

Teaching Agricultural Medicine to Rural-based Medical Students and General Practice Registrars

Prof Scott Kitchener
Medical Director, QRME
Clinical & Academic Lead Rural Health
Griffith University School of Medicine

Why teach doctors Ag Health

- Farming Australians see their doctor
 - Opportunity for Preventive Health in GP
 - Understanding social circumstances WRT illness and management
- Agriculture is dangerous
 - ~ 1/50 of GP presentations are OHS
 - Under estimate in rural practice
 - CQ – 68.5/1000 males injured yearly

Ag Med teaching?

- Limited dedicated teaching in MBBS
- Very limited or no teaching in GP training
- QRME Rural and Agricultural Medicine
 - Qld Rural Medical Longlook program
 - Rural Prevocational GP Placement program
 - QRME GP training program

**Vertical integration of
Rural Medical
Education at QRME**

**Recruited 47 new
Rural medicine
Registrars for 2012**

**Placing >150
Rural registrars
annually**

**Producing
~ 70 FTE in rural
practices**

Medical Students

Interns
(Preregistration training)

Residents
(Prevocational training)

Registrars
(Vocational training)

Senior Registrars
(Advanced Rural Skills)

Specialist Rural Practitioners
(Post-Fellowship training)

Vertical integration of Rural Medical Education at QRME

Approximately
half of QRME
Registrars are
ACRRM

~20% are in
advanced training
in any year

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Vertical integration of Rural Medical Education at QRME

Prevocational General Practice Placement Program

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Vertical integration of Rural Medical Education at QRME

Medical Students

Interns

(Preregistration training)

**Griffith and UQ 3rd year
longitudinal
placements**

Residents

(Prevocational training)

**Griffith 4th year
placements**

Registrars

(Vocational training)

Senior Registrars

(Advanced Rural Skills)

Specialist Rural Practitioners

(Post-Fellowship training)

Rural and Agricultural Medicine lecture series – by year

Prof Scott Kitchener
Clinical and Academic Lead, Rural
Health
Griffith University Centre for Oral
Health and Medicine

Learning objectives

- Introduction to Rural and Agricultural Medicine
 - Define Rural and Agricultural Medicine
 - Appreciate the epidemiology of Rural Australians and agricultural communities
 - Understand the nature of health care in Rural Australia including briefly discussing current issues
 - Outline of further lectures
 - Brief outline of QRMLP and training pathways to Rural Medicine
 - Agricultural health and medicine

Learning objectives

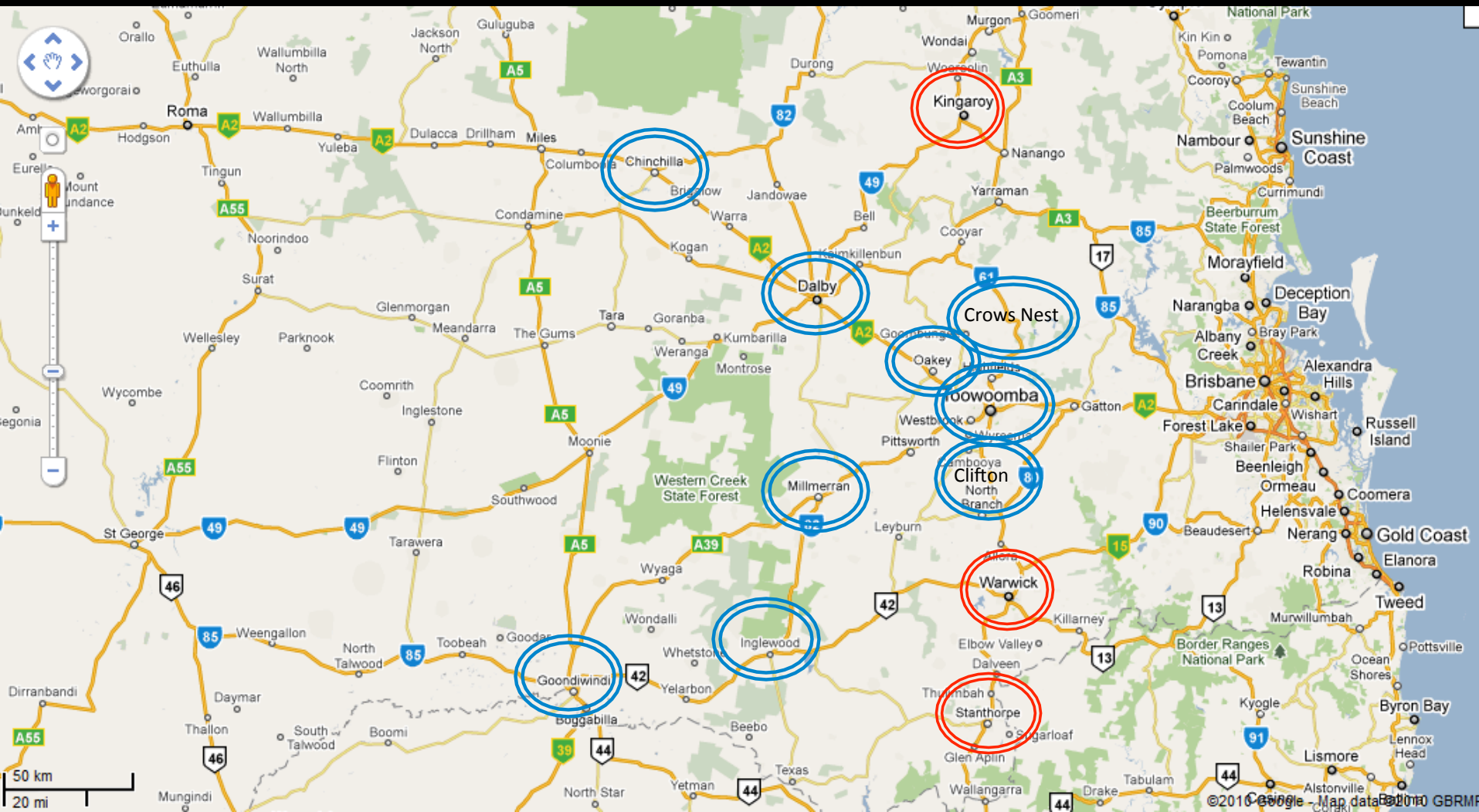
- Rural Medicine in practice
 - Social issues of rural and agricultural health
 - Contemporary issues in Rural Medicine & health care delivery
 - Cancer in Rural Australia – agricultural exposures
 - Rural Mental Health – influence of ag industry
 - QRMLP

Learning objectives

- Introduction to Agricultural Medicine
 - Issues for Rural doctors in practice
 - Agricultural occupational health and safety
 - Clinical agricultural medicine
 - Zoonoses
 - Agricultural Respiratory disease
 - Preventive health in rural generalist practice
 - Training pathways to Rural Medical practice
 - The Rural Generalist Pathway

Longlook Placements

Longitudinal placements in agricultural communities



Australian General Practice Training (AGPT) Program

Workshops

Placement

Year One

Hospital-based

Preparatory workshop

Year Two

Orientation workshop

QRMe-learning
+ local group meeting

Agricultural H&M

Practice-based

Year Three

Rural Medicine Advanced
Research project

Clinical R&A Medicine

Practice-based

Exam prep

Year Four

Note: Fourth year is
for FACRRM & FARGP
candidates

Advanced Rural Skill Training in Ag. Health
AND/OR

Advanced Skill Training in Pop. Health

* Credit given for AGPT training already undertaken towards one Fellowship, prior to undertaking a second or third Fellowship

† Can be achieved in dual accredited practices or posts

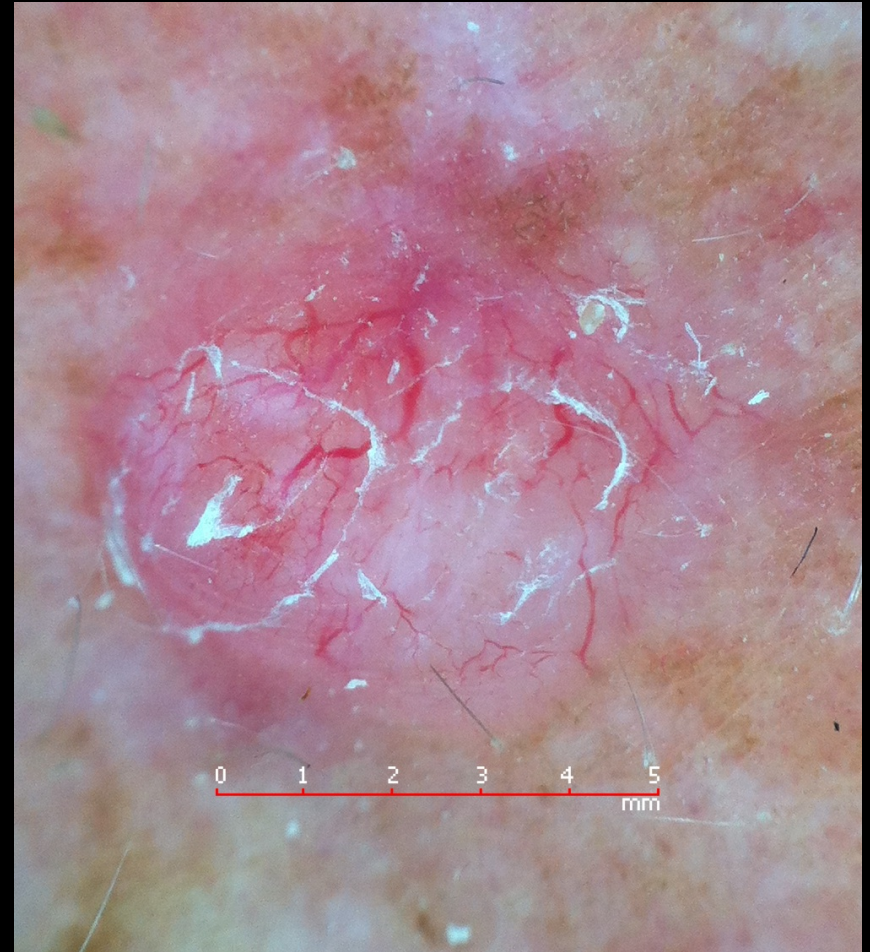
Orientation to R&A practice (January)

- Context of practice
- Population health
- Cultural competence in R&A communities
- Mental health training for R&A practice



Agricultural Medicine Teaching (July)

- Epi of Ag Health issues
- Physical OHS and EH on farms
- R&A mental health
- Rural cancers
- Respiratory disease of agriculture
- Australian zoonoses
- Skin cancer!!!



Multiple teaching modes

- Lectures
- Small group discussions
- Case discussions
- Interviews
- QRMe-learning linked resources
- Lecture notes provided online

Textbook drafted

Field day



Large machinery

- Specific dangers of common farming larger equipment,
- Relevance and maintenance of safety fittings.
- Specific injuries discussed are related to quad bike and tractor roll-overs, tractor power-take offs, limb injuries from augurs and silo falls.





The workshop

- Smaller equipment and fencing safety
- Chemicals storage exposure and hazards
- Personal protection use
- Proximity of the family environment





The sheering shed

- Sheep drafted
- Shearing both mechanical and hand sheers with and without a sling.
- Ergonomics, physical hazards.
- Larger animal handling in yards with horses.







At the yards

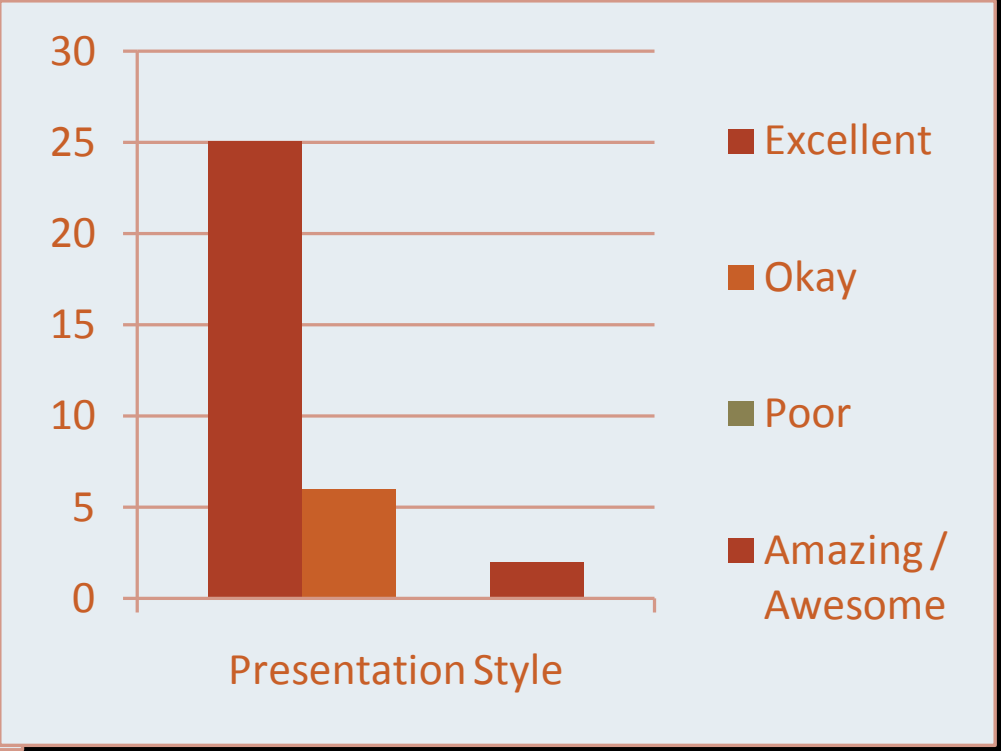
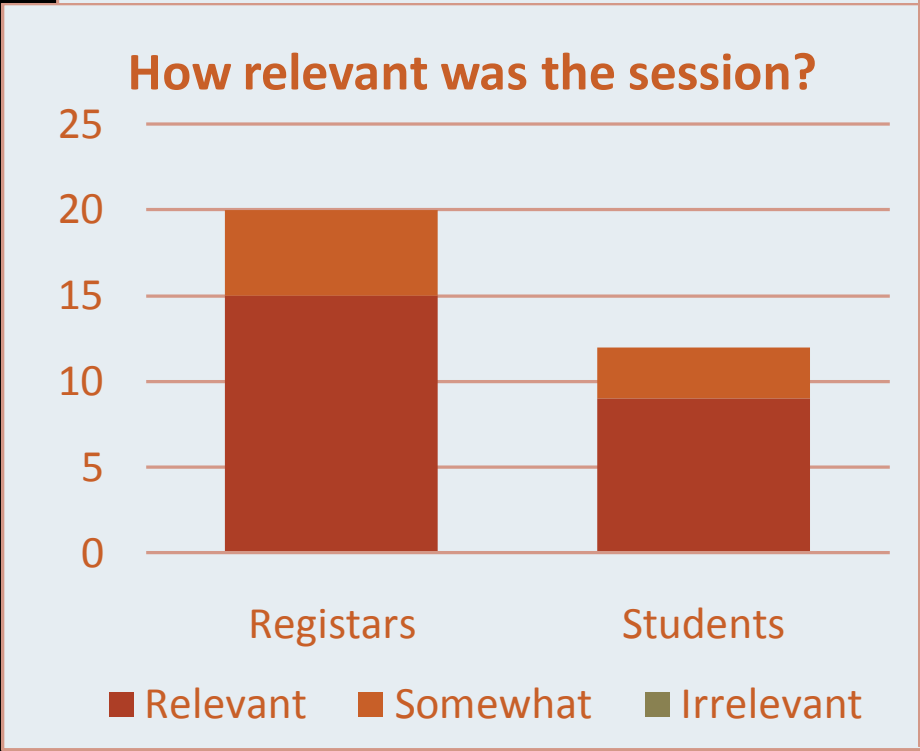
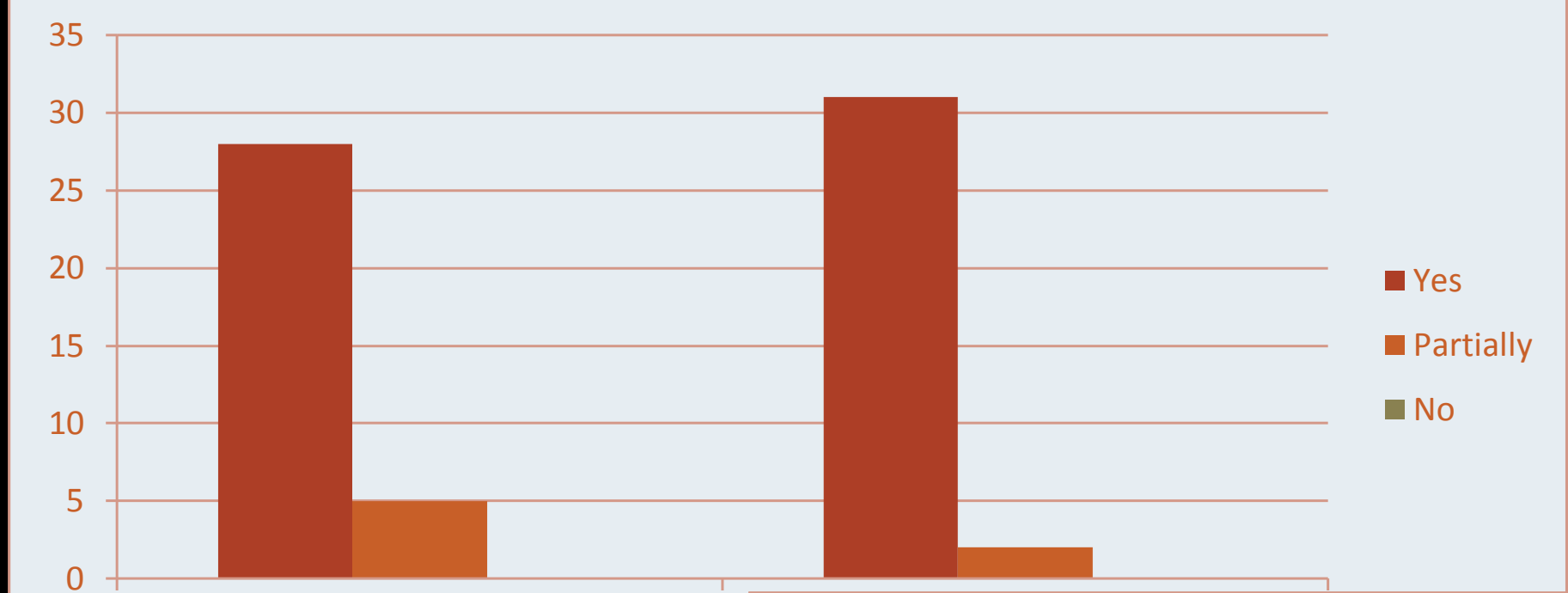
- Respiratory hazards from dust
- Cattle drafting into a crush for drenching.
- Timber and metal gates.

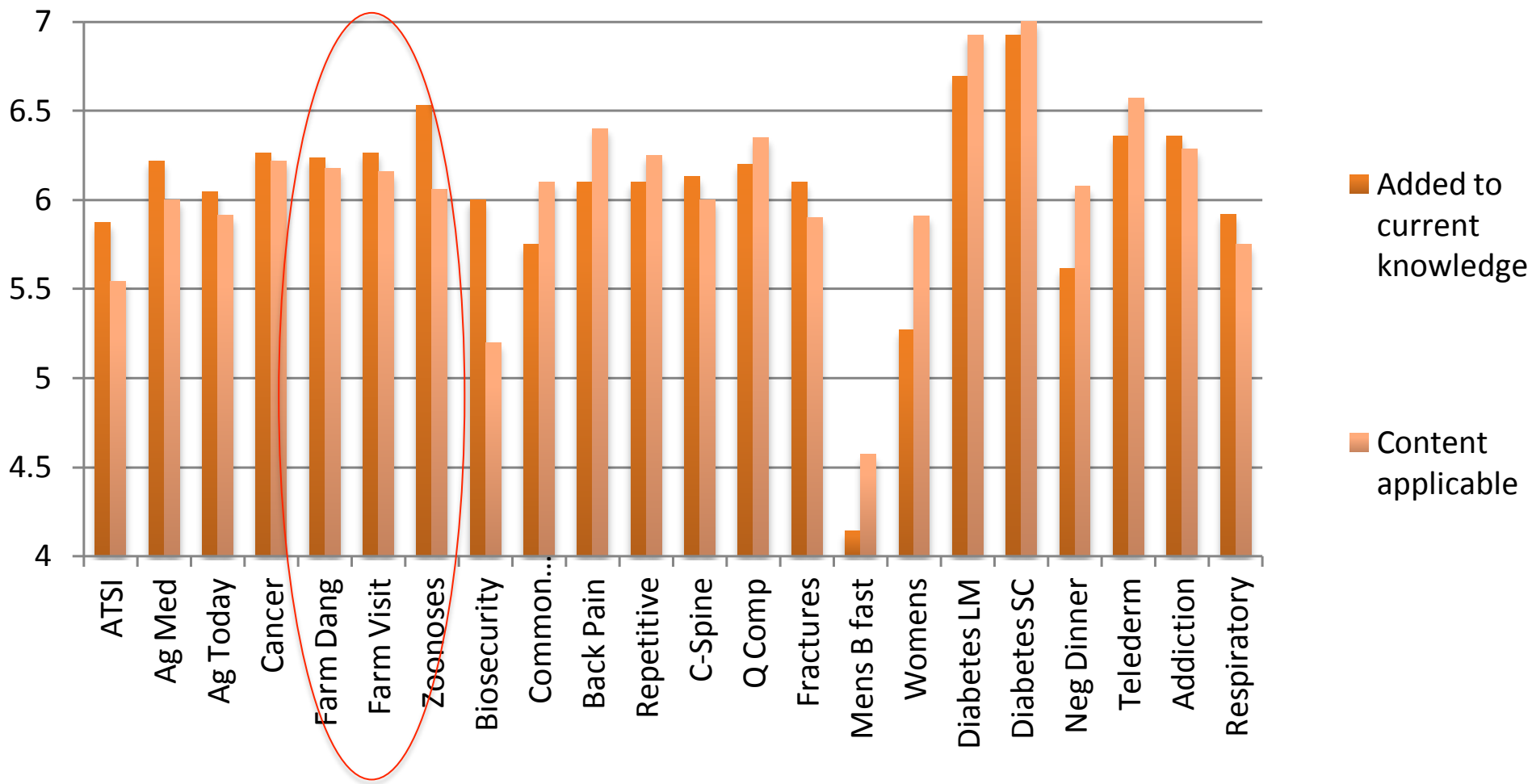




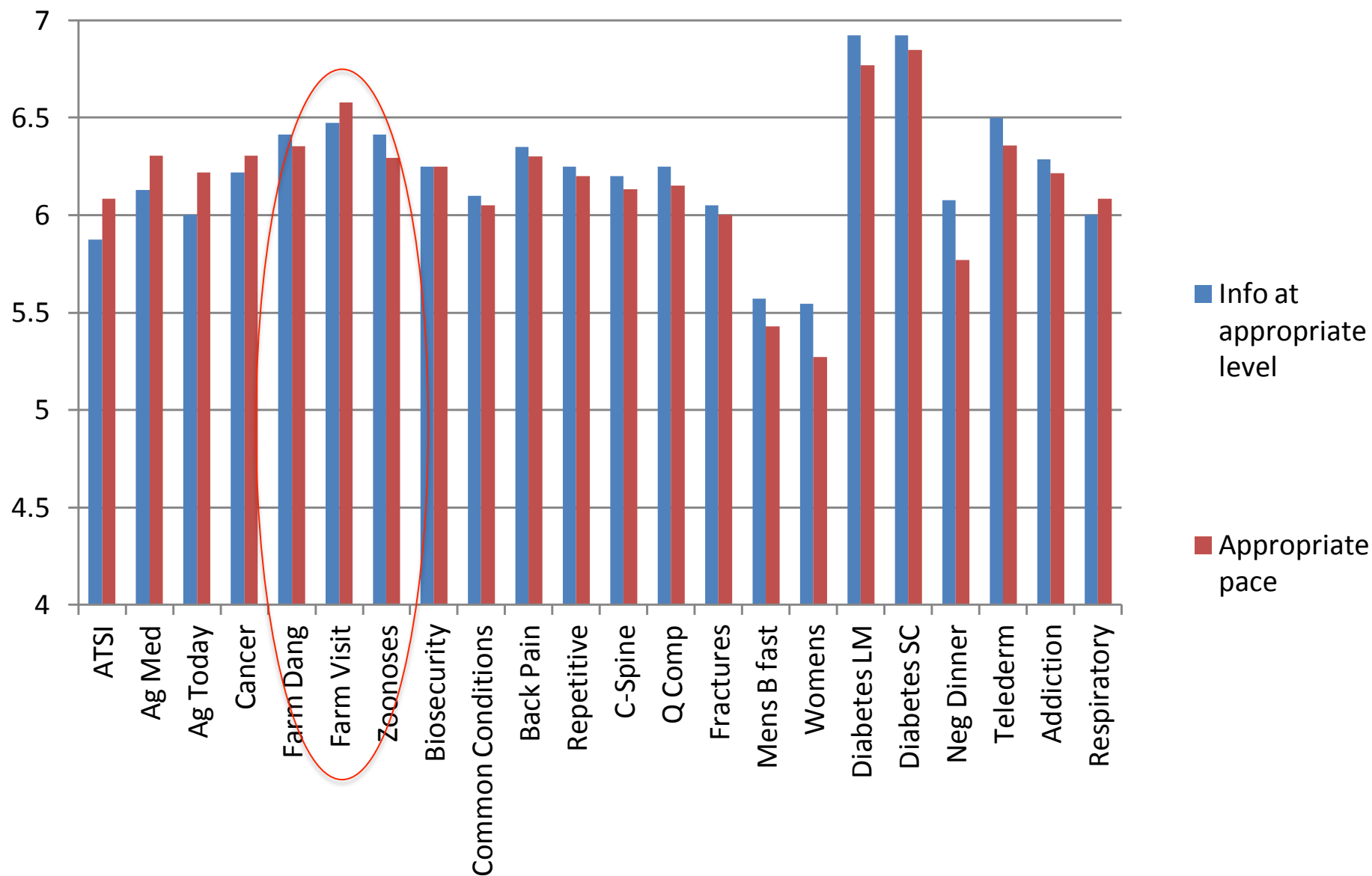
Farmers unplugged

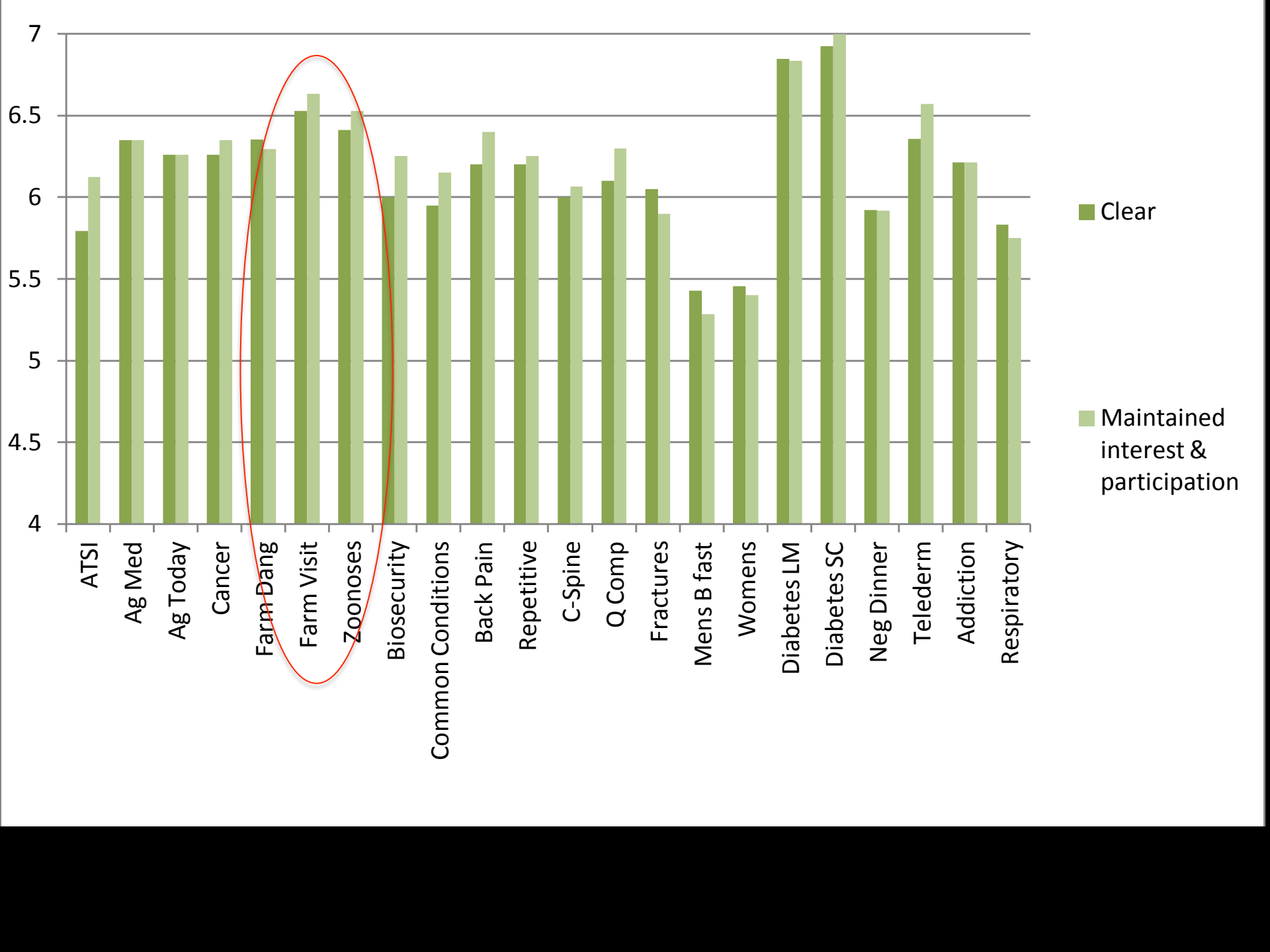


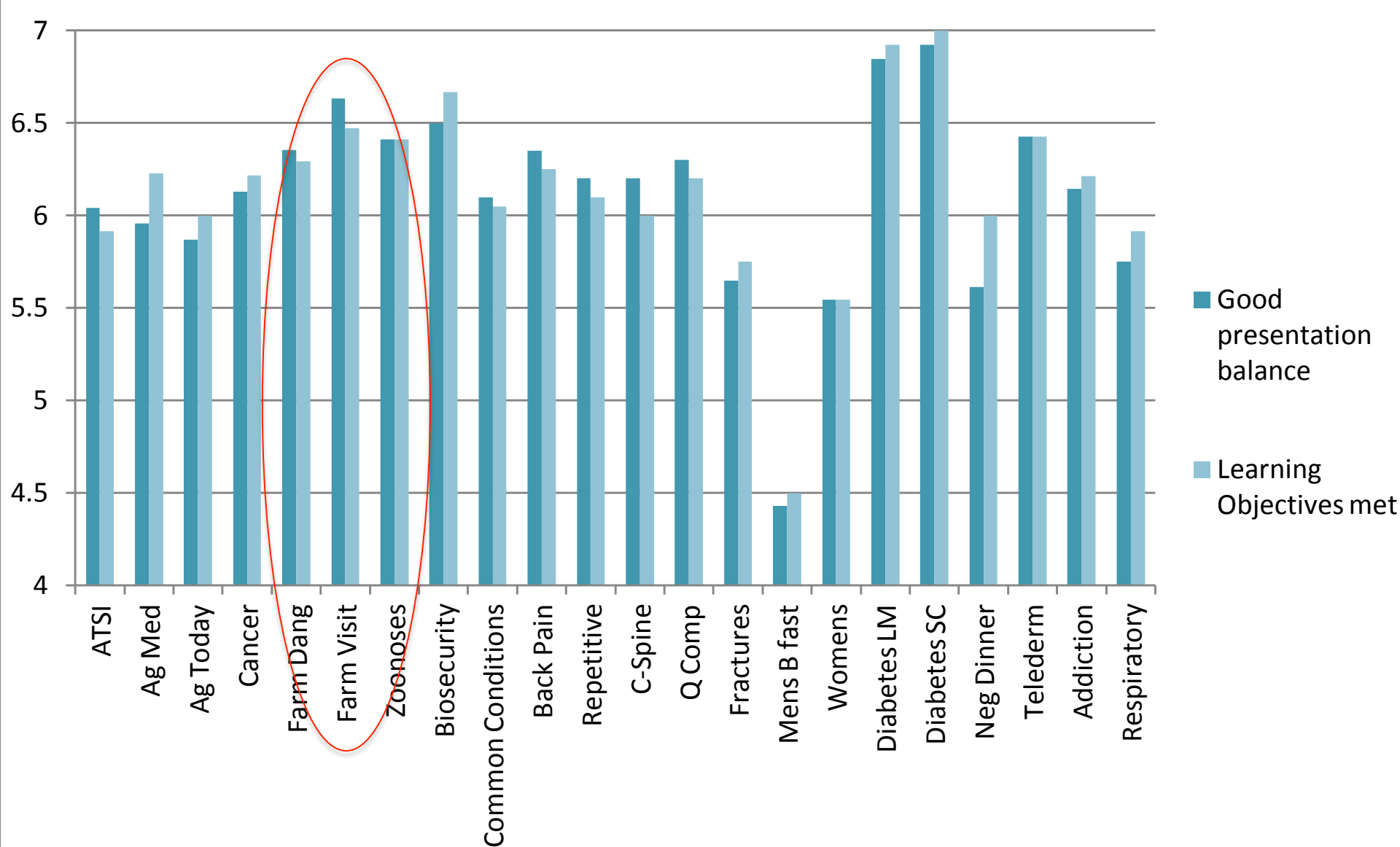




Toowoomba Registrar Education Release June 2012







Content issues

- Breadth of farming demonstrated
 - No broad acre cropping,
 - No horticulture,
 - No aquaculture
- Visiting abattoirs, sale yards



Cultural competency issues



- How do you teach the extremes of R&A culture?

Issues – possible expansion



- More experiences
 - Quad bike safety
 - Operating machinery
- Incorporating more teaching
 - Emergency scenarios onsite
 - More experience speaking with farmers

Any questions?

