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Family planning outpatient provider survey; evaluating resident confidence in knowledge of family planning topics and barriers to providing effective care

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Background

Family planning topics are highly prevalent.

- Unintended pregnancy rate up to 59%.
- 1 in 4 women in US have an abortion in their lifetime.
- 31% of pregnancies end in miscarriage in US.

Outpatient primary care providers are uniquely placed to address these issues.

- Three quarters of reproductive age women see their primary care health providers annually.

Residency offers a unique time to provide an educational foundation for these relevant topics.

The Question

How do residents feel about their knowledge and skills in applying evidence-based care around contraception, miscarriage management and options counseling?

Methods

- Multiple choice survey, sent by email (optional, anonymous and deidentified)
- Through REDCAP
- Residents from Family Medicine, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, Med/Peds
- Chief residents included
- Survey included 10 self assessment questions

Results: Table 1

Table 1: Family planning knowledge among outpatient resident providers

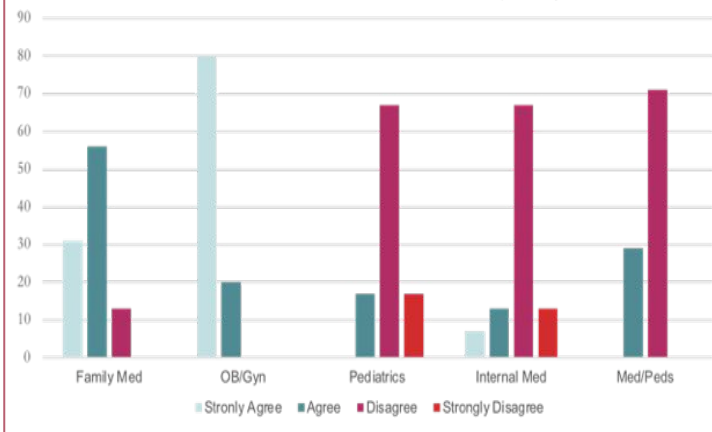
	N	% of total participants	% within residency
Program			
Family Medicine	16	29.6	72.7
Obstetrics & Gynecology	10	18.5	62.5
Pediatrics	6	11.1	31.5
Internal Medicine	15	27.8	36.5
Med Peds	7	13.0	46.6

Percentage of participants based on year

PGY1 22.2%
PGY2 27.8%
PGY3 33.3%
PGY4 11.1%
Chief 5.6%

Question 6: I am aware of abortion services within the state of Maine and where to refer patients if those services are requested.

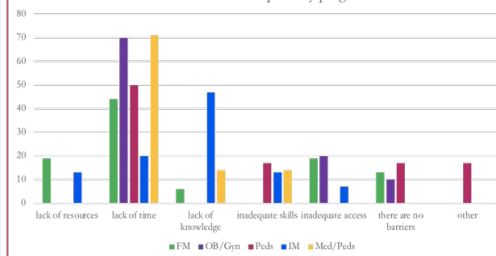
Abortion location awareness based on specialty



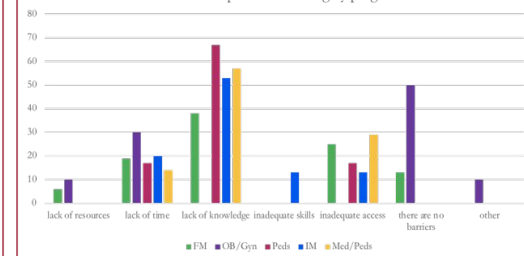
>85% of residents participating agree/strongly agree that medication abortion is something primary care clinicians should be able to offer patients.

Questions 8-10: Identify the greatest barrier for providing effective care in each topic.

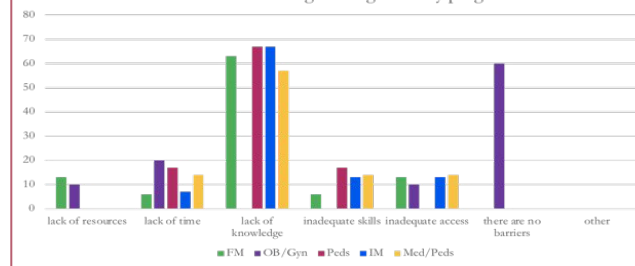
Barriers to contraception by program



Barriers to options counseling by program



Barriers to miscarriage management by program



Conclusion

Despite efforts to increase awareness around reproductive health care in primary care, there is a need for further education and training for residents—especially those in non-obstetric programs.

Residents across all disciplines report lack of knowledge regarding local abortion services, indicating an unmet need.

More emphasis on reproductive health care during primary care residencies is warranted, especially as speciality related family planning care is becoming more difficult to access for Americans.