

Nurse-Led Cervical Screening Clinics: Enhancing Access Through Team Based Care for High Risk Patients

Kari Fulton (MN, NP-PH) Sarah Nestico (CNS, MPH, BScN) , Ann Rodrigues (RN, BScN), Mo AlHaj (QIDDS)

St. Michael's
Inspired Care.
Inspiring Science.

BACKGROUND

- The St. Michael's Hospital Academic Family Health Team (SMH-FHT) encompasses: 5 sites, 80+MDs, 30+ nurses, 7 NPs, 50 IHPs, 30+ administrative staff, and students of all professions.
- Cervical screening rates dropped from 68.66% in December, 2019 to 59.6% in March, 2022 at the SMH-FHT.
- Research shows that cancer screening rates is consistently lower among immigrant women and people in the lowest income quintile.¹
- As of September 2022, cervical cancer screening rates 55.7% for patients in income quintile 1 (IQ1) and income quintile 2 (IQ2).
- Nurse-Led Pap clinics can support improved access to cervical cancer screening and encourages team based care.
- Dedicated Pap clinics support a targeted health equity approach - to reach high risk patients ² and those in low income quintiles.

AIM

Initiate Nurse-Led Pap clinics to:

- 1) Improve access and screening rates for those in lower income quintiles and high risk patient populations.
- 2) Increased nursing knowledge and skills to enhance team based care.
- 3) Incorporate patients perspective to ensure patient centered care.

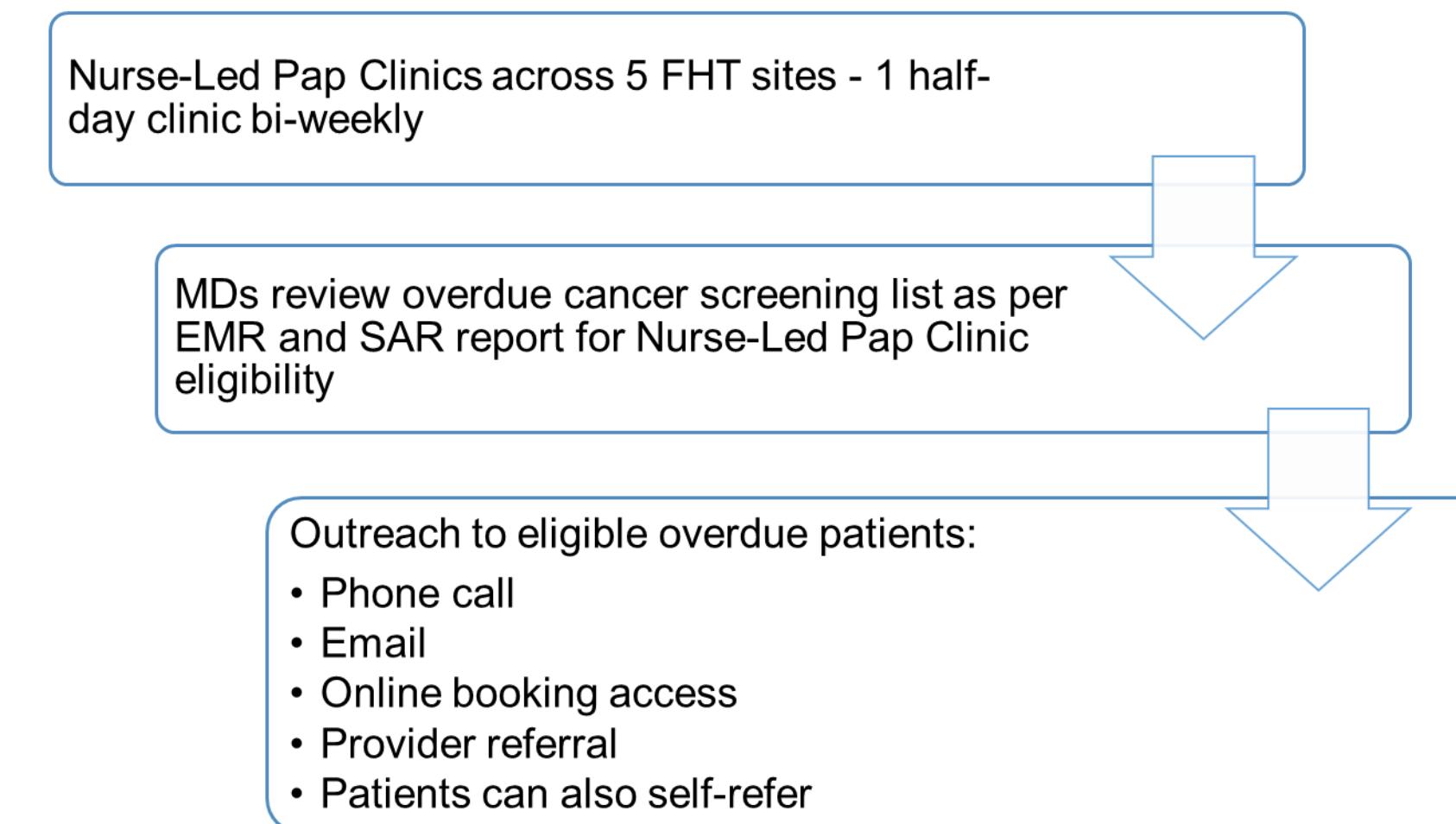
MEASURES

- % of Pap tests completed by nurses across the SMH-FHT
- Cervical Cancer Screening Rate among patients from IQ1 & IQ2
- % of patients in IQ1&2 seen in Nurse-Led Pap clinic
- % of High Risk patients seen in Nurse-Led Pap Clinic
- Number of Cervical Cancer Screening completed by nurses
- Number of nurses trained to complete Cervical Cancer Screening and gynecological assessments
- Patient feedback survey

INCLUSION CRITERIA: EQUITY & MEDICALLY HIGH RISK POPULATIONS

| Income Quintile | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Patients from IQ1 and IQ2 |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Age: 25-70 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Overdue for Pap and/or no Pap in the last 5 years |
| Previous abnormal Pap smear results | <ul style="list-style-type: none">ASCUS (Atypical squamous cells of undetermined significance)ASC-H (Atypical squamous cells of undetermined significance-cannot exclude HSIL)LSIL (Low grade squamous intraepithelial lesion)HSIL (High grade squamous intraepithelial lesion)Atypical glandular cells of undetermined significanceASC-H Atypical glandular cells (AGC)Unsatisfactory for evaluation in the past pap resultBenign endometrial cells on Pap tests among symptomatic pre-menopausal women and post-menopausal womenHPV status positive |
| Immuno-compromised patients | <ul style="list-style-type: none">HIV/AIDSOrgan transplantImmunosuppressive medications |
| High-Risk as indicated by provider | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Early sexual debut, multiple partners (or whose partners have had multiple partners), or not HPV vaccinatedHistory of other sexually transmitted diseasesEthnic minority groups, low-incomeSmoking: anyone of age 21-69 |

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION



RESULTS

| Measure | Baseline July-Sept 2022 | Q1 2023 (Apr-June) | Q2 2023 (July-Sept.) |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| % of Pap tests completed by nurses across the SMH-FHT | Not collected | 22% (143/652) | 31% (136/437) |
| Cervical Cancer Screening Rate among patients from IQ1&2 | 55.7% | 56.8% | 57.1% |
| % of patients in IQ1&2 seen in Nurse-Led Pap Clinic | 34% | 36% | 33.6% |
| % of High Risk patients seen in Nurse-Led Pap Clinic | 34% | 50% | 51% |
| Total Number of Pap tests completed in Nurse-Led Pap between Sept 2022- Sept 2023 | 638 | | |
| Number of nurses trained across the FHT | 6 | | |

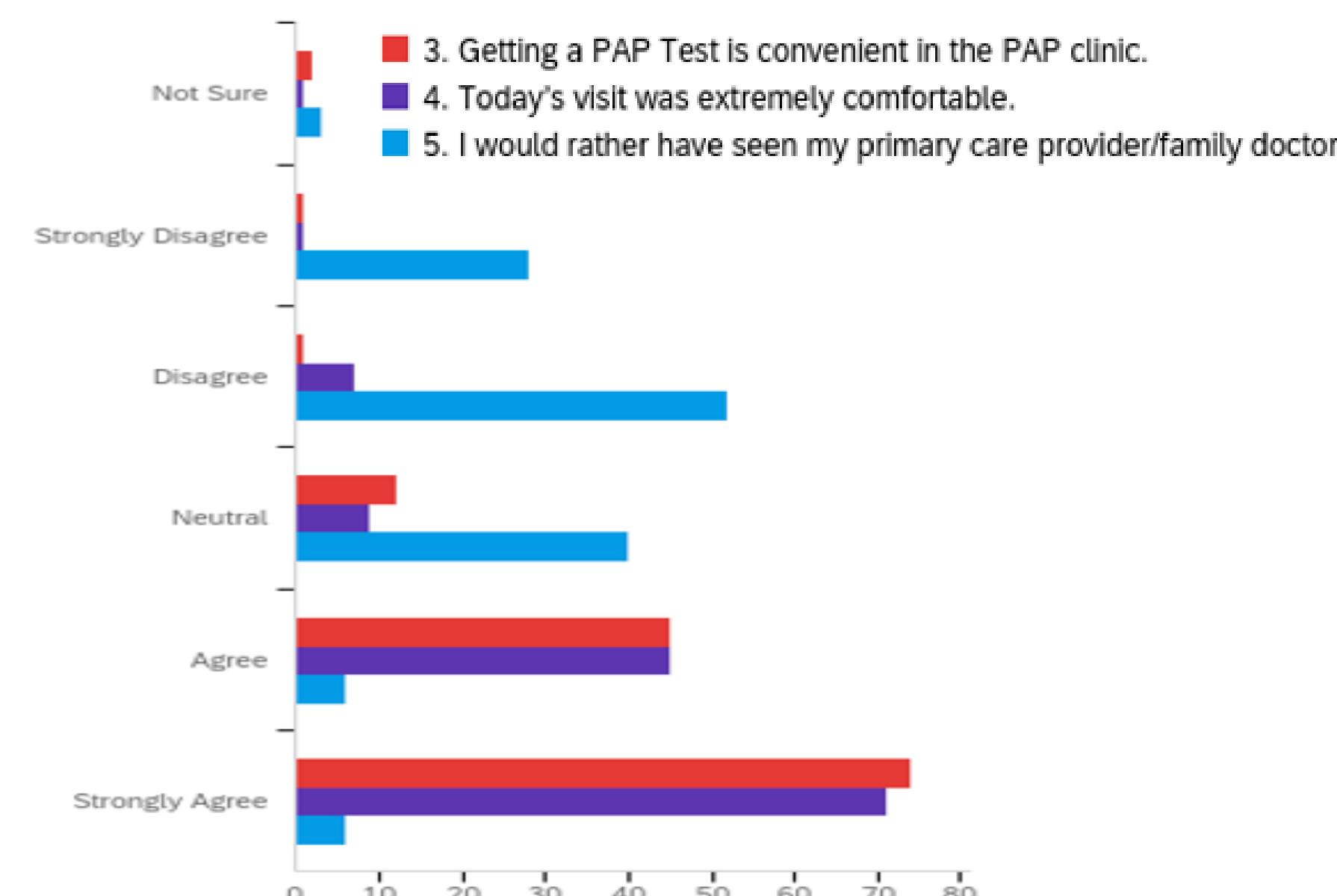
PATIENT FEEDBACK

143 patients completed a post visit survey since November 2022

"Love the nurse. She did an amazing job and talked me through the whole thing. She was a real expert and seemed really experienced. Was very kind and empathetic."

"Was made to feel extremely comfortable and calm even with an alarming result. 10/10 bedside manner!"

"The nurse was really lovely and gentle and explained every step."



DISCUSSION & NEXT STEPS

- Overall increase in cervical cancer screening rate for patients in IQ1 and IQ2
- Increase in high risk patients seen in Nurse-Led Pap Clinics
- Established Nurse-Led clinic at all 5 SMH-FHT sites
- Positive patient experience
- Ensure an equity lens is applied to clinic planning and target groups
- Increase access to include evenings and weekends
- Continue to monitor patient and provider experience

