Case Study 1:

This is a description of a fourteen year old young man, John*, with Cornelia de Lange Syndrome. Figure 1 below describes the mean percentage occurrence of his self-injurious behaviour during four assessment visits.

The graph shows that when we first saw John in the summer of 2007, he was showing relatively high levels of self-injurious behaviour (see 21.06.2007 and 10.07.2007). Following this visit, John was identified as having some difficulties with reflux and his medication for reflux was increased. We returned to see John after this time and observed his behaviour again. At this time, John's behaviour showed a significant decrease in frequency (see 06.12.2007). This remained at a low level following the fitting of a gastrostomy tube (see 02.06.2008). The frequency of John's self-injurious behaviour was clearly influenced by the change in medication and this suggests a change in the levels of his pain and discomfort.

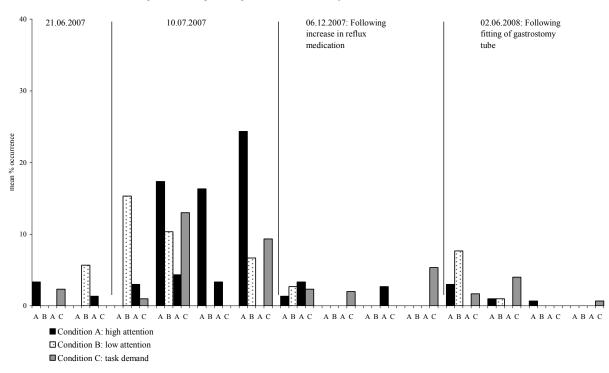


Figure 1: Mean percentage occurrence of self-injurious behaviour across four visits

*All names have been changed in order to ensure anonymity.