy education: A survey among students in clinical placements

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# Background



- Evidence-based practice (EBP) should be incorporated into health care students' curriculum and training.
- Few studies since the first Sicily statement.

# Aim



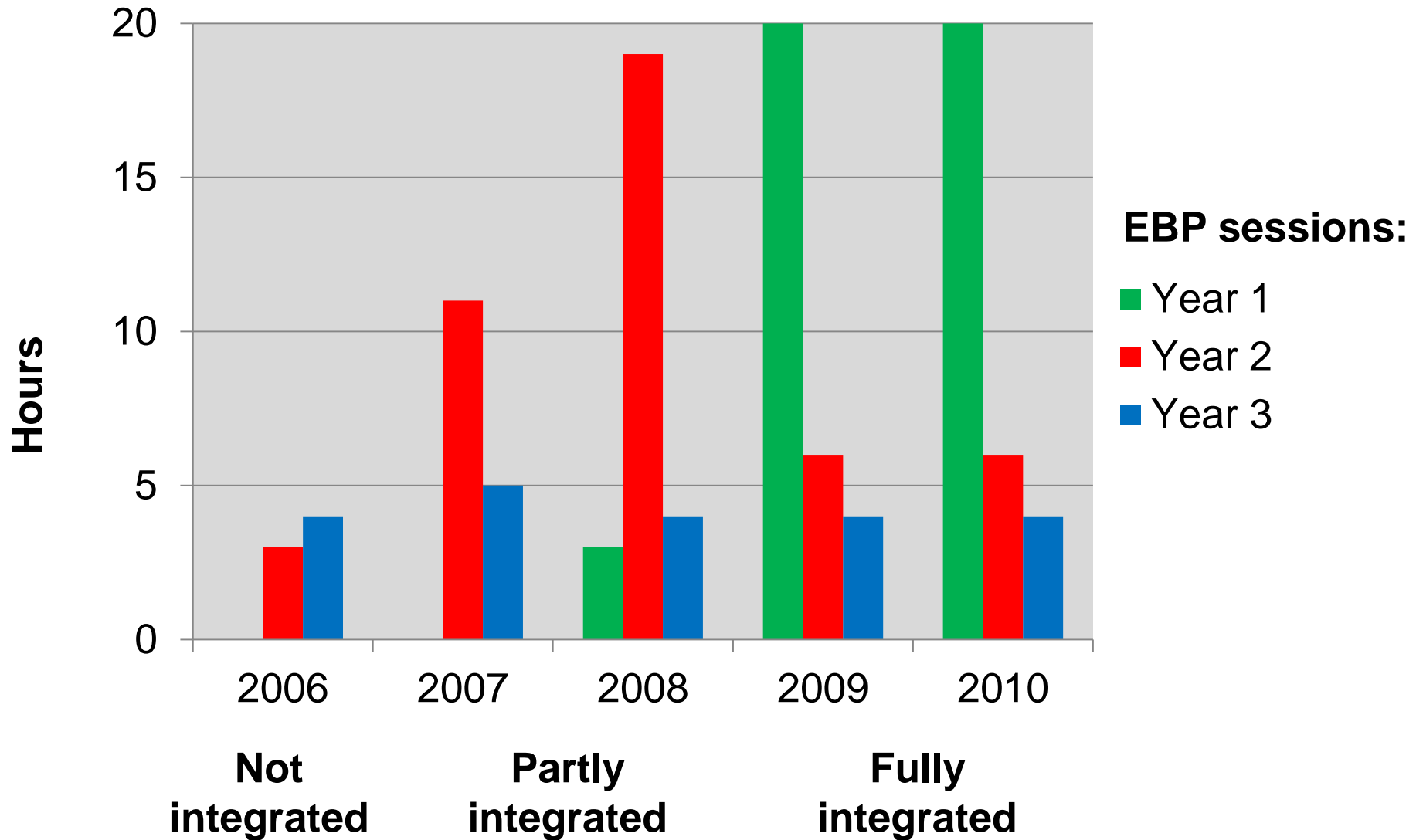
- To investigate if there was an association between the degree of EBP integration in a bachelor program and 3rd year physiotherapy students' self-reported EBP behaviour, abilities and barriers during clinical placements.

# Methods



- A questionnaire-based cross-sectional study.
- Five cohorts with 3rd year students (2006-2010) from a bachelor program in physiotherapy at BUC (n=246).

# The degree of EBP integration



# Questionnaire



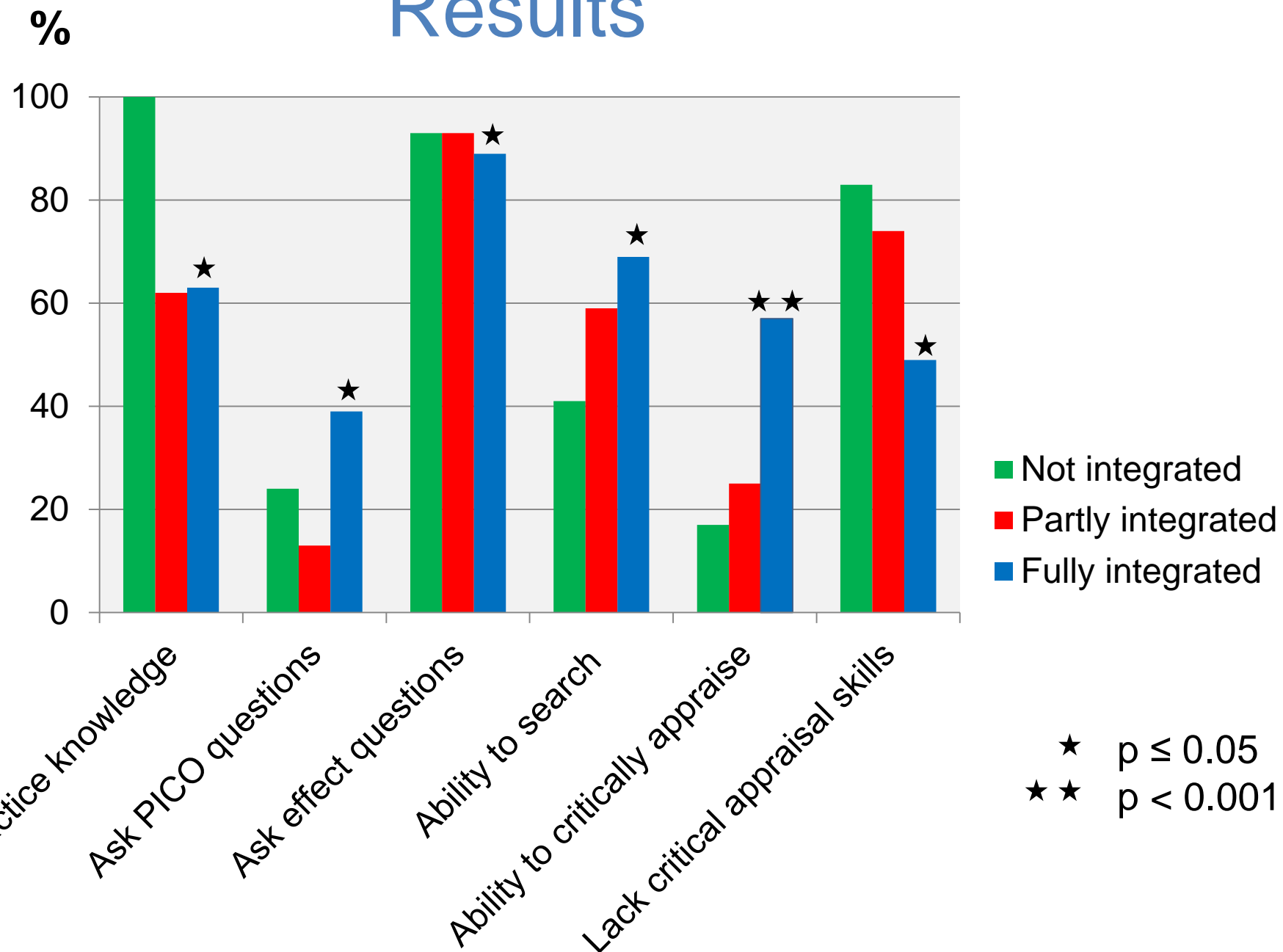
- Section 1: Background data
- Section 2: Related to clinical placement
  - EBP behaviour (25 items)
  - EBP abilities (3 items)
  - EBP barriers (10 items)
  - Number of articles read (2 items)
- Section 3: Comments on the questionnaire (2 items)



# Results

- Response rate of 73 %
- Cronbach's alpha values:
  - 0.69 EBP behaviour and abilities items
  - 0.71 EBP barriers items

# Results





# Results



- The association between EBP integration and essential EBP behaviour was not statistically significant:
  - Use of research evidence
  - Use of checklists
  - Use of evidence to change decisions

# Discussion



- Why limited reports of EBP behaviours?
  - EBP not clinically integrated
  - Lack of time
  - Lack of knowledge in scientific methods
  - Lack of support/role models in EBP



# Limits

- The questionnaire had not been evaluated for reliability and validity.
- The sample in this study was relatively small and from a single-institution.
- Self-report data.

# Bottom line



- The association between EBP integration and essential EBP behaviours was not statistically significant.
- Future strategies must consider:
  - Teaching in clinical setting
  - Support
  - Timing and amount
  - Content and type of teaching approach