

Provider Support of Parental Nutrition Management by Registered Dietitians

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INTRODUCTION & OBJECTIVES

- The lack of nutritional background among practitioners creates a disparity between a patient and their nutritional care leading to multiple comorbidities.²
 - Typically, a practitioner receives with the equivalent of 1 nutrition class during their medical training.¹
- Parental nutrition (PN) is an intravenous therapy that is made up of different nutritional products for those whose gastrointestinal tract cannot be used.³
- If Registered Dietitians, (RD) were given the ability to order PN for patients, individuals would receive optimal nutrition support and quality care by meeting estimated nutritional needs.

METHODS

Data Collection

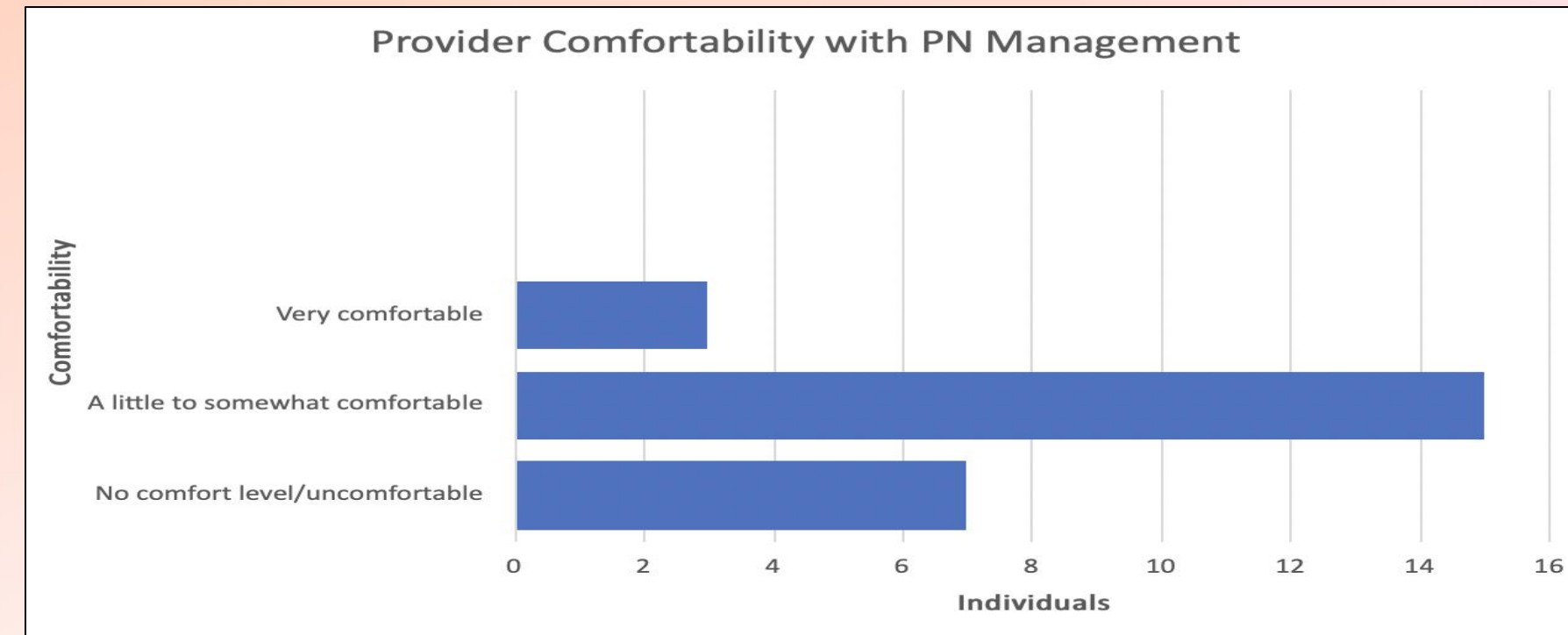
- A survey was sent out through RedCap to approximately 50 nurse practitioners, MDs, and PA-C within Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN), excluding Pocono, Schuylkill and Hazleton.

Survey Question

1. On average, how much time do you spend per day responding to calls, reviewing, and ordering parenteral nutrition (PN) orders?
2. What is your current comfort level with PN management?
3. Do you believe it would be beneficial if registered dietitians (RD) could independently order parenteral nutrition?

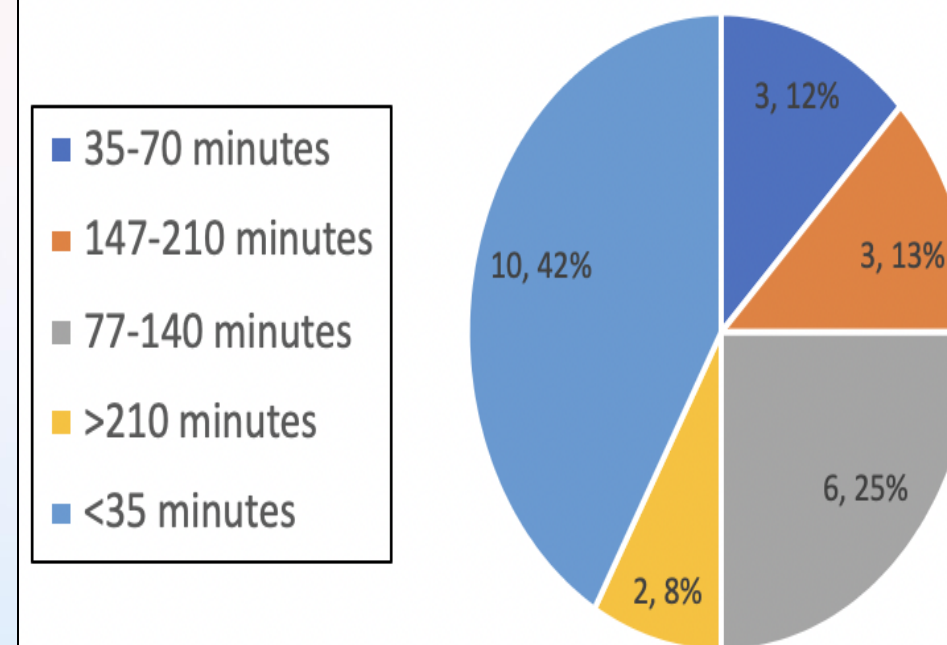
RESULTS

Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania



Provider comfortability with PN management: 26% reported no comfort level, 63% were little to somewhat comfortable, and 11% were very comfortable.

Percentage of Minutes Spent a Week on PN Orders



Among the 25 that responded: 42% took less than 35 minutes for PN management, 25% took 1.28 to 2.33 hours, 13% took 2.33 to 3.5 hours, 12% took 1.75 to 3.5 hours, and 8% took over 3.5 hours.

100% of the practitioners reported it would be beneficial for RDs to independently order parenteral nutrition.

CONCLUSION

- Practitioners could recoup greater than 35 minutes of patient care time if RDs could independently order PN
- Due to the limited comfortability of practitioners and agreement of the benefit of RDs independently ordering PN, PN order writing by RDs should be considered as a valuable initiative for implementation at LVHN

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Re-evaluate data in 3 months by surveying practitioners post PN order writing by RDs
 - Compare recouped patient care time by providers
 - Obtain practitioner feedback on PNs ordering by RDs
- Seek to expand PN order writing by RDs to all sites within LVHN

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