

# Medication Management and Adherence in Uganda



BASS CONNECTIONS

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Bass Connections  
Brain & Society Theme



Kampala, Uganda

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Identify gaps in current medication management practices
- Assess medication and overall confidence levels of patients
- Identify barriers that prevent acquisition of and adherence to essential neurologic medications
- Develop new approaches that will increase medication confidence and adherence

**PROJECT SUMMARY:** The aim of this study was to analyze factors that affect the medication management of neurosurgery inpatients at Mulago National Referral Hospital (MNRH), provide suggestions for gap improvement, and attempt to quantify the issues at hand. Initial findings suggest the presence of a number of determinants that impact self-reported confidence levels. Moreover, inability to pay for prescribed medications was identified as the primary barrier to medication acquisition.

## METHODOLOGY

- Used a survey to ascertain the nature of hospitalizations and identify the barriers that prevent the acquisition of medications
- Evaluated subjects' confidence levels with regard to medications and global awareness measures
- Analyzed survey responses and devised process improvement initiatives that will allow patients and families to obtain their medications at lower prices while simultaneously informing them of the importance of medication adherence

## CONCLUSIONS

- Barriers to obtaining medication and confidence in the treatment plan were identified as areas within medication management that can be addressed to improve medication adherence among neurosurgical patients at MNRH
- Our findings will be used to ascertain the efficacy of a number of educational and organizational interventions with respect to adherence
- Promotion of better medication management and adherence practices can improve the overall outcomes of neurosurgical patients at MNRH

## RESULTS

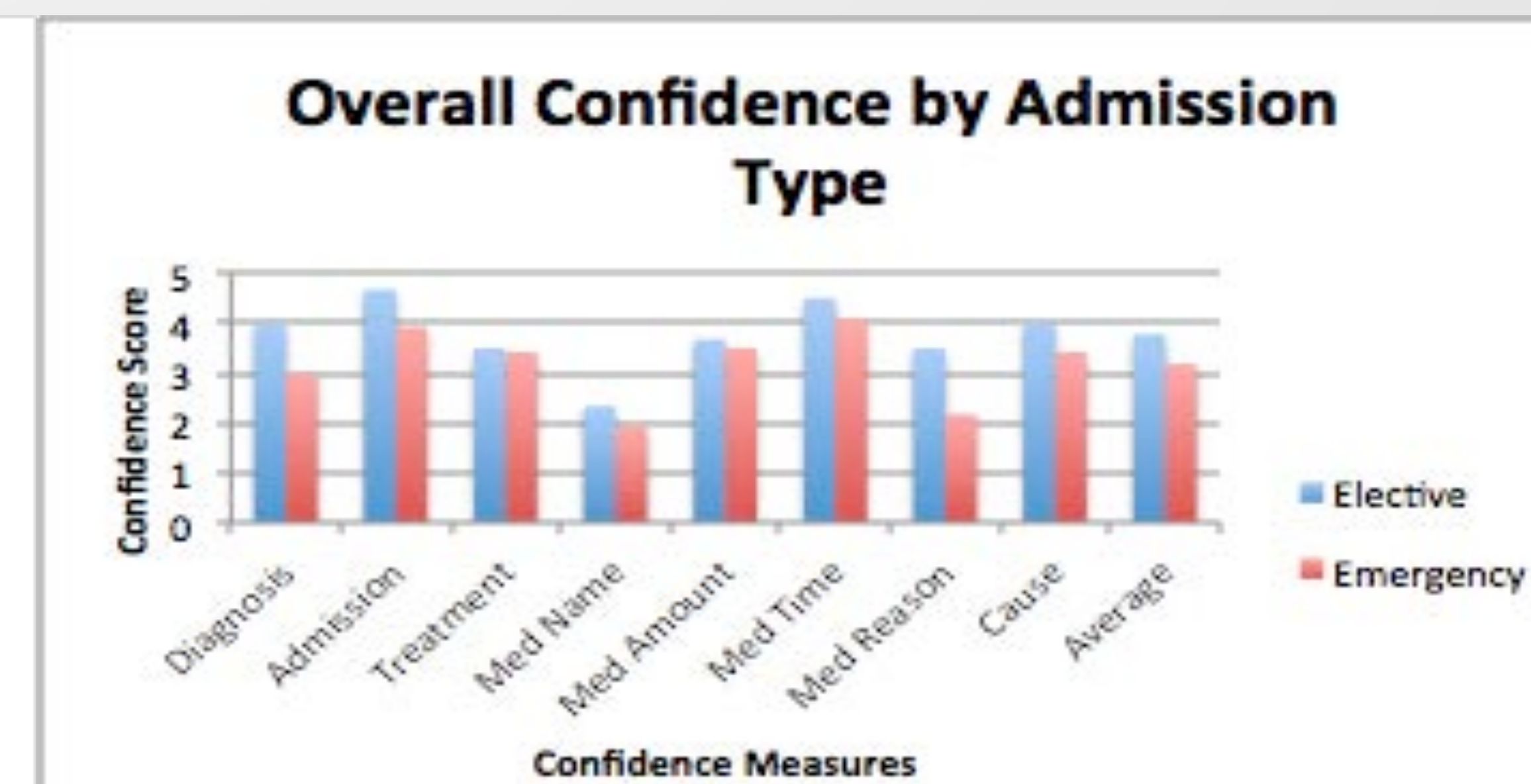
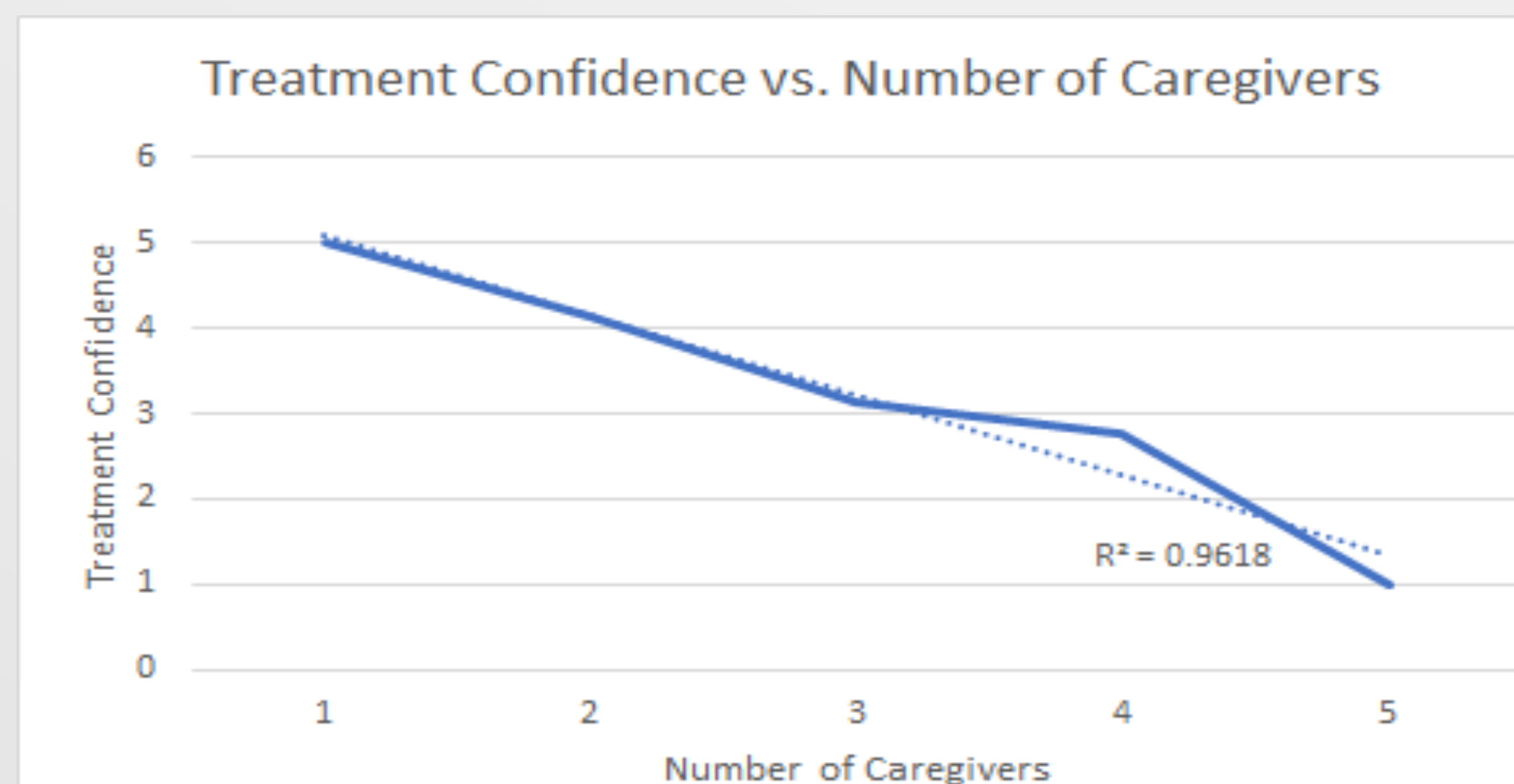
- Increased number of caregivers inversely correlated with confidence in ability to recall the treatment plan
- Most patients are on 4-6 medications, which usually consist of an analgesic, an antibiotic, and an anticonvulsant.
- Overall, emergency patients are less confident than elective patients
- Inability to pay was the most frequently given answer cited by subjects when asked, "What, if anything, inhibited your ability to obtain prescribed medications?"

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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| Class            | Number of Patients | Ratio |
|------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Analgesic        | 13                 | 0.59  |
| Antibiotic       | 10                 | 0.46  |
| Anticonvulsant   | 15                 | 0.68  |
| Antihypertensive | 6                  | 0.27  |
| Other            | 15                 | 0.68  |
| N/A              | 4                  | 0.18  |

Patients per Medication Category  
(Total # of Patients = 22)



Clinical findings and summary of survey results

