

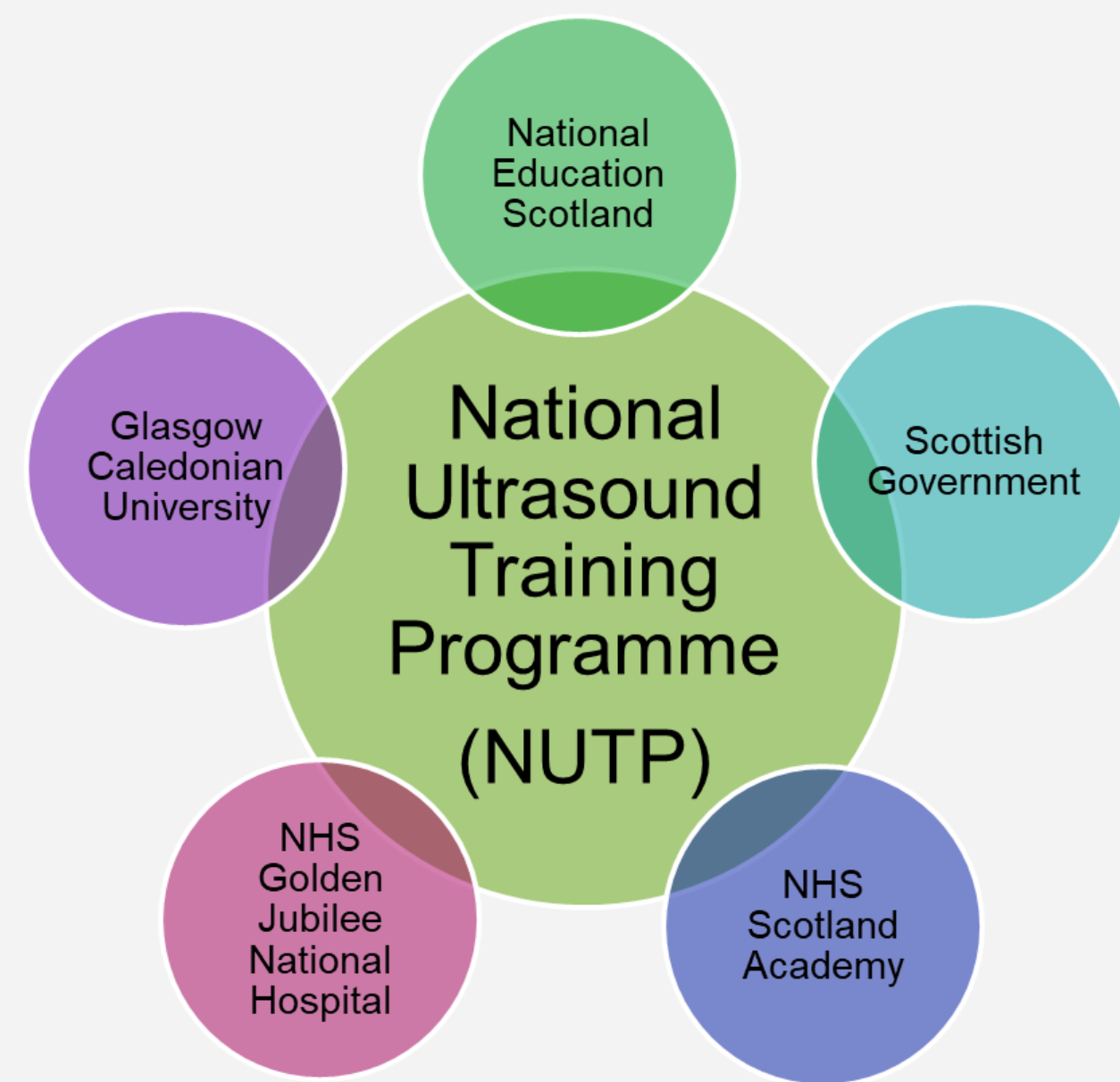
Postgraduate student perceptions and experiences of academy model clinical ultrasound training in Scotland

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1. Background

The National Ultrasound Training programme (NUPT) is a new initiative based within the NHS Scotland Academy to support clinical ultrasound training and boost training numbers in response to workforce decline and increased demand on service. NHS Scotland Health boards are being supported for funding of trainees from Scottish Government directed by the NHS Recovery Plan 2021-2026¹. Clinical training is a key component in the development of ultrasound competency and is heavily supported by NHS board clinical staff in their role as mentor/practice educator.



Supporting NHS Scotland to Re-mobilise, Recover, and Redesign

This study will explore the perceptions and experiences of the first cohort of students who attended clinical training within the NUTP.

[Identifying potential opportunities and challenges will provide evidence-based recommendation for future enhancements.](#)

2. Study Aims



Overall Aim

To explore postgraduate medical Ultrasound student and mentor perceptions and experiences of academy model clinical ultrasound training in Scotland.



Primary Objective

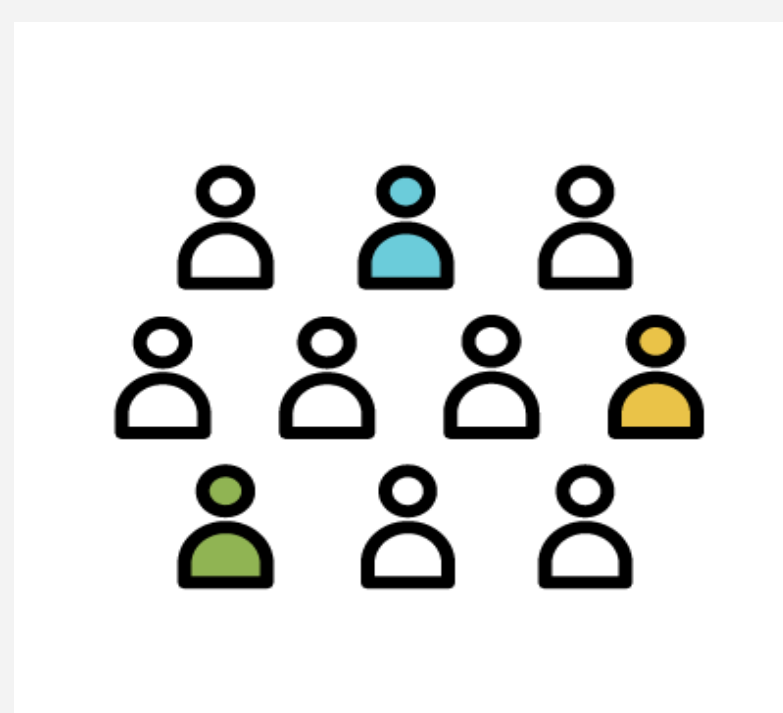
What are current student and mentor perceptions and experiences of the National Ultrasound Training Programme in Scotland?



Secondary Objective

What recommendations can be made to enhance the National Ultrasound Training Programme approach in supporting high-quality ultrasound training?

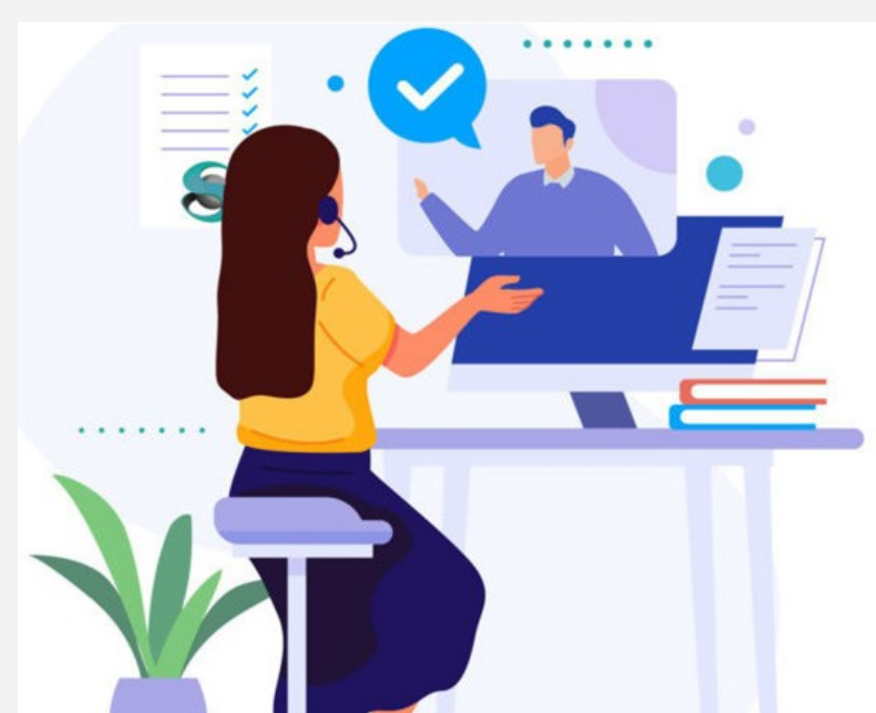
3. Methods



Population & recruitment

Scottish Health board Ultrasound trainees who attending the NUTP for part of their clinical training.

Institutional Ethical approval: HLS/PSWAHS/21/213 to recruit via virtual learning environment.

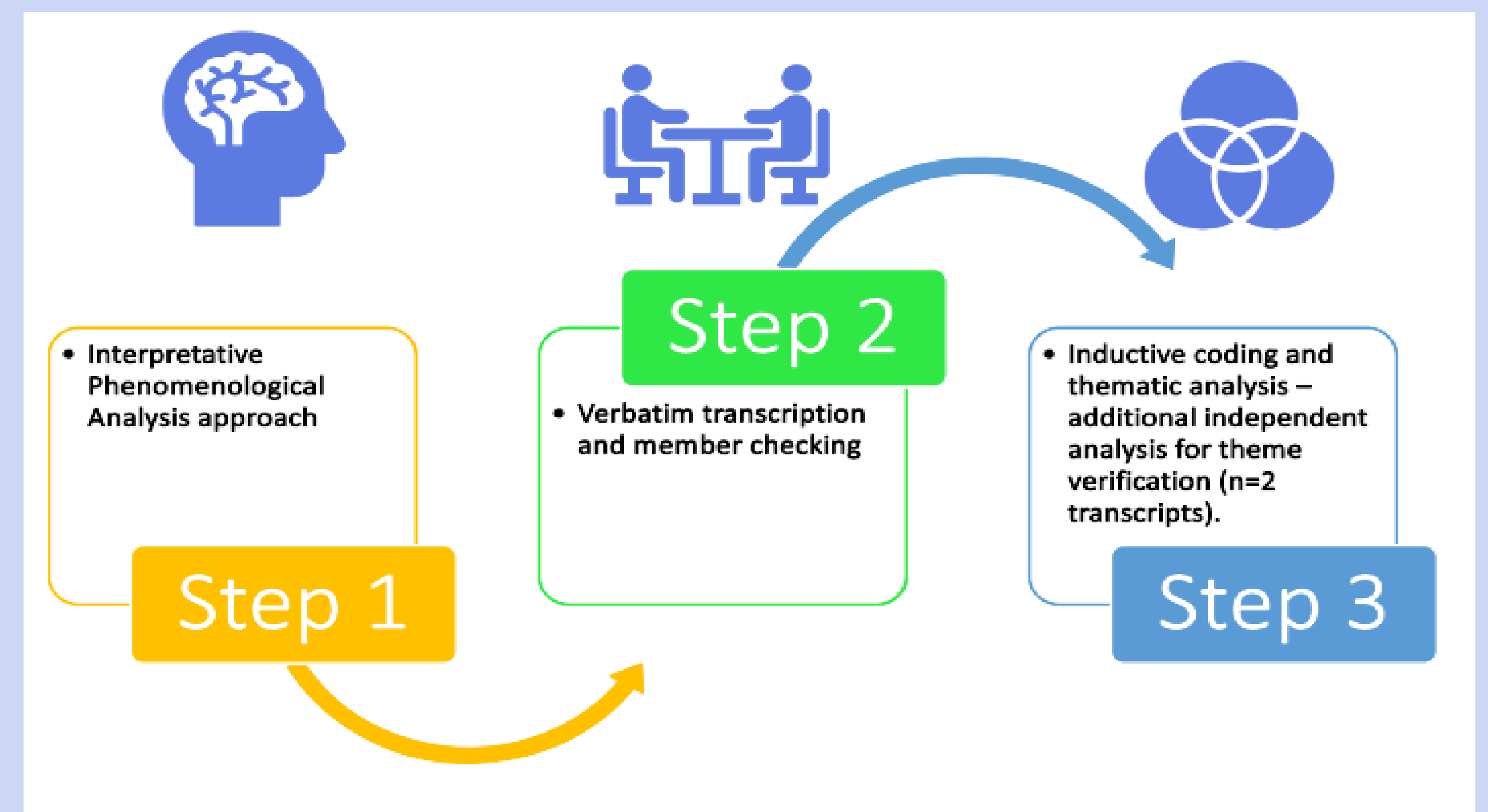


Data collection:

5 trainees from 3 Scottish Health Boards were Recruited.

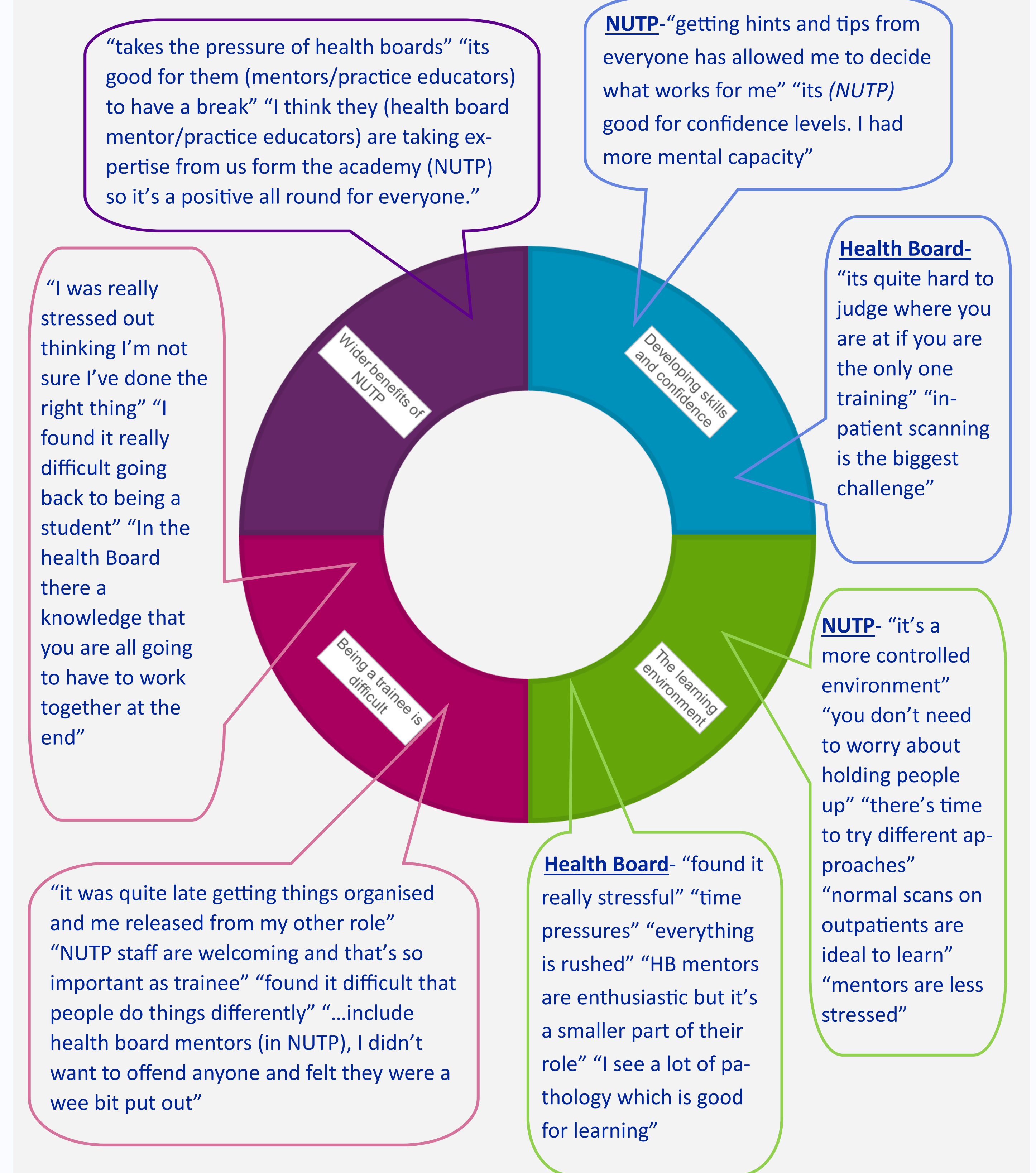
1-2-1 semi-structured video-based interview.

4. Data Analysis



Four themes identified relating to Health Board and NUTP training with exemplar quotes.

5. Themes



7. Recommendations

First study to provide evidence-based recommendations based on student experiences.

As an adjunct to Health Board training, the NUTP should be made available to all Scottish Health board trainees:

- To provide dedicated training lists
- To support a positive learning environment
- To support development of skills and confidence



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