

# The Impact of a Goal-Based Weight Management Program in the Pediatric Primary Care Setting

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#### Introduction

- Focus: childhood obesity and weight management for obese children in primary care
- **Objective:** evaluate the successes and areas of improvement of project site's weight management program and identifies common themes among self reported barriers.
- Impact: improve outcomes for participants of this weight management program with the potential for widespread dissemination and future projects.

# **Background & Significance**

- The prevalence of childhood obesity in the U.S. is 18.5%<sub>3</sub>.
- Obese children are at greater risk for numerous long term health complications (cardiovascular disease, asthma, diabetes, etc.)<sub>2</sub>
- The U.S. spends \$14 billion on these children in their lifetime₄.
- The CDC and AAP encourage primary care providers to combat obesity through weight management₁.
- This is accomplished by increasing exercise to meet the recommended amount appropriate for each age group and by adopting a healthy diet₁.

# Methodology

**Design:** Retrospective chart review

Sample: All weight management program participants since inception: 21 male and female patients ages 4-17

Setting: Pediatric primary care office in a suburban area of northern New Jersey

#### **Measures:**

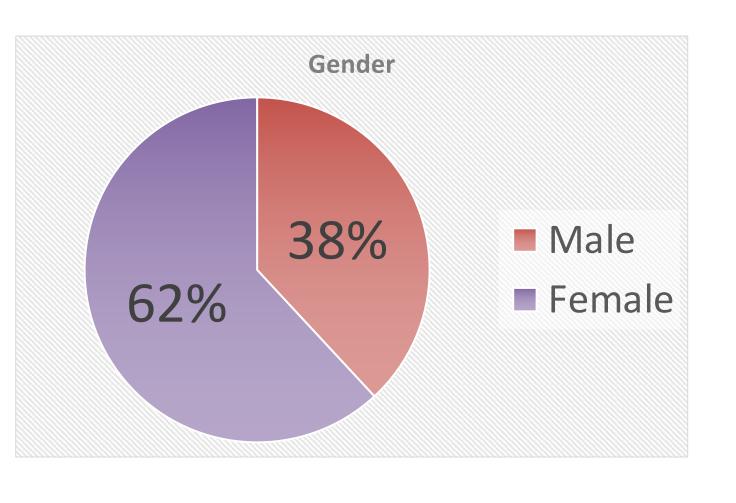
- Age/Gender/BMI data
- Program attendance to follow up visits
- Self reported barriers to achieving program goals and selfreported importance of meeting program goal scored on a scale of 1-10
- Number of patients ages 3-17 seen for well visits over a onemonth period, and how many of those patients qualify vs. how many were enrolled in the weight management program

Analysis: Examine the relationship between patient age and BMI change, BMI change and self-reported importance of the program, and relationship between BMI change and program attendance.

- Descriptive Statistics: Project sample, BMI comparison between participants, and comparison of BMI data to ordinal data to self reported importance of meeting program goals
- Qualitative Analysis: themes in participant-reported barriers to meeting program goals

## Results

# **Program Participant Demographics**



Program Attendance\*

15%

11.8%

18.8%

Follow Up

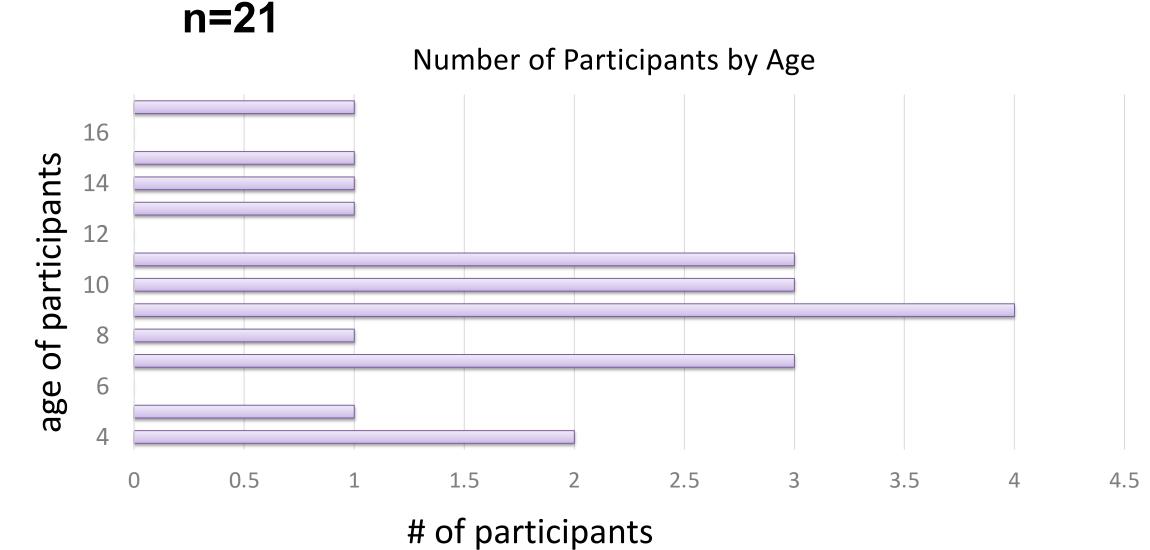
1 Month

2 Month

3 Month

Visit

% Attended



#### **Attendance and Enrollment Data**

Program Enrollment**		
Number of well	Number of	Number of eligible
visits over 1-	those eligible	patients enrolled
month period	for program	program
162	4	0
**Retrospective data collected from August 2020		

## \*Including only those eligible for each visit

## **BMI Data and Analysis**

# Patient 1 10 y.o. male

- BMI Change: decreased 2 percentiles
- Weight loss: 3.3 lbs.
- Attended 33% follow up visits
- Self reported importance score: 10/10

# Patient 9

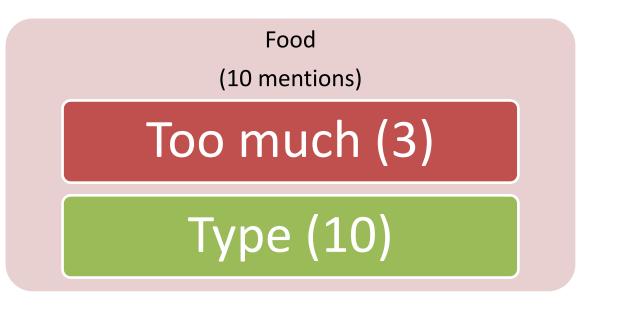
# 4 y.o. female BMI Change: no percentiles

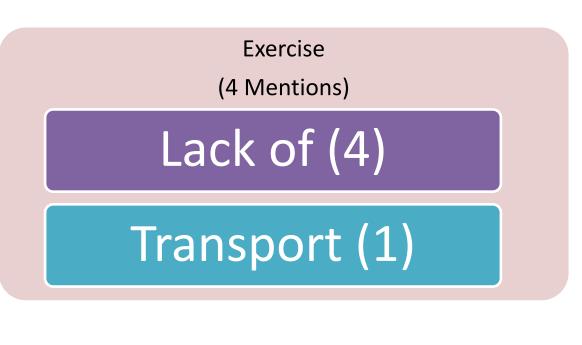
- Weight loss: 0.5 lbs.
- Attended 66% of follow up visits  $(1^{st}, 3^{rd})$
- Self reported importance score:

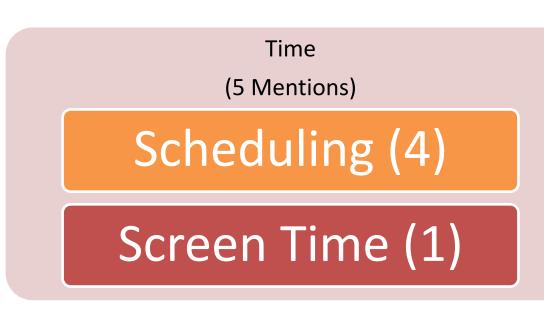
# Patient 10 10 y.o. female

- BMI Change: decreased 1 percentile
- Weight Loss: 7.5 lbs.
- Attended 33% of follow up visits
- Self reported importance score: 9/10

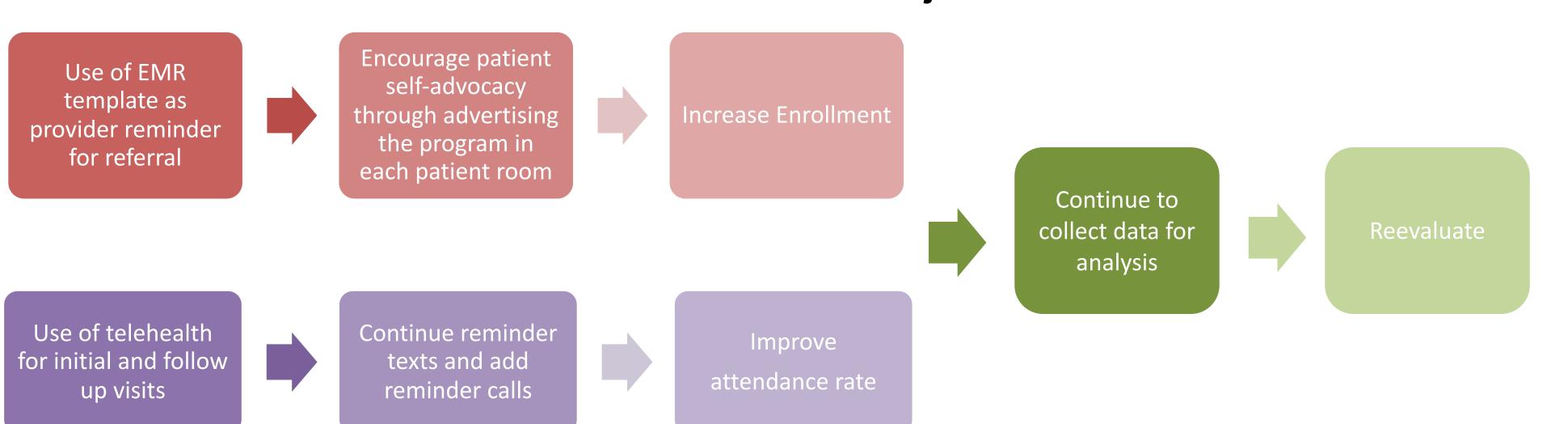
## Qualitative Theme Analysis Self Reported Barriers to Achieving Program Goal n=16







## Recommendations to Project Site



## Discussion

#### Conclusion:

- Project was successful in identifying strengths and areas of improvement with one exception:
  - Determining if the program resulted in a statistically significant decrease in participant BMI over a three-month period.
- Strengths of this program include:
  - Large group of school-age participants with a mix of both genders.
  - Education materials addressed the commonly reported barriers to program success.
- Areas of improvement include:
  - Attendance and enrollment.
- Moving forward:
  - continue to collect and analyze participant data while implementing the suggested evidence-based changes to improve enrollment/attendance rates.

## Implications:

## Practice & Patient Care

- More uniform between providers
- Empowering patient self-advocacy

## Policy

- Charting and scheduling policy
- Program enrollment and adherence improvement

# Healthcare Quality & Safety

- Addressing common self-reported barriers at the initial visit through anticipatory guidance eliminates a barrier to care
- Potential clinical significance of weight change of 3 participants as enrollment/attendance improves and data collection continues

## Economic

- Reduce healthcare costs for individuals who would have developed complications from obesity
- Improve revenue for the project site

# Weight Management Research

- Follows recommendation for analysis of efficacy of individual weight management programs
- Lack of compliance major barrier to program success
- Further supports need for continued research

## References and Contact Information

Please scan the QR code or type in the URL below for references and contact information. 

https://sb1055.wixsite.com/sbdnpproject