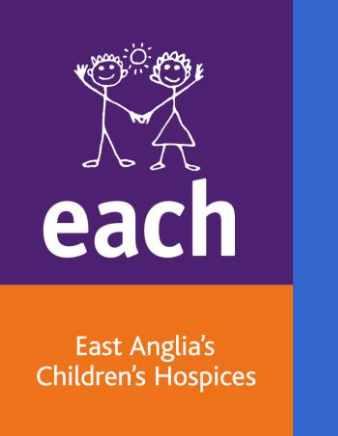


Do regional multidisciplinary children's palliative care meetings support health care system development?



L.Maynard¹, C.Cannon², J.Woolley³, D.Vickers^{4,2}

¹Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Trust. ²East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH).

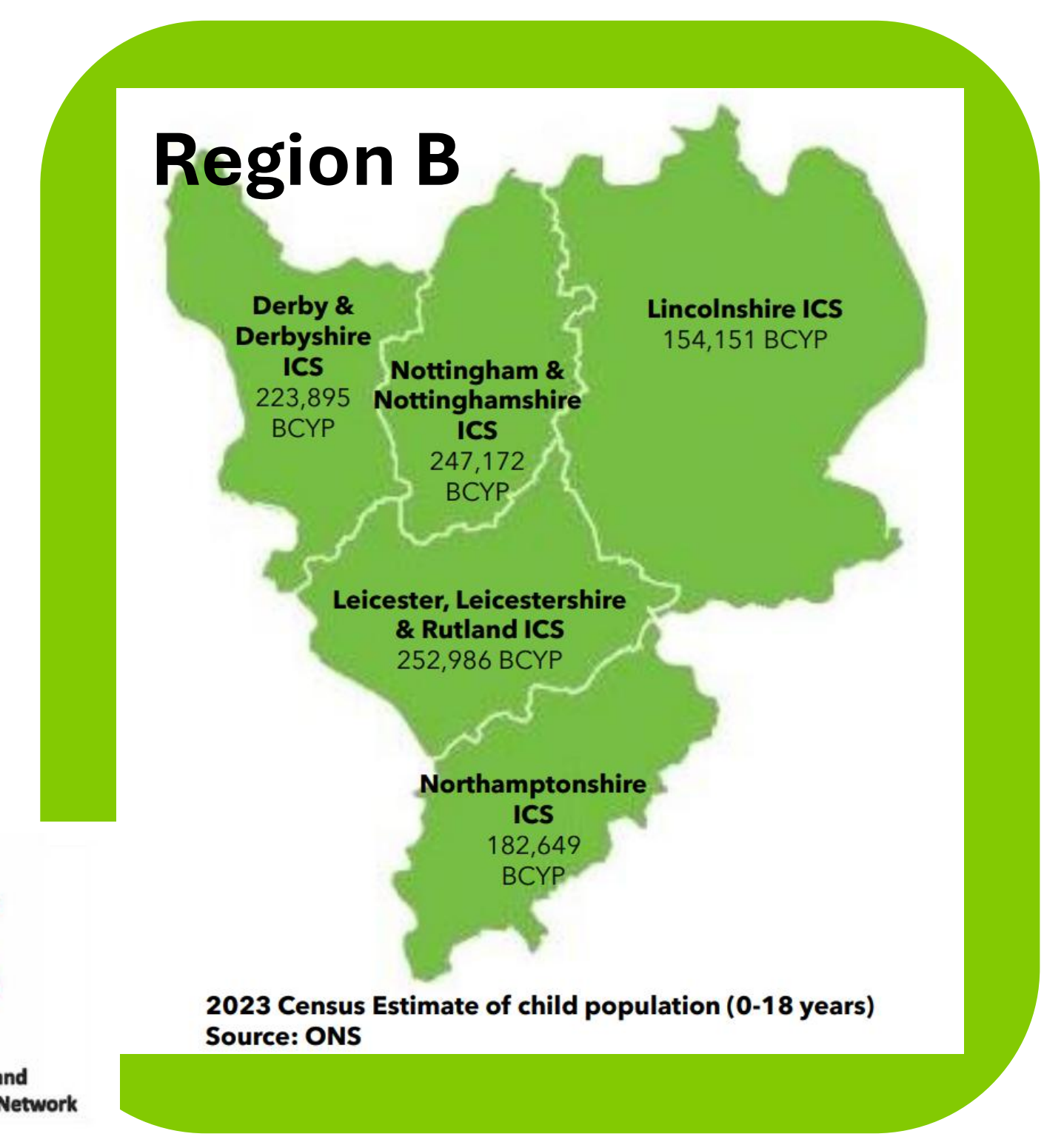
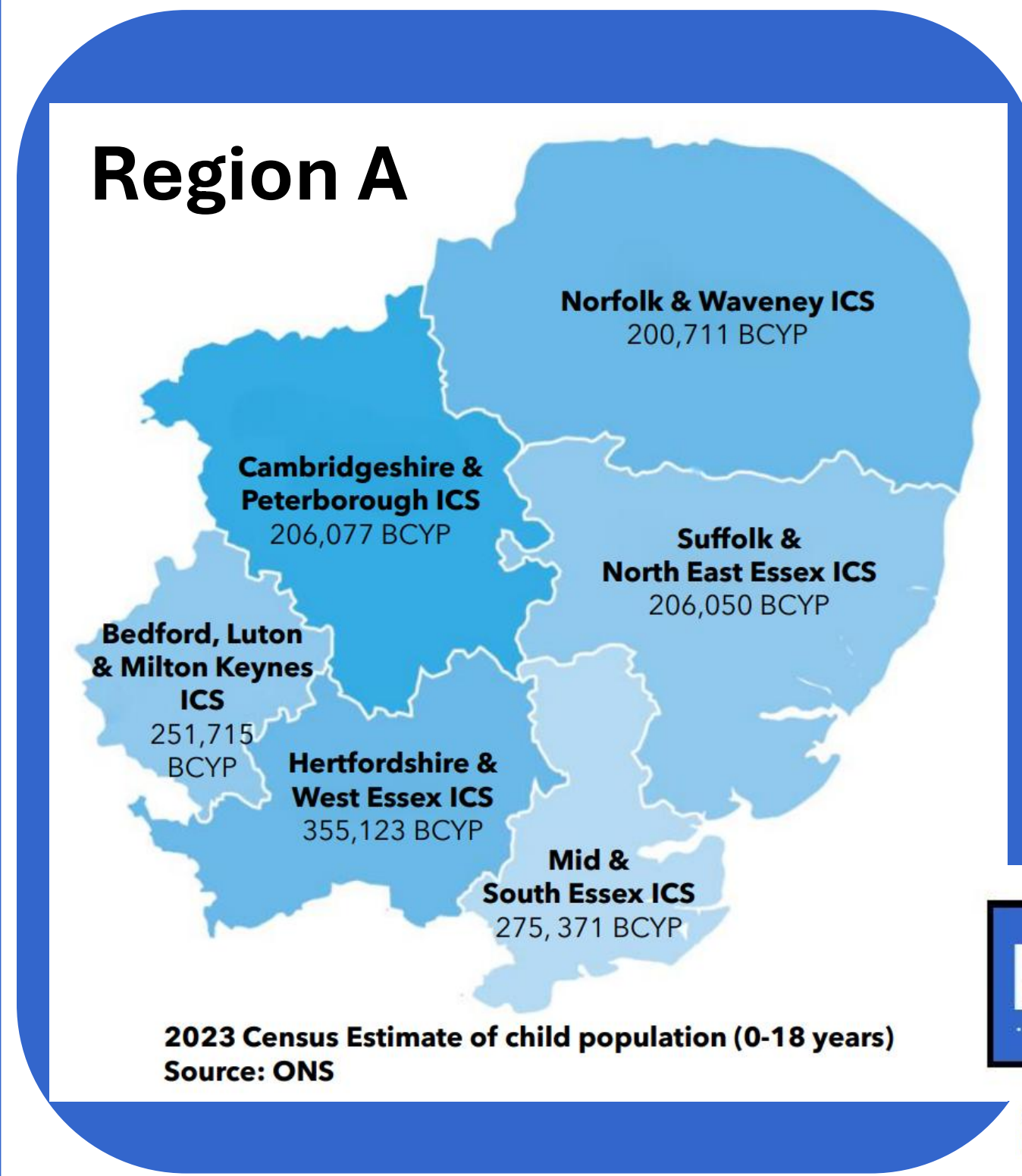
³Rainbows Hospice for Children and Young People. ⁴Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust.

INTRODUCTION

Regional networks drawing together local teams can provide clinical leadership enabling services to be operationally safe and effective and is an efficient use of resources.

Our regional multidisciplinary team (MDT) meetings provide:

- Specialist multidisciplinary palliative care consultation for presented cases
- Opportunity to identify new referrals in need of specialist palliative care
- Oversight of hospice caseloads and those receiving care at home and in hospital.

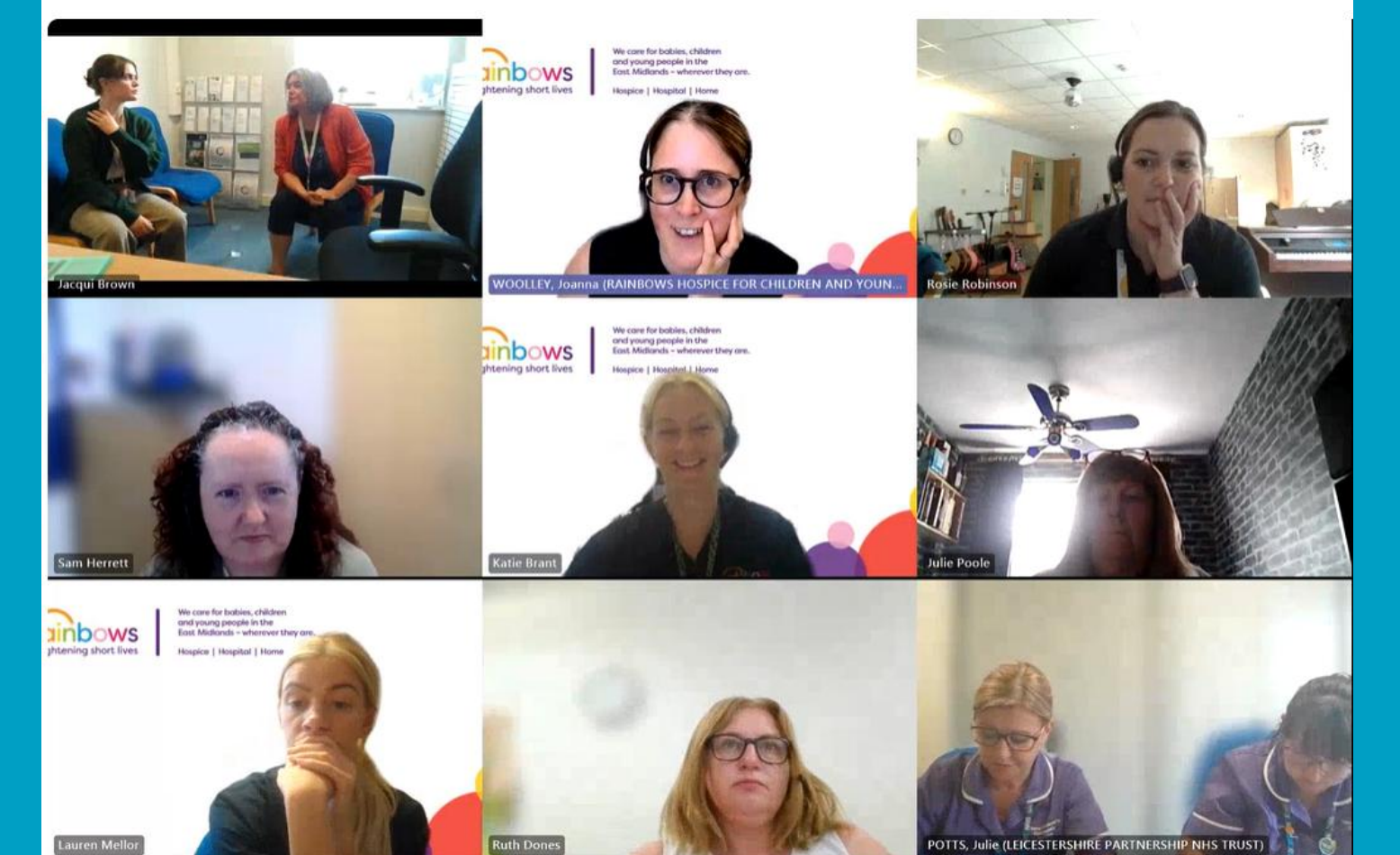
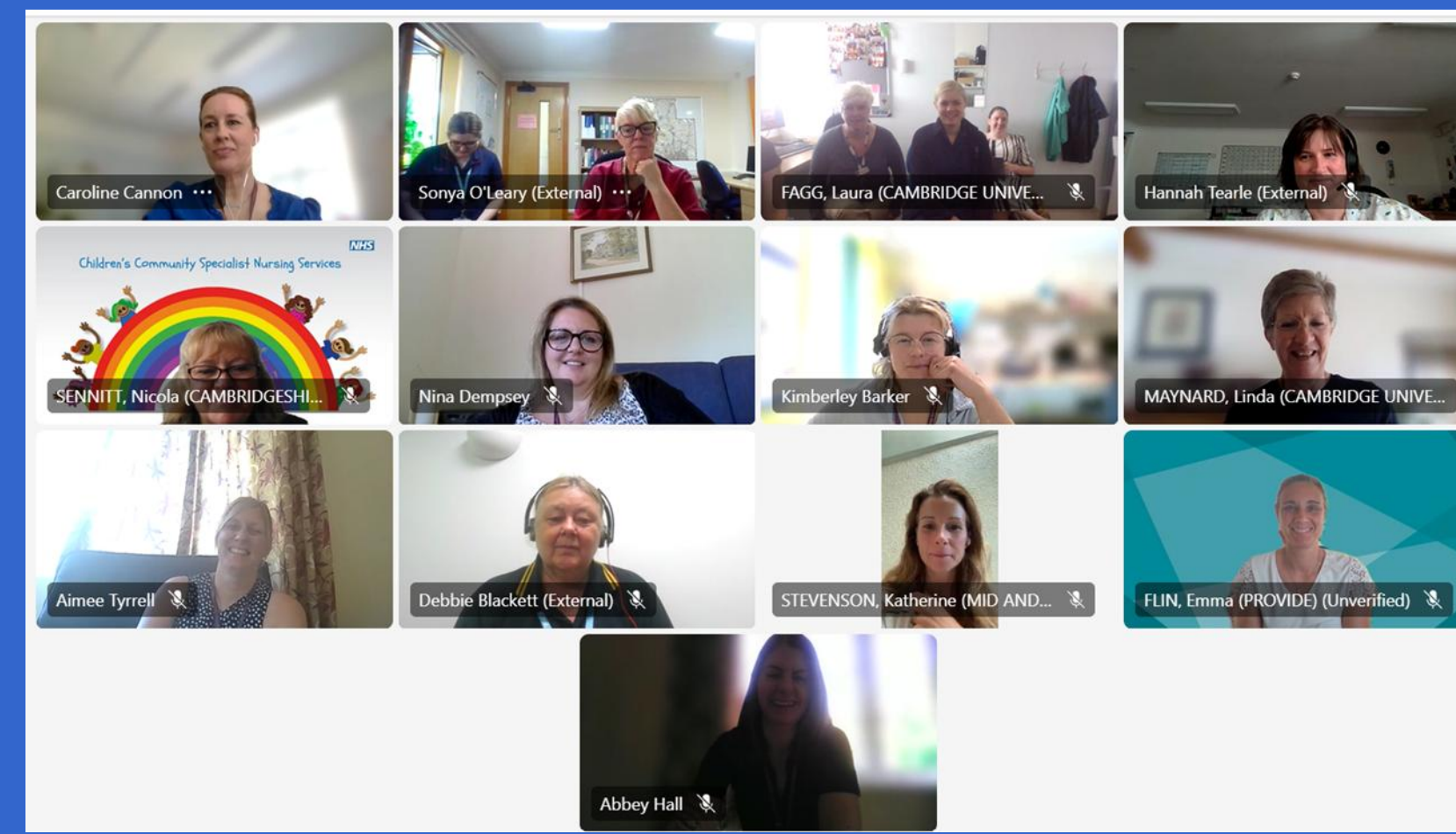


METHOD

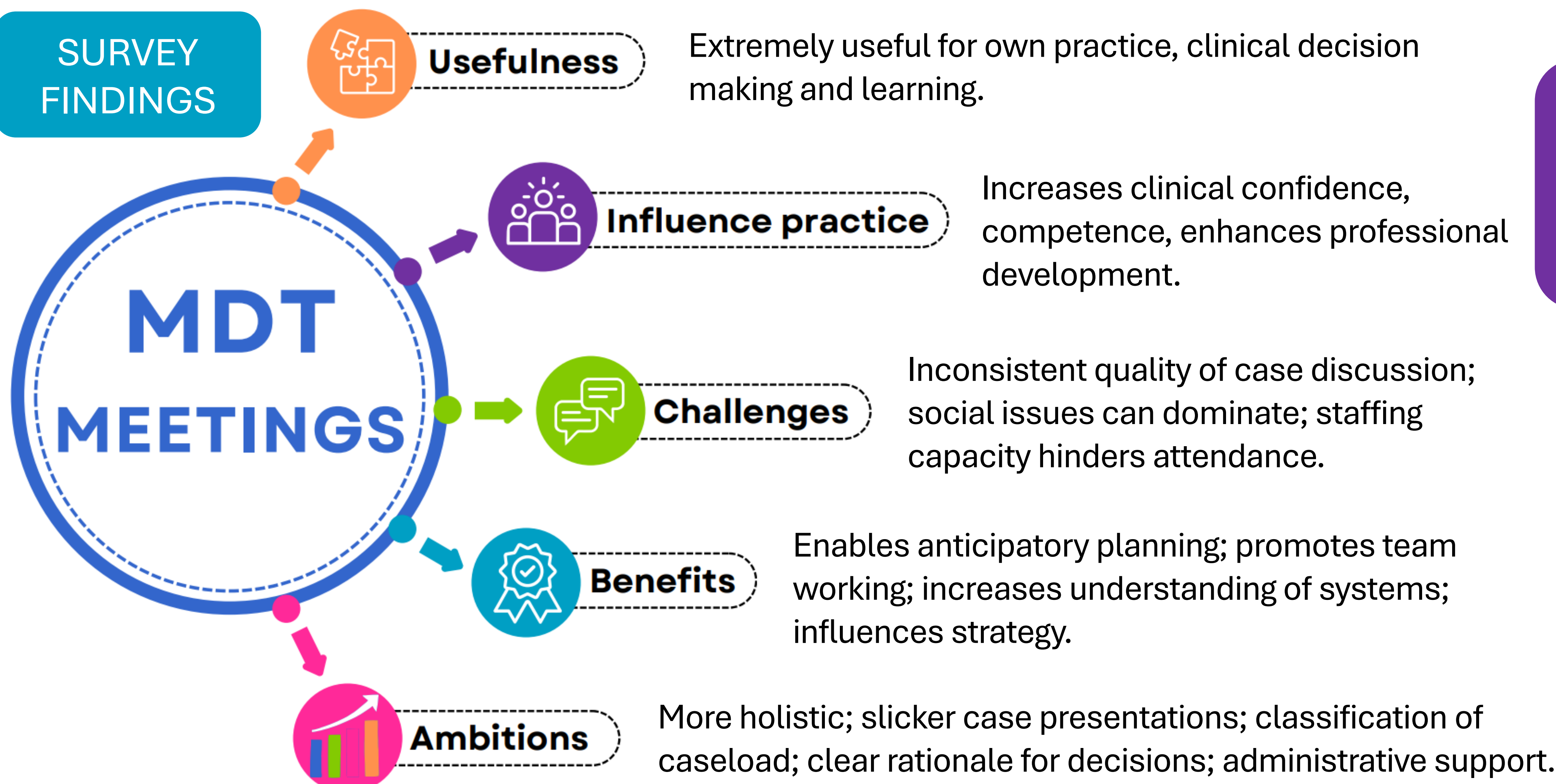
Survey of participants of weekly MDT meetings from two regions during March to May 2024

Region A weekly MDT meetings in operation for 4 years. Regular attendees 18-28; survey responses n=20

Region B weekly MDT meetings in operation for 6 months. Regular attendees 15-29; survey responses n=22



SURVEY FINDINGS



“Enables early identification of potential issues”

“I would like to see a more holistic level of support... often spirituality and other more vague areas of care are missed.”

“Sometimes discussion of the rationale gets minimised. It would be useful to understand the ‘why’ of what is being recommended by the specialist.”

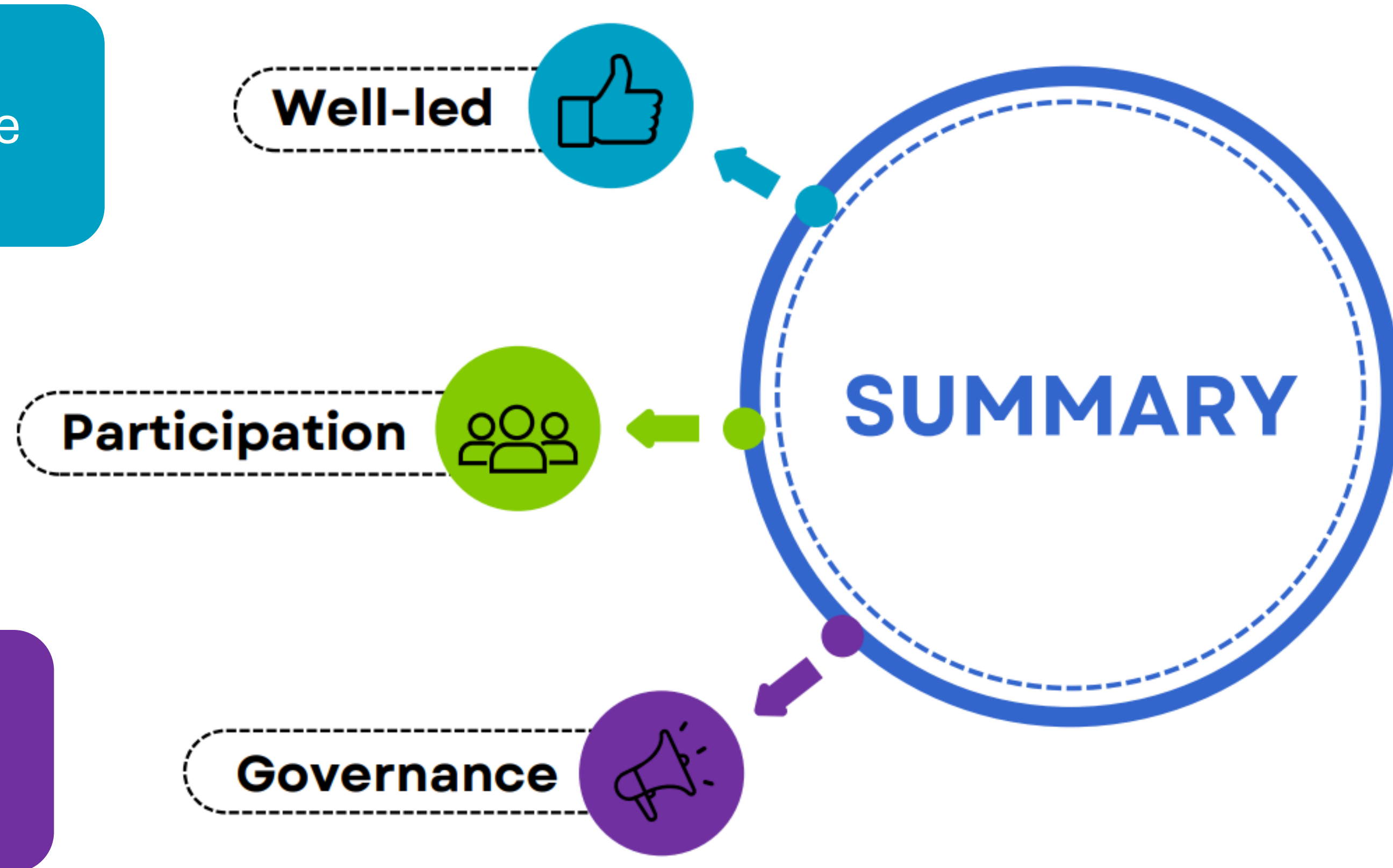
“Build a more cohesive community”

- Consistent, skilled Chairperson with expert knowledge and understanding of palliative care, service delivery and local teams to promote curiosity.
- Participants actively engage in discussion, prepare for case presentation, use of proforma for consistency.
- Respectful, safe environment, consent from family for cases to be discussed in confidence, relevant information added into clinical record.

“Sometimes the situations are very complex, it may be helpful to prioritise the most complex or sickest”

“Regular attendance speaks volumes about the importance it has to individuals”

Clinical updates with a multi professional approach. Safe space for discussion.



MDT Meeting Terms of Reference Example



Meeting Proforma



Survey



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