

CHALLENGES IN CONDUCTING PAEDIATRIC CLINICAL TRIALS: LESSONS FROM HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS' EXPERIENCES

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INTRODUCTION

- Paediatric clinical trials are essential for developing evidence-based treatments tailored to children's needs
- Their implementation is often limited by ethical, logistical, and communication challenges
- Understanding the perspectives of healthcare providers (HCPs) involved in such trials is critical
- HCP insights can help improve trial design, patient recruitment, and retention

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

- To explore attitudes of healthcare professionals (physicians and hospital pharmacists) towards paediatric clinical trials
- To identify main barriers encountered in practice

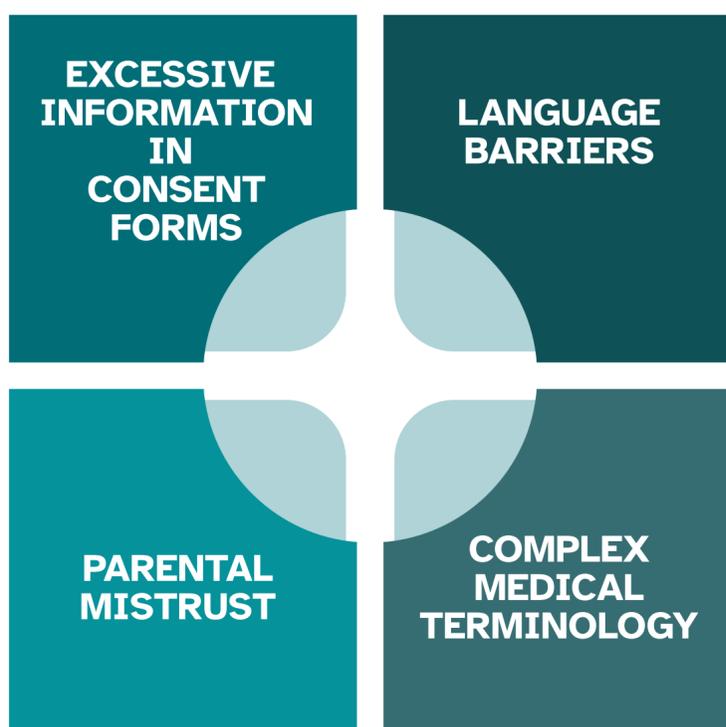
MATERIAL AND METHODS

- Semi-structured qualitative interviews with 7 HCPs
- Participants affiliated with a university hospital in Plovdiv, Bulgaria
- Focus on perceived challenges, ethical concerns, and improvement recommendations
- Data analysed using thematic analysis

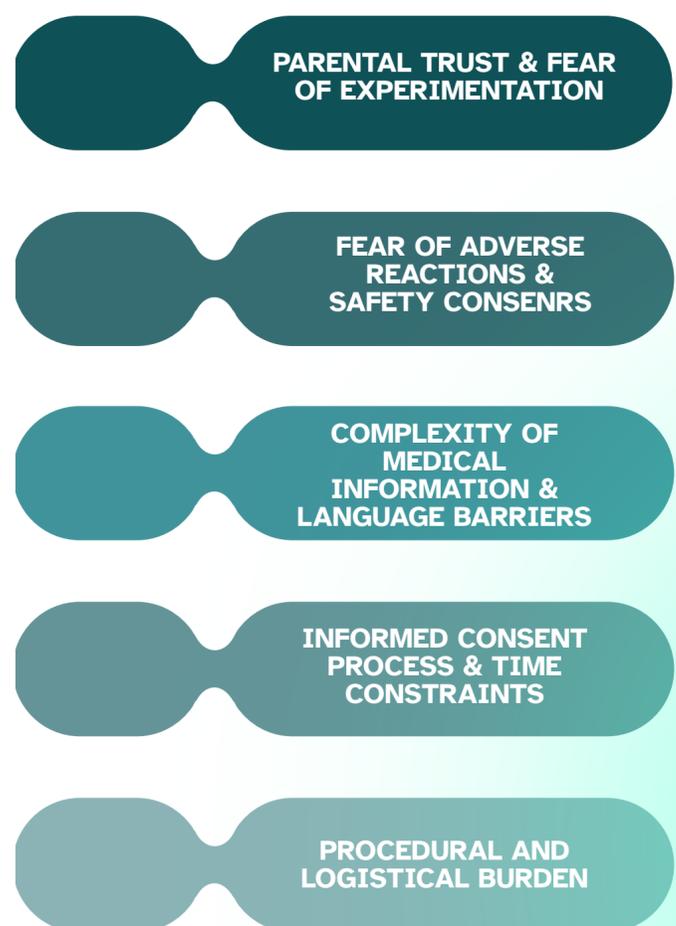
RESULTS

- HCPs highlighted parental trust and safety concerns as the most significant barriers to paediatric clinical trial feasibility, followed by challenges related to informed consent, communication, and logistical burden.

KEY CHALLENGES IN OBTAINING INFORMED CONSENT



PERCEIVED IMPACT OF KEY BARRIERS ON PAEDIATRICS TRIAL FEASIBILITY



CONCLUSION



HCP recognise the value of paediatric clinical trials but report key challenges related to parental trust, ethical concerns, and trial logistics. Simplified communication, family-centred trial designs, and transparent collaboration may enhance participation, trial feasibility, and overall research quality.