

Hearing From the Youth: A study on the Needs of Adolescent Patients at Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Clinic

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Introduction

- Overview
 - Background, Introduction, Methodology, Results, Discussion, Conclusion
- Personal interest
- Needs assessment for adolescent patients
 - Why adolescents?
- Provider resource manual



Background

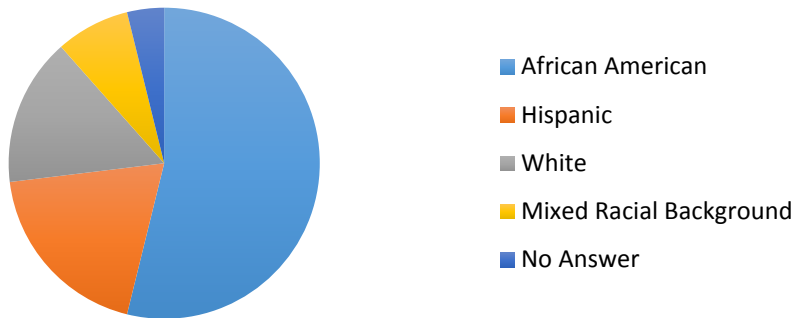
- In the past, adolescents were the group most likely to be underinsured
- In adolescence, patients begin to make choices about health and health care
 - Begin to form opinions about the health care system
- Adolescents are more likely to engage in risky behaviors than other age groups

Methodology

- Needs assessment was distributed to patients between the ages of 13 and 18
- The assessment collected demographic information, patient satisfaction data and patient needs data
- Survey was anonymous to encourage honesty
- Likert scale questions ranging from “never” to “all of the time” asking about patient-provider interaction
- Data used to inform provider manual

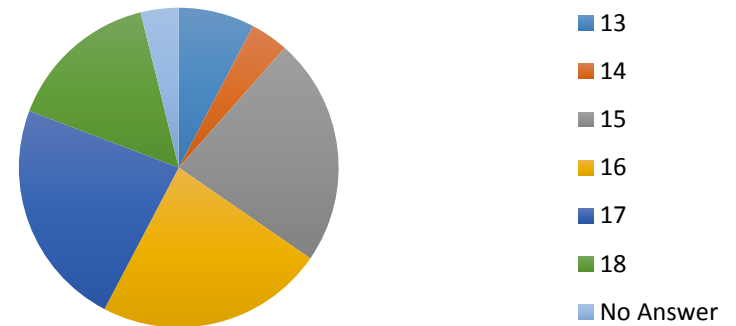
Results

Patient Racial Background



65% of patients report that providers listen to their questions and concerns all of the time

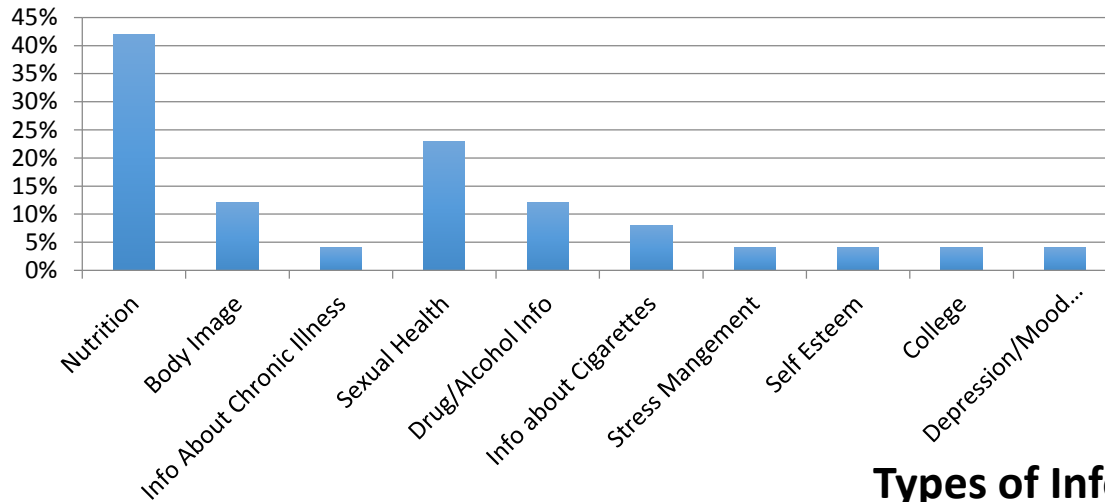
Patient Age



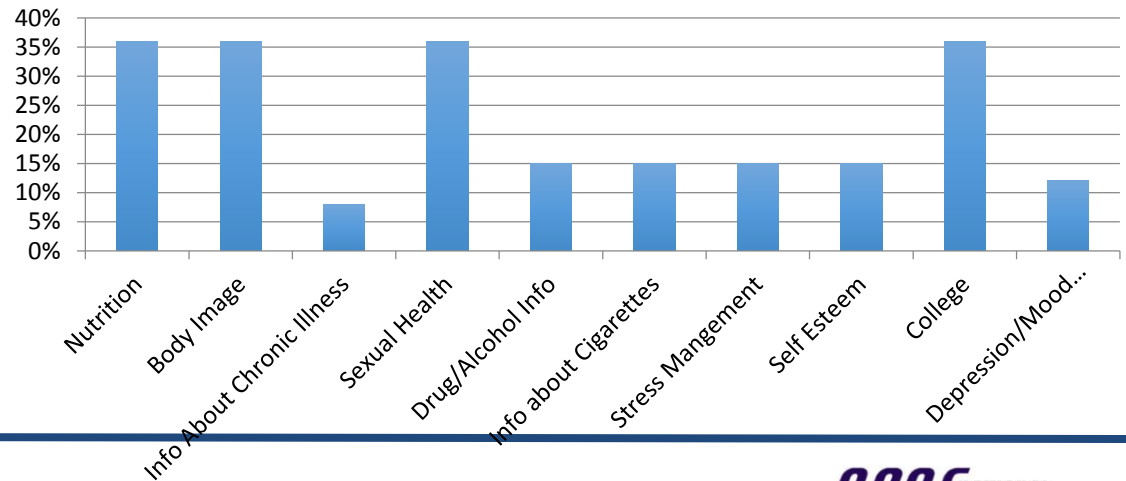
45% feel comfortable talking to their health care provider about anything

Results

Information Given to Patients at Visits



Types of Information Wanted by Patients



Discussion

- Education/information wanted:
 - Nutrition
 - Sexual health
 - Body Image
 - College
- Education/information received:
 - Nutrition
 - Sexual health
- Overall, patients seemed satisfied with their experience
- Majority of adolescents seen are of ethnic minority and should receive race specific education about diseases like diabetes, hypertension and hyperlipidemia
- Other sources of health education: parents

Recommendations

- Discuss risky behaviors
- Provide resources to adolescents regarding body image, college, nutrition, mental health issues
- Provide education to parents
- Ask parents to leave room when discussing sensitive health topics
- Study patient retention rates

Conclusion

- Adolescents at MWCHC feel comfortable and understood
- Providing specific educational materials will enhance their health experience
- Screenings for risky behaviors such as sexual activity and substance use continues to be necessary
- Further research:
 - Longer study with more patients
 - Participants encourages to answer all questions
 - Focus groups

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