

# Education of instructors of a physical activity program for cancer patients and survivors: planning and evaluation of a poster presentation session



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## Highlights

- > Raviva: A Belgian physical activity (PA) program for people with cancer and/or cancer survivors
- > Purpose: To describe and evaluate an interactive poster presentation session aiming to train the instructors of Raviva
- > Results: All participants found the method interesting; they considered that adequate topics were addressed and that they could share some experiences with their peers; however, some problems of timing and organization were pointed out

#### Introduction

➤ Raviva: Belgian PA program for cancer patients and survivors (Fondation contre le Cancer – www.cancer.be)

#### > Raviva instructors:

- ✓ Inconstant professional preparation and experiences
- ✓ No compulsory specific training programs such those proposed by the ACSM (Schmitz et al., 2010)
- ✓ Are interested in the participation in a specific training day
- ✓ Are interested in the participation in discussion groups and experience sharing with peers (Rompen, Korycki & Cloes, 2015)
- ✓ Importance of interacting with colleagues (Erickson et al., 2008)

### > Raviva's project:

- ✓ Organization of a training day for its instructors
- ✓ Request of collaboration with SIGAPS ULg

# Purpose

- > To describe and evaluate an interactive poster presentation session implemented during the training
- To identify good practices focusing on psycho-emotional aspects within Raviva groups

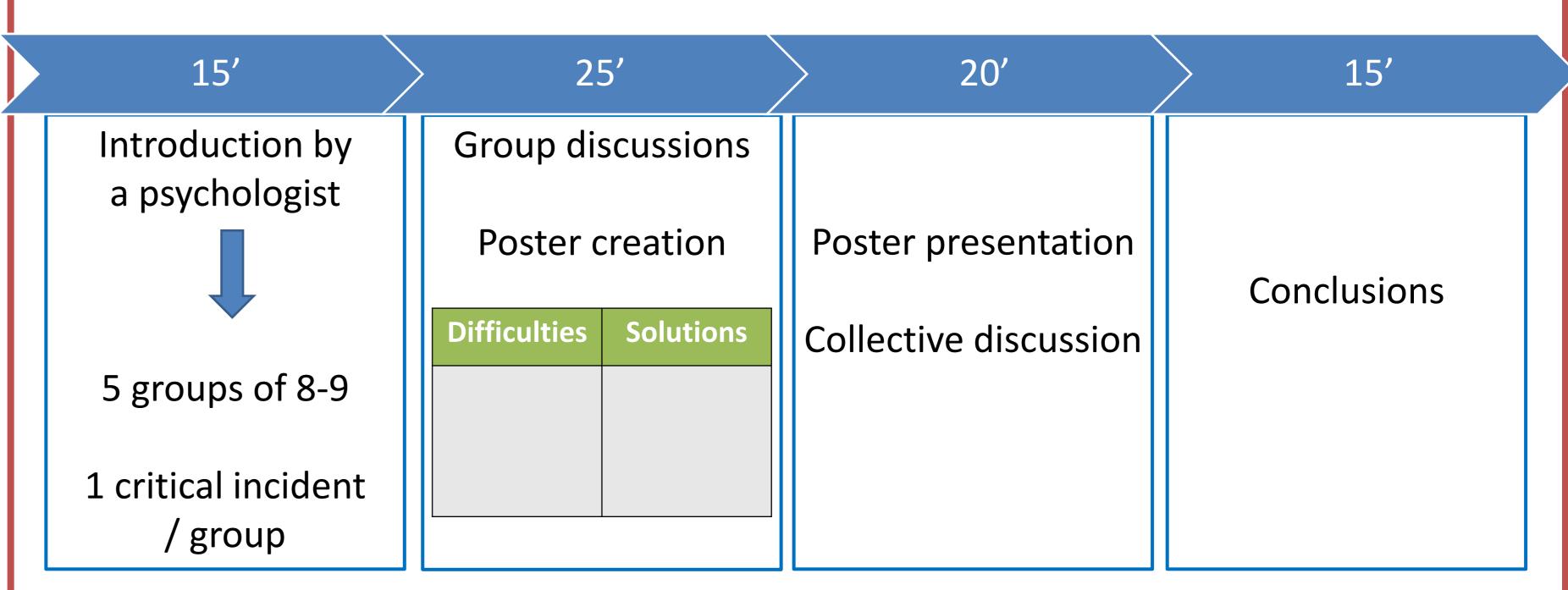
### Methods

#### > Training day

- ✓ General and theoretical information, practical PA sessions and an interactive poster presentation session
- ✓ Subjects: 41 Raviva instructors and 2 PE students

#### > Poster presentation session:

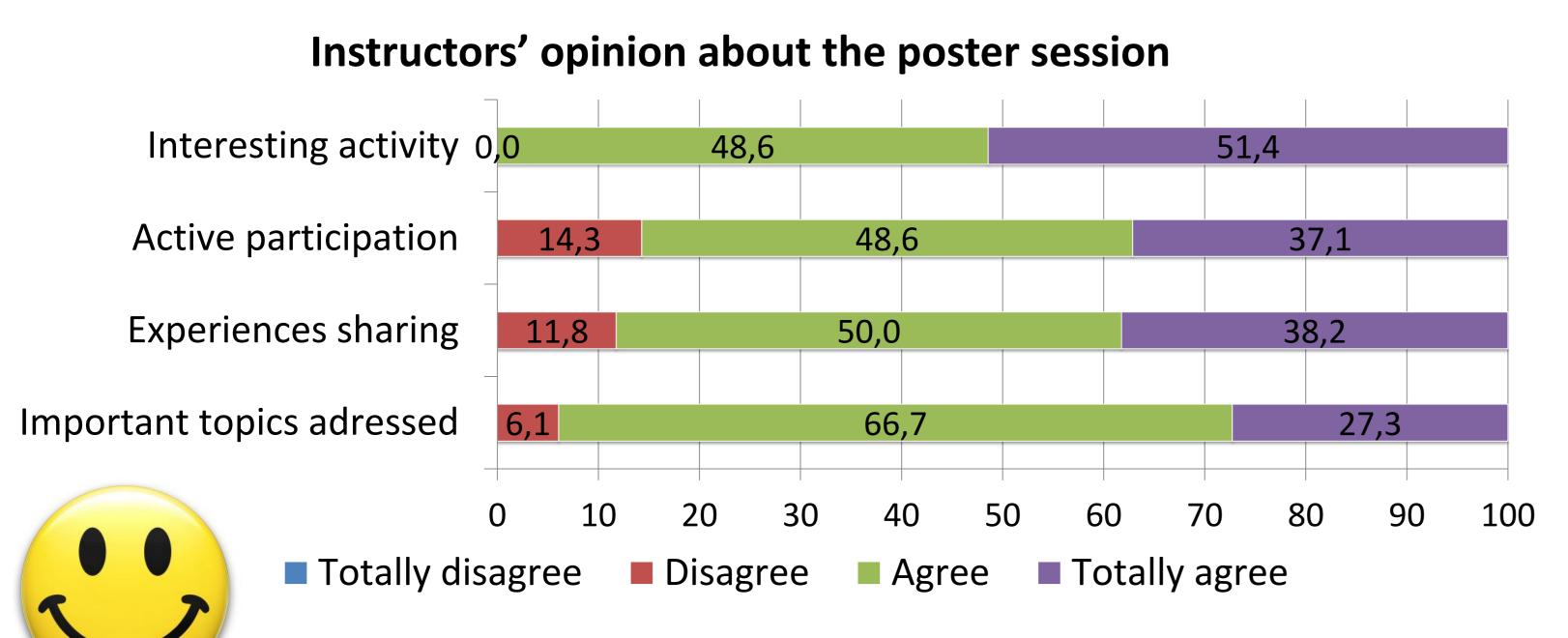
✓ Psycho-emotional aspects within Raviva groups (motivation, management of disease or death)



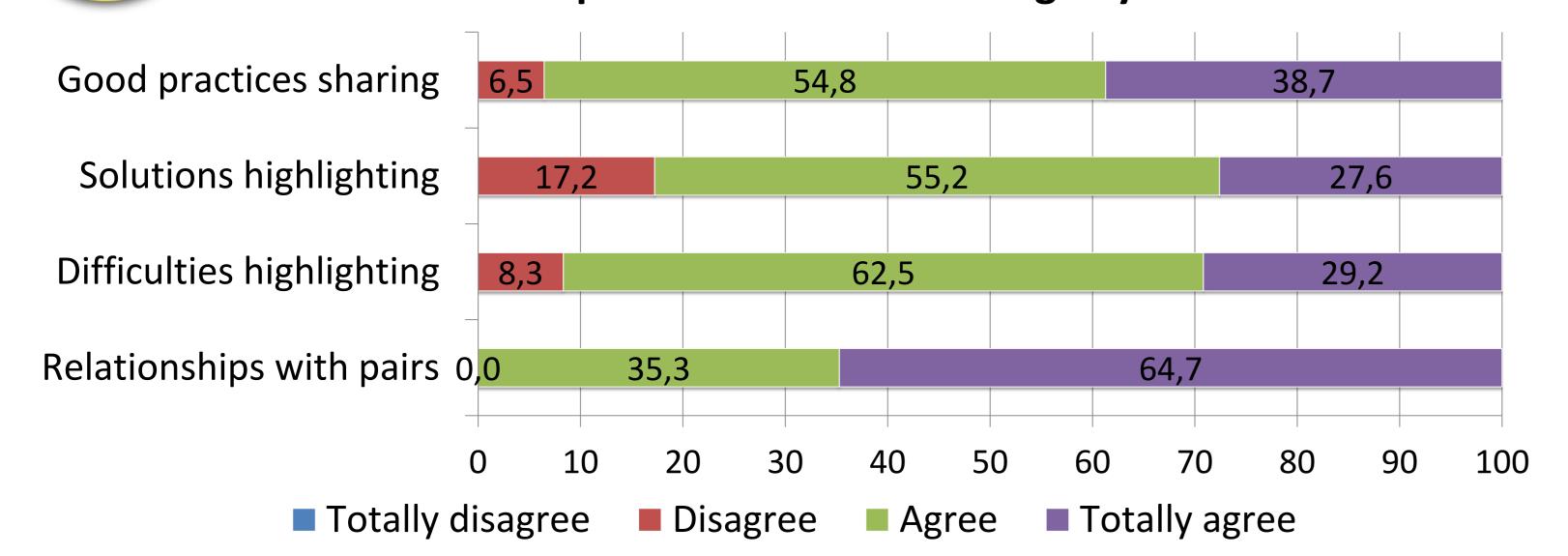
## > Data collection:

- ✓ Analysis of the posters
- ✓ Questionnaire
- ✓ Interviews of the organizers
- ✓ Informal observation

#### Results



## Instructors' opinion about the training day



Examples of good practices have been shared!

# To be improved:

- Activity duration
- > Time management

# Organizers' opinion √ "Serious timing problems" √ "Poor organization"

## Participants' opinion

- √ "The allocated time was to short"
- ✓ "Allow at least one hour more for that"

# Conclusions

- > Interesting training method and satisfaction of participants
- ➤ Importance for Raviva instructors to share experiences with peers and interact with their colleagues
- > Appropriate general concept
- > Recommendations:
  - ✓ Longer period (at least 2 hours)
  - ✓ Best organization and control of timing
  - ✓ Attention to the involvement of all instructors
  - ✓ Importance of questioning the participants about their needs before the training