





## Pain Assessment Tool

www.showmewherepain.co.uk

# User Perception and Evaluation Survey, January/February 2015

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

## **Background**

- 1. 'Show Me Where™' is a new pain communication tool designed by Irene Hammond, an experienced health professional, for children with autism and speech disabilities.
- 2. 'Show Me Where™' has been used successfully in Special Needs Schools, Clinics and in Hospital environments by alleviating stressful situations such as examination by a clinician, in hospital, at the dentists and doctors' surgeries.
- 3. As part of the policy of continuous product development, a user perception and evaluation survey was conducted with a cross section of individuals who have purchased and are currently using the tool.

#### **Research Method**

4. The research method involved a postal self-completion survey using a semi-structured questionnaire. The questionnaires along with a stamped self addressed envelope were mailed to respondents in early January, 2015 and respondents were allowed four (4) weeks to respond.

#### **Respondent Characteristics**

- 5. The majority of respondents were drawn from the Schools sector with medical clinicians (e.g. Hospital paediatricians, etc) the second largest segment.
- 6. The sample covered the full spectrum of usage time scales from those who have had the tool for some time to relatively recent users.
- 7. Broadly, the respondents dealt with two core categories of communication difficulty autism and complex disability.

# The Key Findings

- 8. The respondents were asked if 'Show Me Where™' makes a positive difference in their dealings with their client. The response was overwhelming 'Yes'. For example:
  - "An excellent tool, changes a consultation where a child is anxious, aloof and disengaged to one where an examination is possible."
     (Consultant Community Paediatrician)
  - "We've had excellent feedback from parents. I've used it with younger children to explore names of parts of the body. It's very versatile."
     (Outreach team Children's Hospice)
  - "Anxiety levels have reduced dramatically since using Show Me Where. It has also helped body awareness and given confidence in communication with carers." (Parent)
- 9. The questionnaire moved on to ask how effective they had found the three versions (book, wall chart and App) of the tool. Again the response was overwhelmingly positive with the wall chart being ranked the most effective and the book and App joint second. Some respondents went on to describe how they used the tools:
  - "Good visual support for pupils with communication difficulties."
     (Head Teacher)
  - "Very good package. Also used for sex education, relationships, first aid and wella being. Adult version would be useful." (Deputy Head Teacher)
  - "Only way children can communicate if feeling unwell. Not exclusively for children but also for Alzheimer sufferers."
     (Learning Support Assistant)
  - "Show Me Where supports history taking by providing useful information about symptoms which would otherwise be unavailable. Impressive results." (Community Paediatrician).

However, one respondent did provide a negative response:

- "If children understand questions they will point. If they don't understand the question the chart is of no use." (Special School Nurse).

- 10. The questionnaire went on to ask if they would recommend 'Show Me Where?' to others. Again the response was overwhelmingly, 'Yes'. Some comments illustrate the respondents' feelings:
  - "I would recommend it for all areas."
     (Senior Staff Nurse, Paediatric Assessment Unit)
  - "Used as intended but also as a teaching tool for parts of the body.
     Adult version will be good for Stroke/Alzheimer sufferers." (Teacher)
  - "Saves time, useful for broad range of children. Used regularly for Doctor rolea play to familiarise children with symbols in a nona stressful situation." (Teacher)
- 11. Finally, the respondents were asked if they would welcome an adult version of 'Show Me Where™' Again, there was a very positive response with the majority answering '**Yes**'.

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