



# Designing a remedial programme

Lessons learned from the South African Nursing Council 2012 final year Pupil Enrolled Nurse examinations

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## Context

- Set in a private Nursing Education Institution in KZN
- 51% of the students who wrote the summative examination had not passed
- This causes:
  - Added work load for the lecturer
  - Reduces pass/throughput rate
  - Financial implications for students



## Problem

- How were we going to help these students?
- No formal structured programme in place!



## What was done?

- One week remedial programme drawn up
- Run at the campus
- Arranged with clinical facilities
- Students informed
- Asked to reflect on own problem areas in preparation



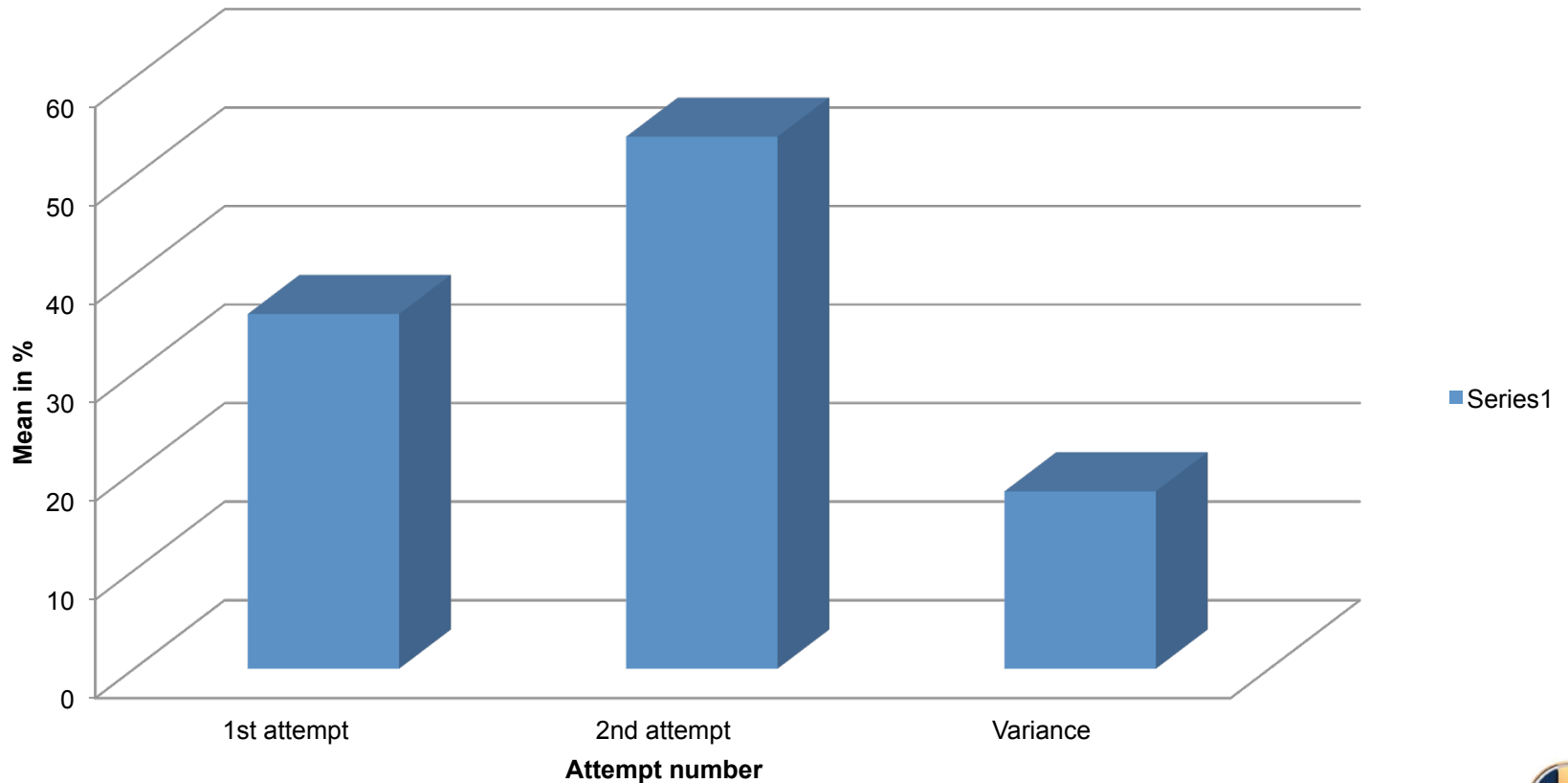
## How was it implemented?

- Problem areas identified
  - Some content problems
  - Lack of application
  - Problems with question answering
- Study guide revisited
- Revised
- Possible exam questions answered
- Answers analysed and problems identified
- Quiz at the end



# Results

Figure 2: Comparison of class mean for 1st attempt and 2nd attempt.





## Findings

- All but 3 students passed the 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt
- Improvement in marks ranged from 5.5%-35%
- The 3 students who did not pass had a poor attendance
- 80% of those who attended 4 days or more had an improvement above the class average



## Challenges associated with remediation

- Students feel that they have “let the lecturer down”
- Embarrassed and passive
- Must keep them interactive





**Bottom line .....**

- **Intensive remediation does work!**