

INTRODUCTION

- MACS is a state funded program that provides support to prescribers in addressing the needs of their patients with substance use disorders and chronic pain management through phone consultation, education and training opportunities, resource and referral identification, and technical assistance.¹
- Project ECHO® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is a model developed at the University of New Mexico that uses a hub and spoke approach to virtually connect health care prescribers to specialists.²
- This collaborative model of medical education aims to improve access to specialty care through online learning sessions, TeleECHO Clinics.
- MACS has adopted the ECHO model to further support prescribers in providing evidence-based addiction treatment to their patients.

METHODS

- Each ECHO clinic included 15 minutes of didactic learning presented by a MACS consultant and 45 minutes of case-based discussion.
- Participants presented de-identified cases for clinical discussion.
- After each ECHO clinic a brief online survey is sent to each participant through Qualtrics to gain insight and allow for improvements in future ECHO clinics.
- Free CME and CEU credit available upon completion of ECHO evaluation.

RESULTS

- A total of 29 unique prescribers participated in the first ECHO cohort from March 2020-November 2020.
- Each ECHO clinic averaged 10 attendees, most residing in Baltimore City.
- The majority of participants were from urban areas, however there were prescribers representing each region of the state.
- Response rates for the ECHO evaluation were low with an average of 3-4 responses per clinic.

Figure 1. Credentials of Unique Attendees

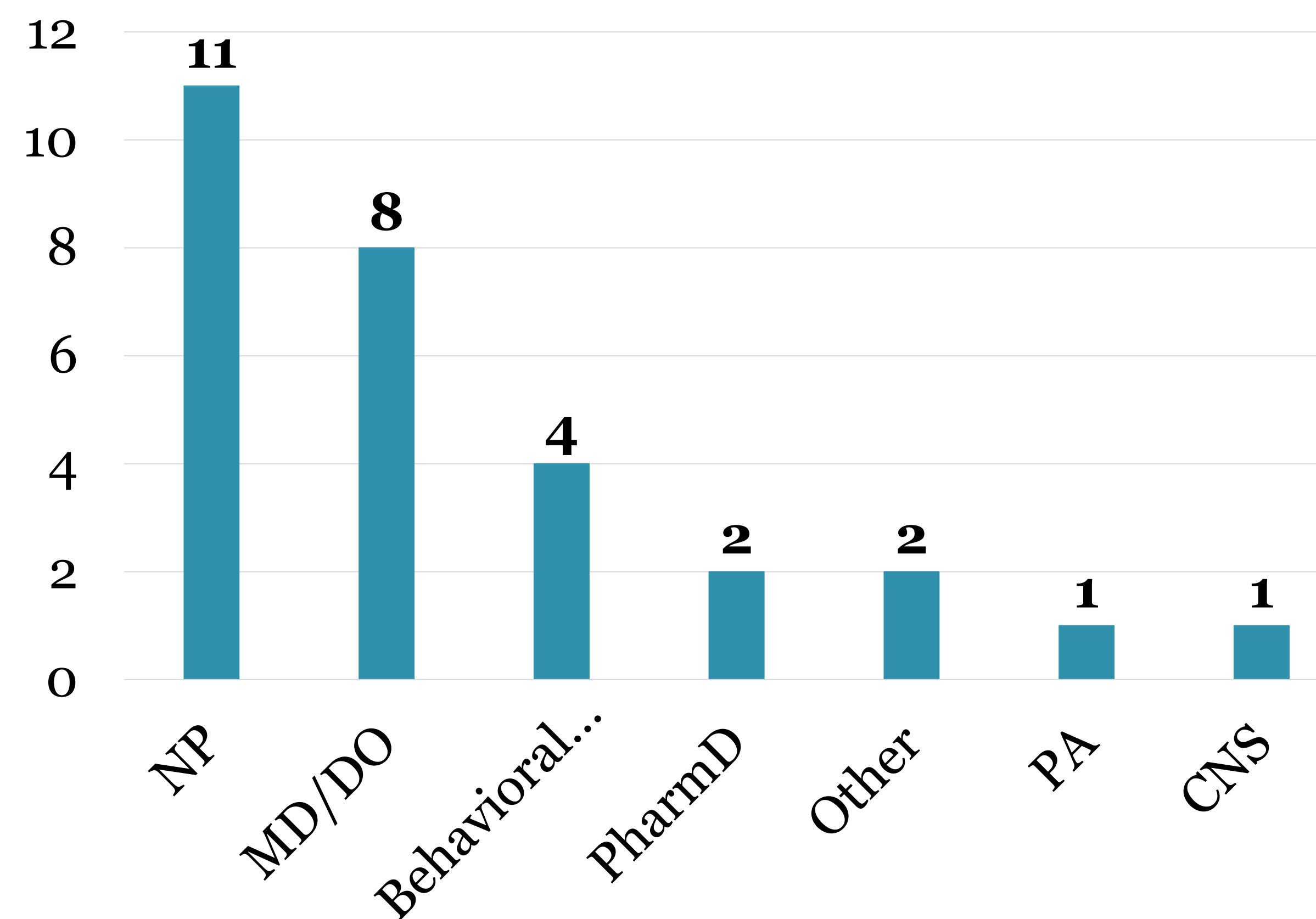
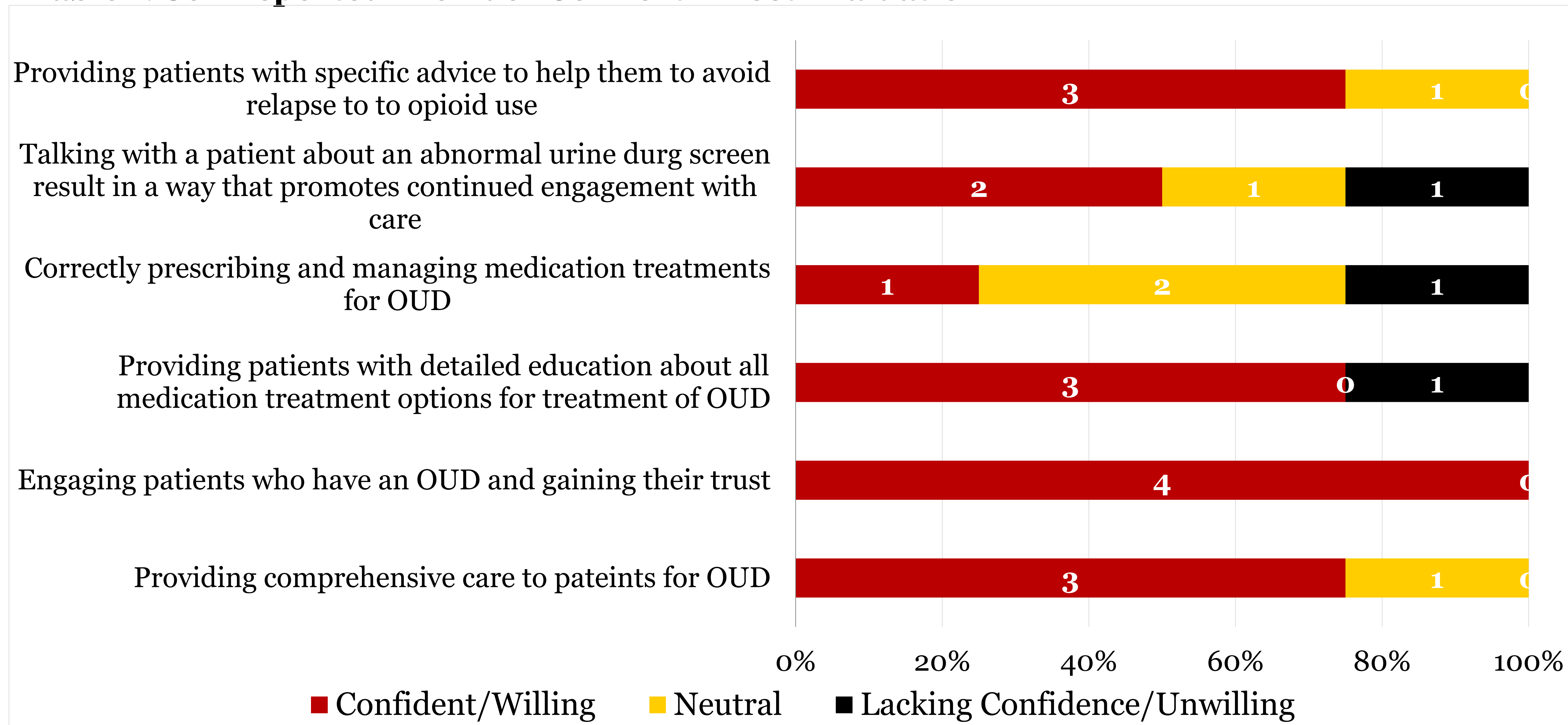


Table 1. Self-reported Provider Comfort – Post Evaluation



CONCLUSION

- MACS TeleECHO™ Clinics offer valuable education and support to prescribers who manage patients with SUDs.
- While COVID-19 required an immediate modification to program implementation, MACS TeleECHO™ clinics were able to successfully respond and support prescribers statewide.
- Results support that MACS TeleECHO™ clinics improved prescriber SUD knowledge and self-reported quality of patient care statewide.
- MACS will continue to hold ongoing monthly TeleECHO™ clinics and is preparing to launch separate MACS TeleECHO™ cohorts for opioid treatment programs and maternal opioid misuse.

REFERENCES

1. Sweeney, S., Coble, K., Connors, E., Rebbert-Franklin, K., Welsh, C., & Weintraub, E. (2020). Program development and implementation outcomes of a statewide addiction consultation service: Maryland Addiction Consultation Service (MACS).
2. Komaromy, M., Duhigg, D., Metcalf, A., Carlson, C., Kalishman, S., Hayes, L., Burke, T., Thornton, K., & Arora, S. (2016). Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes): A new model for educating primary care providers about treatment of substance use disorders.

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