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The Information-Seeking Behavior of Providers at Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN): A Cross Sectional Study.

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The Information-Seeking Behavior of Providers at Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN): A Cross Sectional Study

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BACKGROUND / INTRODUCTION

- Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM) is when health care providers appraise evidence to aid them in making a decision to help their patient when there is lack of knowledge (1)
- Via the internet, public accessibility of medical information has expanded drastically (2)
- Providers must appraise a significant volume of literature to stay current (3)
- The goals of this study are to explore, via a structured 20-30 minute interview, the satisfaction of providers with their current information searching behaviors and their openness to training and shared decision making (SDM) needs

METHODS

- Physicians and Advanced Practice Clinicians (APCs) from eight specialties contribute to the study: Dental Medicine, Emergency & Hospital Medicine, Family Medicine, Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, and Surgery



- The interviews are analyzed by extraction of themes relevant to each question and participants are compared amongst one another

RESULTS

Questions 22 through 27 in the interview were related to provider satisfaction with current EBM skills and openness to further skill development training. Results for Questions 23, 25, and 27 are presented in Figures 1, 2, and 3. 45 providers enrolled from all the specialties in the study thus far except Obstetrics and Gynecology, and represent the following stratification:

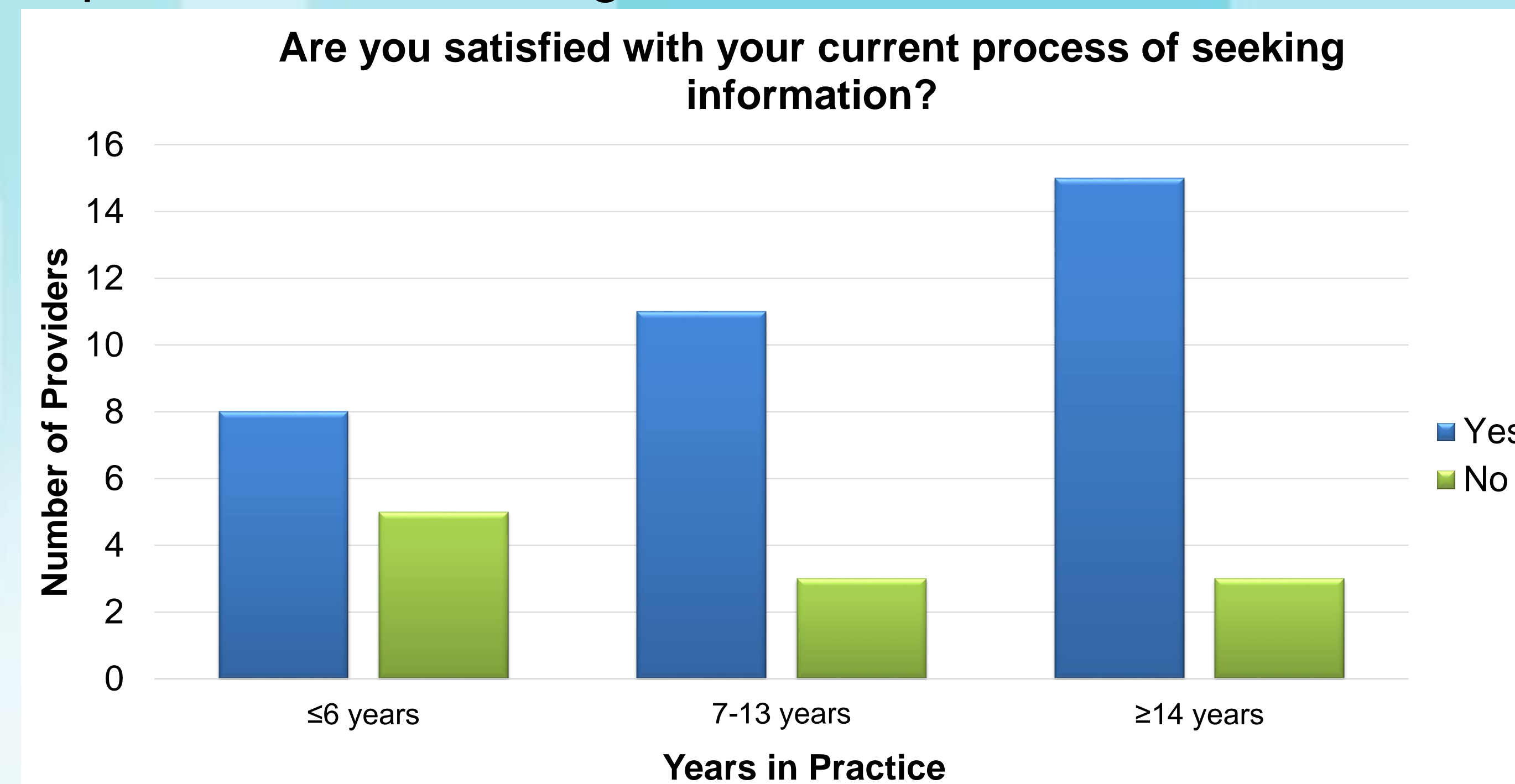


Figure 1- Are you satisfied with your current process of seeking information? Responses of all participants to the question “Are you satisfied with your current process of seeking information?” during their interview. The data is categorized into groups based on the number of years the provider has been in practice

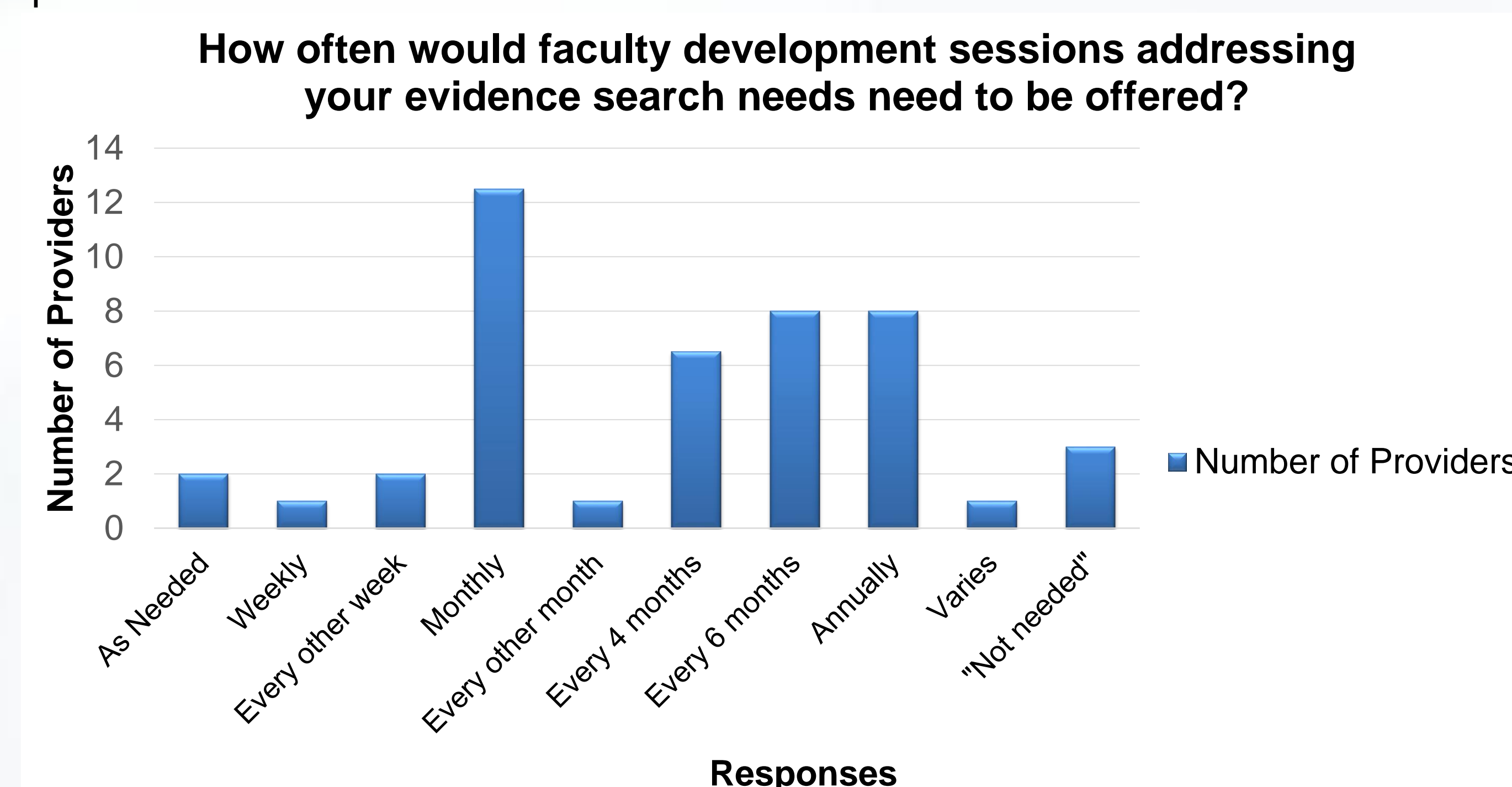


Figure 2- How often would faculty development sessions addressing your evidence search needs need to be offered? Responses of all participants to the question “How often would faculty development sessions addressing your evidence search needs need to be offered?” during their interview

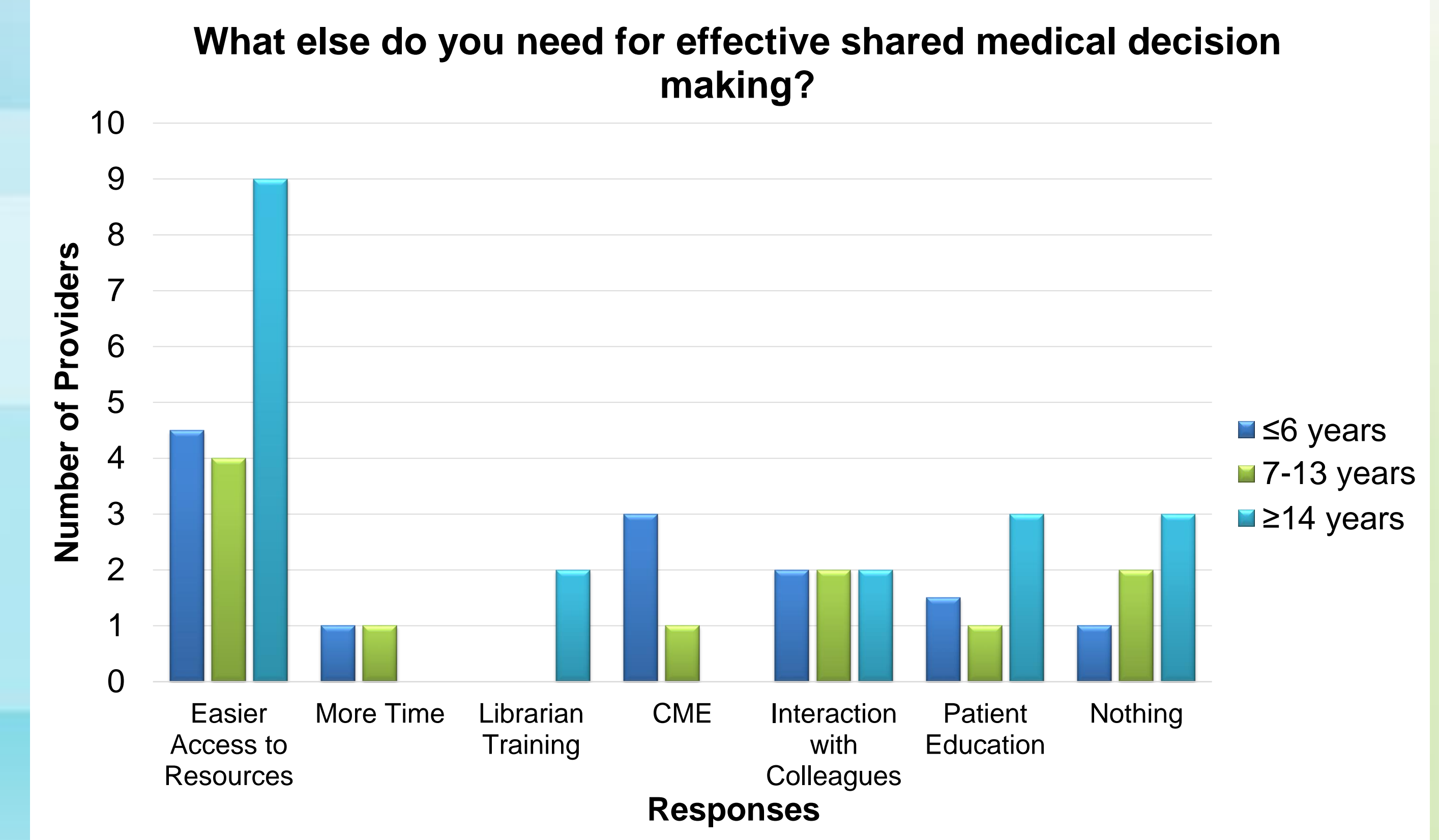


Figure 3- What do you need for effective shared medical decision making? Responses of all participants to the question “What do you need for effective medical decision making?” during their interview. The responses were separated into groups based on the number of years the provider has been in practice

CONCLUSIONS

- In this single network cohort, it appears that there is an association between years in practice and satisfaction with EBM
- While 75% of participants say they were satisfied with their current process of seeking information, 82% were open to improve their EBM and SDM skills.

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