Addressing EHR-related Burnout at CAMH

25 January 2021

camh

AGENDA

1

About CAMH &
The I-CARE Journey

2

Practical
Recommendations
for Reducing EHR-
Related Burnout

3

Physician
Engagement
Strategy

1

About CAMH

Dr. Gillian Strudwick

Chief Nurse Executive (Interim) & Independent Scientist
Campbell Family Mental Health Research Institute &
Information Management Group

camh

CAMH - **Health redefined.**

- ➤ Largest mental health and addictions hospital in Canada
- ➤ University of Toronto - affiliated teaching hospital
- ➤ World leader in brain science
- ➤ 3 main sites with 30+ locations
- ➤ 90 distinct services between an emergency department, inpatient, outpatient, day treatment and partial hospitalization models

I-CARE Journey

Transformation Readiness & System Purchase	CIS Project Design, Build & Test	Training & Launch	Transition to Operations	Optimization & Maintenance
Fall 2010 – Aug 2012	Aug 2012 – April 2014	April – May 2014	May 2014 - Sep 2014	

Stakeholder Engagement, Communications, Change Management

Canada EMR Adoption Model℠

STAGE	2017 Q2
Stage 7	2
Stage 6	7
Stage 5	25
Stage 4	10
Stage 3	197
Stage 2	190
Stage 1	100
Stage 0	113
	n=644

Cumulative Capabilities

Achieved: June 2017

Achieved: June 2015

Pre I-CARE

Key (Difficult) Requirements:

- Paperless clinical environment (<1% documentation created on paper)
- **Closed Loop Medication Administration and CPOE rates sustained above 95% and 90% respectively**
- **Demonstrated use of clinical data to improve quality of care and patient safety over a 1 year period**
- Demonstrated use of data to achieve financial savings
- Advanced clinical decision support
- All external documentation scanned within 24h

2

Practical Recommendations for Reducing EHR-Related Burnout

Brian Lo

Research Analyst & Doctoral Student
Information Management Group & Office of the CMIO

Dr. Gillian Strudwick

Chief Nurse Executive (Interim) & Independent Scientist
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Background

Electronic health records contributing to physician burnout

Roger Collier

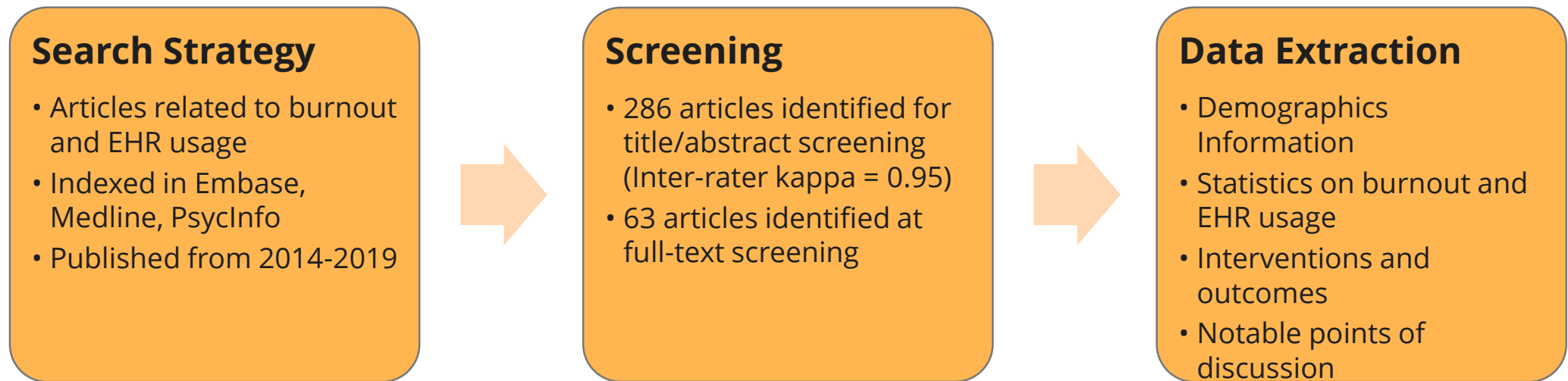## Association of Electronic Health Record Design and Use Factors With Clinician Stress and Burnout

MD; Sharry Veres, MD; Stewart Babbott, MD; Sara Poplau, BA; Fares Qeadan, PhD; Carolyn Parshall, MPH;

Original article

Optimization Sprints: Improving Clinician Satisfaction and Teamwork by Rapidly Reducing Electronic Health Record Burden

Amber Sieja MD [a], Katie Markley MD [b], Jonathan Pell MD [a], Christine Gonzalez CSM [c], Brian Redig MBA [c], Patrick Kneeland MD [a], Chen-Tan Lin MD [a]

Lo, B., Kemp, J., Cullen, C., Tajirian, T., Jankowicz, D., & Strudwick, G. (2020). Electronic Health Record-Related Burnout among Clinicians: Practical Recommendations for Canadian Healthcare Organizations. *Healthcare Quarterly (Toronto, Ont.)*, 23(3), 54-62.

Methods

Objective: Review the **current initiatives and strategies** aimed at combatting EHR-related burnout and achieving the quadruple aim among multiple clinician groups, and what **recommendations** may be derived for the Canadian context.

Search Strategy

- Articles related to burnout and EHR usage
- Indexed in Embase, Medline, PsycInfo
- Published from 2014-2019

Screening

- 286 articles identified for title/abstract screening (Inter-rater kappa = 0.95)
- 63 articles identified at full-text screening

Data Extraction

- Demographics Information
- Statistics on burnout and EHR usage
- Interventions and outcomes
- Notable points of discussion

Lo, B., Kemp, J., Cullen, C., Tajirian, T., Jankowicz, D., & Strudwick, G. (2020). Electronic Health Record-Related Burnout among Clinicians: Practical Recommendations for Canadian Healthcare Organizations. *Healthcare Quarterly (Toronto, Ont.)*, *23*(3), 54-62.

Results: Demographics of Included Articles

50 articles included for analysis

84% of articles published between 2017 – 2019

24% of articles were editorials or commentaries

98% of articles were published in the **US (n = 47)**, **Canada (n = 2)**

Only **2 articles** were conducted in **psychiatric settings**

62% of articles (n = 34) examined EHR usage and burnout in **medical doctors**

Lo, B., Kemp, J., Cullen, C., Tajirian, T., Jankowicz, D., & Strudwick, G. (2020). Electronic Health Record-Related Burnout among Clinicians: Practical Recommendations for Canadian Healthcare Organizations. *Healthcare Quarterly (Toronto, Ont.)*, *23*(3), 54-62.

Results: Measuring EHR-Related Burden and Burnout

Methodologies Employed

Surveys
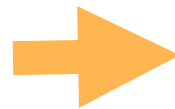(n = 22)

Interviews
(n = 2)

Usage Logs
(n = 7)

Statistics on Burnout and EHR Usage

Cross-section of

24

articles reporting current state

25% of respondents reported symptoms of burnout

70% of those reporting burnout attributed it to using health information technology, such as EHRs

Those who had symptoms of burnout often disagreed with others about the efficiency of EHR systems

Lo, B., Kemp, J., Cullen, C., Tajirian, T., Jankowicz, D., & Strudwick, G. (2020). Electronic Health Record-Related Burnout among Clinicians: Practical Recommendations for Canadian Healthcare Organizations. *Healthcare Quarterly (Toronto, Ont.)*, 23(3), 54-62.

Results: Potential Interventions to Identify and Reduce Burnout

Education and
Training
(n = 3)

Additional
Support
(n = 5)
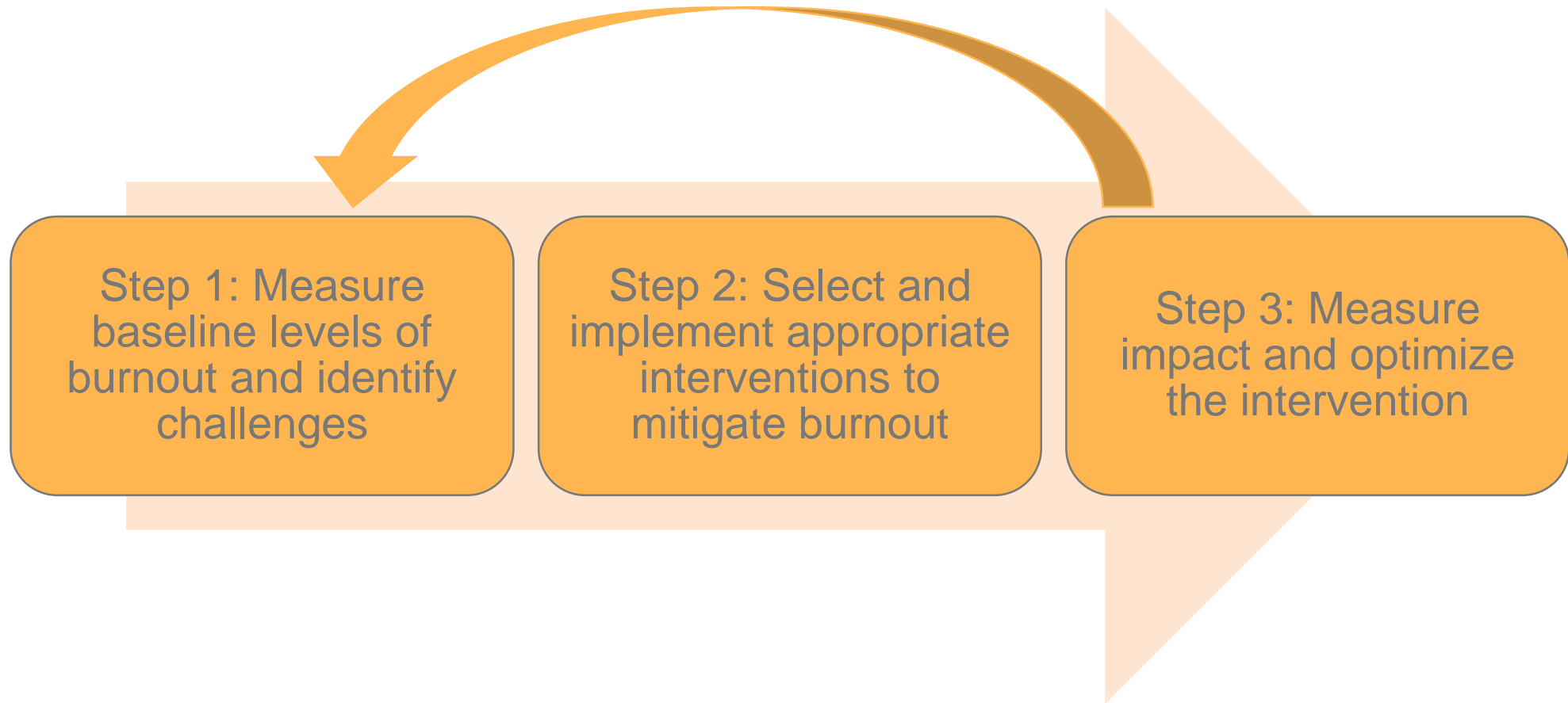
Interface
Improvement
(n = 6)

Communication
Improvement
(n = 1)

Lo, B., Kemp, J., Cullen, C., Tajirian, T., Jankowicz, D., & Strudwick, G. (2020). Electronic Health Record-Related Burnout among Clinicians: Practical Recommendations for Canadian Healthcare Organizations. *Healthcare Quarterly (Toronto, Ont.), 23*(3), 54-62.

Discussion

- The global adoption of EHR systems highlights the need to **examine burnout and EHR usage outside of the American context**

- Only **2 articles have focused on a mental health setting**, with one examining psychiatric residents and faculty[2]
  - The unique documentation demands of psychiatry warrants **further exploration** of using EHR systems in this domain

- Most of the literature has **focused on physician usage** of EHR systems, however, **other healthcare professionals** critical to mental health care delivery (e.g., nurses, social workers) should also be **supported in EHR usage**[4]

- There is a **paucity of evidence** surrounding effective techniques to identify and reduce burnout; identifying which **techniques** are **efficient** and **cost-effective** is critical to developing a toolkit to **support the increasingly advanced digital healthcare environment**[4]

Lo, B., Kemp, J., Cullen, C., Tajirian, T., Jankowicz, D., & Strudwick, G. (2020). Electronic Health Record-Related Burnout among Clinicians: Practical Recommendations for Canadian Healthcare Organizations. *Healthcare Quarterly (Toronto, Ont.)*, 23(3), 54-62.

Recommendations

Step 1: Measure baseline levels of burnout and identify challenges

Step 2: Select and implement appropriate interventions to mitigate burnout

Step 3: Measure impact and optimize the intervention

Lo, B., Kemp, J., Cullen, C., Tajirian, T., Jankowicz, D., & Strudwick, G. (2020). Electronic Health Record-Related Burnout among Clinicians: Practical Recommendations for Canadian Healthcare Organizations. *Healthcare Quarterly (Toronto, Ont.)*, *23*(3), 54-62.

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CAMH Physician Engagement Strategy

Dr. Tania Tajirian

Chief Medical Information Officer
Chief Medicine in Psychiatry Division

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Benchmark Survey: Target population & sample
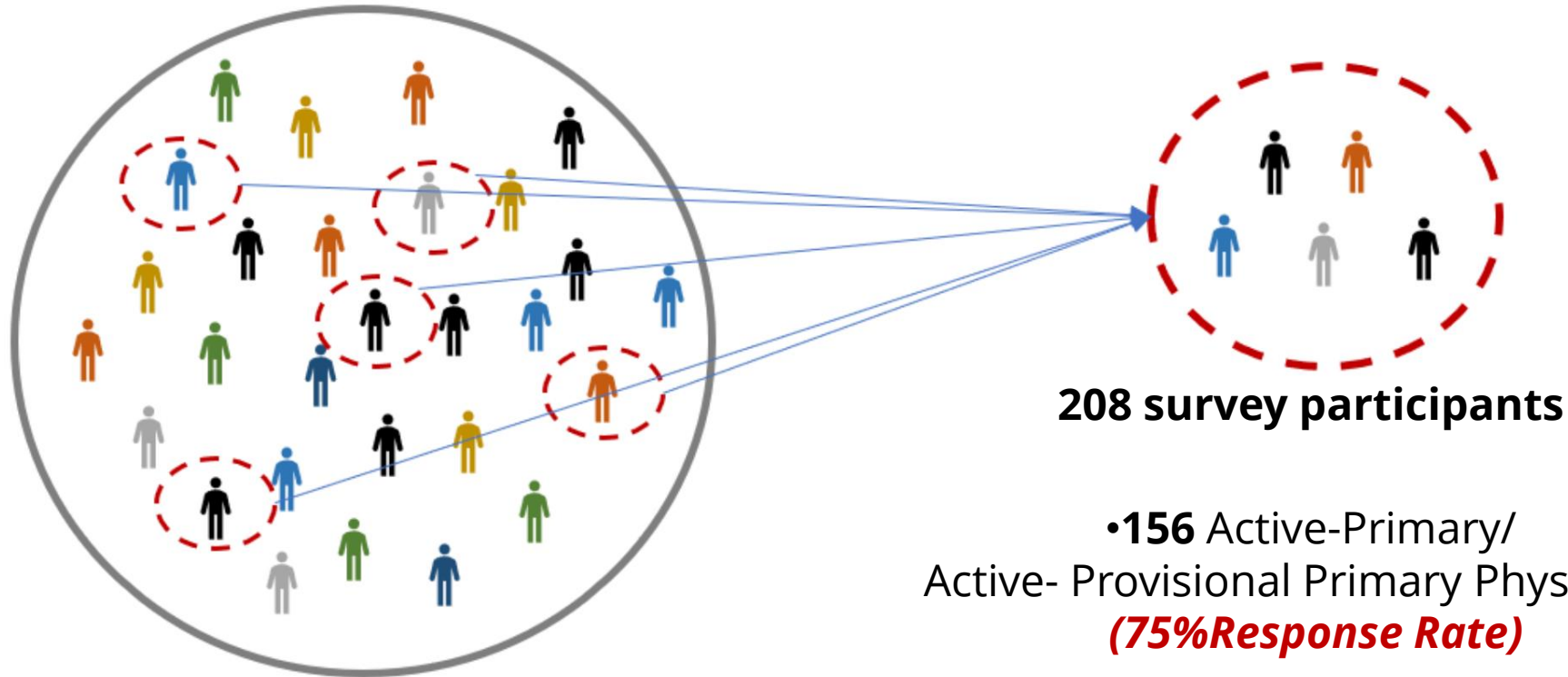
474 CAMH physicians and learners

- **208** Full-time physicians*
- **199** Part-time physicians**
- **67** Learners (53 residents, 14 fellows)

208 survey participants

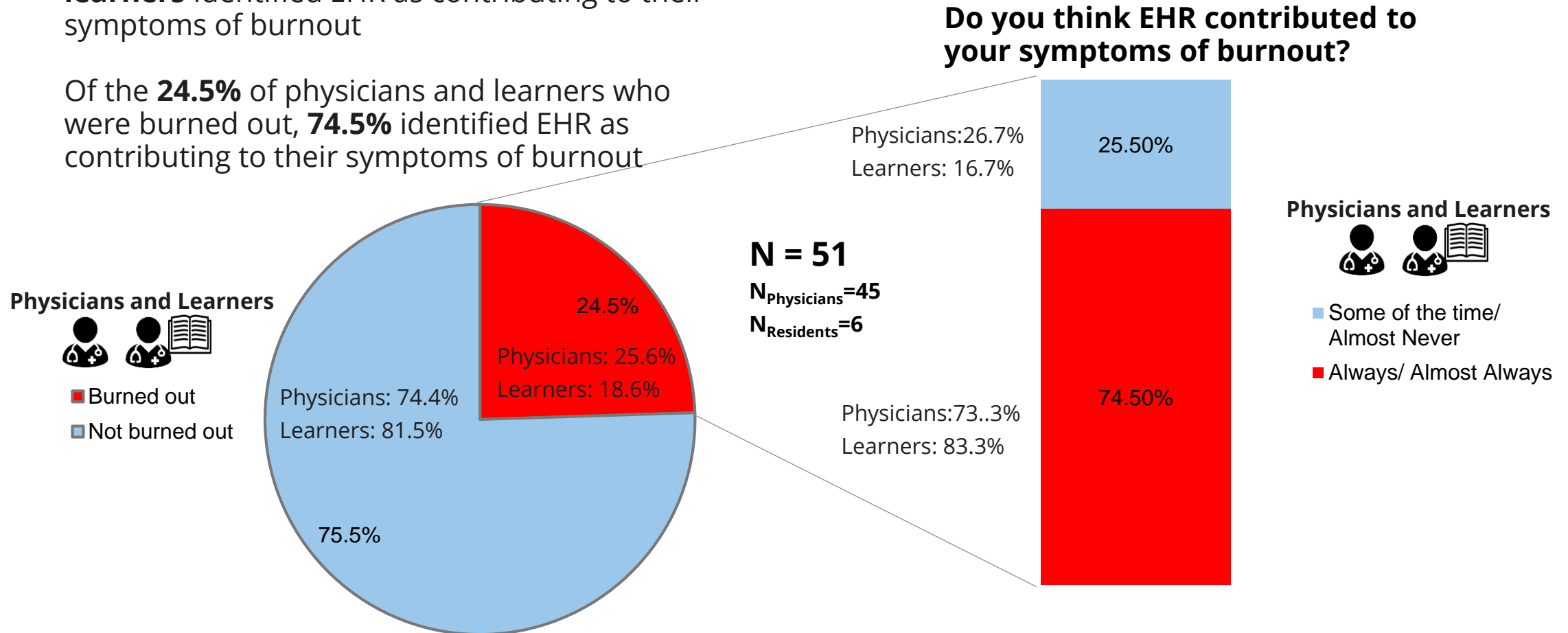- **156** Active-Primary/ Active- Provisional Primary Physicians* *(75%Response Rate)*

- **20** Active- Primary Secondary/ Active- Secondary/ Clinical Associate/ Consultants/Courtesy** *(10% Response Rate)*

- **32** Learners (Residents/ Fellows) *(47.8% Response Rate)*

Tajirian, T., Stergiopoulos, V., Strudwick, G., Sequeira, L., Sanches, M., Kemp, J., Ramamoorthi, K., Zhang, T., & Jankowicz, D. (2020). The Influence of Electronic Health Record Use on Physician Burnout: Cross-Sectional Survey. *Journal of medical Internet research*, 22(7), e19274. https://doi.org/10.2196/19274

Benchmark Survey: Contribution of EHR to physician burnout

In total, **69.7% of physicians** and **68.8% of learners** identified EHR as contributing to their symptoms of burnout
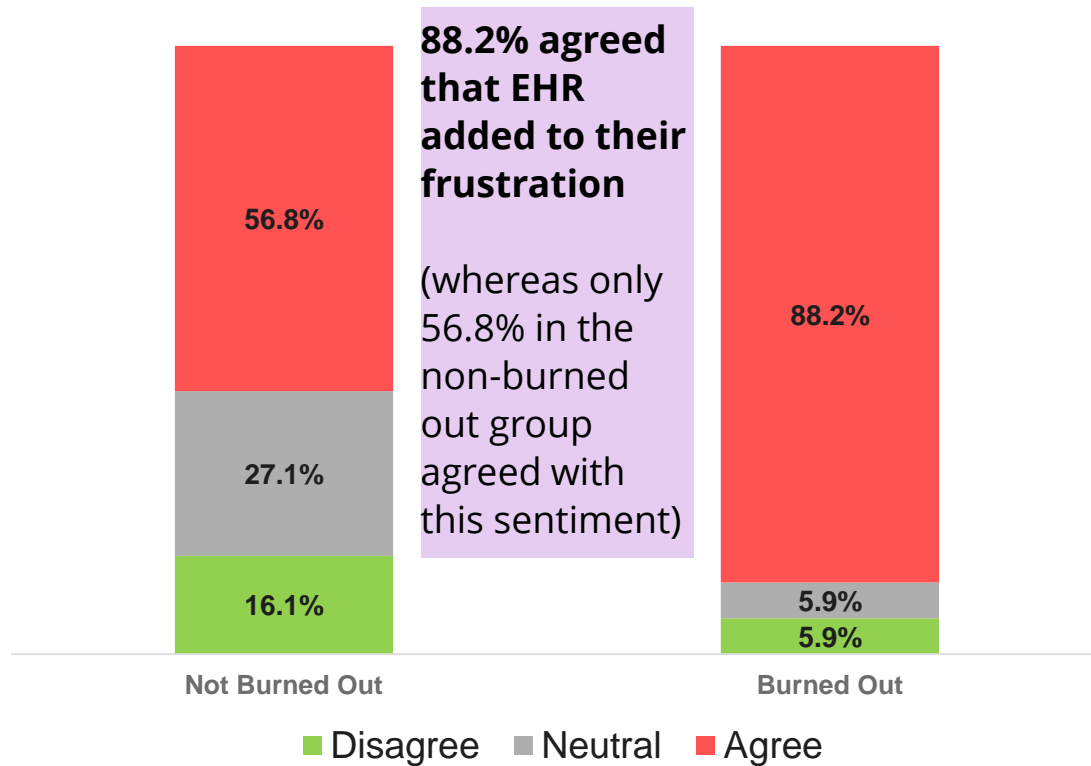
Of the **24.5%** of physicians and learners who were burned out, **74.5%** identified EHR as contributing to their symptoms of burnout
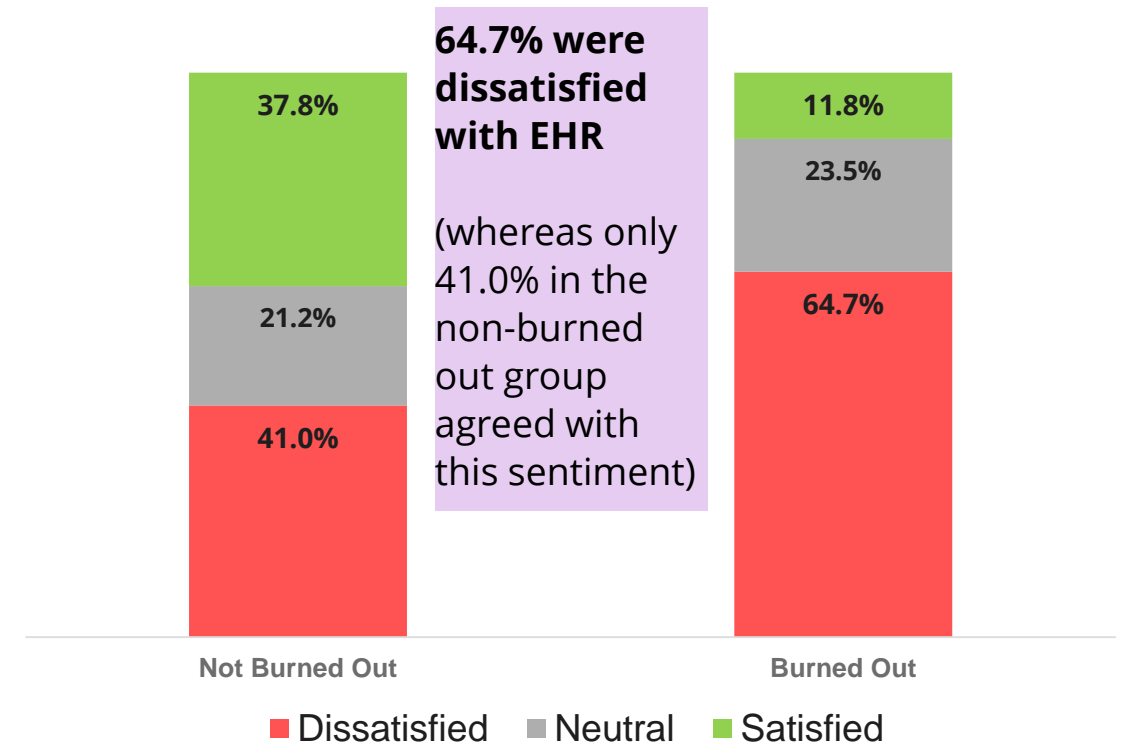
Do you think EHR contributed to your symptoms of burnout?

Physicians and Learners

- Burned out
- Not burned out

Physicians: 25.6%
Learners: 18.6%

24.5%

Physicians: 74.4%
Learners: 81.5%

75.5%

N = 51
$N_{Physicians}=45$
$N_{Residents}=6$

Physicians: 26.7%
Learners: 16.7%

25.50%

Physicians and Learners

- Some of the time/ Almost Never
- Always/ Almost Always

74.50%

Physicians: 73..3%
Learners: 83.3%

Tajirian, T., Stergiopoulos, V., Strudwick, G., Sequeira, L., Sanches, M., Kemp, J., Ramamoorthi, K., Zhang, T., & Jankowicz, D. (2020). The Influence of Electronic Health Record Use on Physician Burnout: Cross-Sectional Survey. *Journal of medical Internet research*, 22(7), e19274. https://doi.org/10.2196/19274

Benchmark Survey: Significant contributors to physician burnout - Frustration and Satisfaction with EHR

Of those physicians and learners who were burned out

88.2% agreed that EHR added to their frustration

(whereas only 56.8% in the non-burned out group agreed with this sentiment)

Not Burned Out: Agree 56.8%, Neutral 27.1%, Disagree 16.1%
Burned Out: Agree 88.2%, Neutral 5.9%, Disagree 5.9%

■ Disagree ■ Neutral ■ Agree

EHR adds to my daily frustration (p<0.001)

64.7% were dissatisfied with EHR

(whereas only 41.0% in the non-burned out group agreed with this sentiment)

Not Burned Out: Satisfied 37.8%, Neutral 21.2%, Dissatisfied 41.0%
Burned Out: Satisfied 11.8%, Neutral 23.5%, Dissatisfied 64.7%

■ Dissatisfied ■ Neutral ■ Satisfied

How would you rate your satisfaction with EHR? (p<0.001)

Tajirian, T., Stergiopoulos, V., Strudwick, G., Sequeira, L., Sanches, M., Kemp, J., Ramamoorthi, K., Zhang, T., & Jankowicz, D. (2020). The Influence of Electronic Health Record Use on Physician Burnout: Cross-Sectional Survey. *Journal of medical Internet research*, *22*(7), e19274. https://doi.org/10.2196/19274

Benchmark Survey: Other significant differences between participants who were burned out vs. not burned out

Perceptions on EHR usefulness

Communication around EHR

Of those physicians and learners who were burned out

Perceptions on EHR usefulness chart:
- Not burned out: Agree 39.4%, Neutral 44.5%, Disagree 16.1%
- Burned out: Agree 19.6%, Neutral 43.1%, Disagree 37.3%
- Legend: Disagree, Neutral, Agree

37.3% disagreed that I-CARE helps keep their patients safe

(whereas only 16.1% in the non-burned out group disagreed with this sentiment)

Communication around EHR chart:
- Not burned out: Always + Almost Always 81.3%, Some of the Time + Almost Never 18.7%
- Burned out: Always + Almost Always 74.5%, Some of the Time + Almost Never 25.5%
- Legend: Some of the Time + Almost Never, Always + Almost Always

25.5% disagreed that I-CARE communications are efficient

(whereas only 18.7% in the non-burned out group disagreed with this sentiment)

EHR helps keep my patients safe (p<0.002)
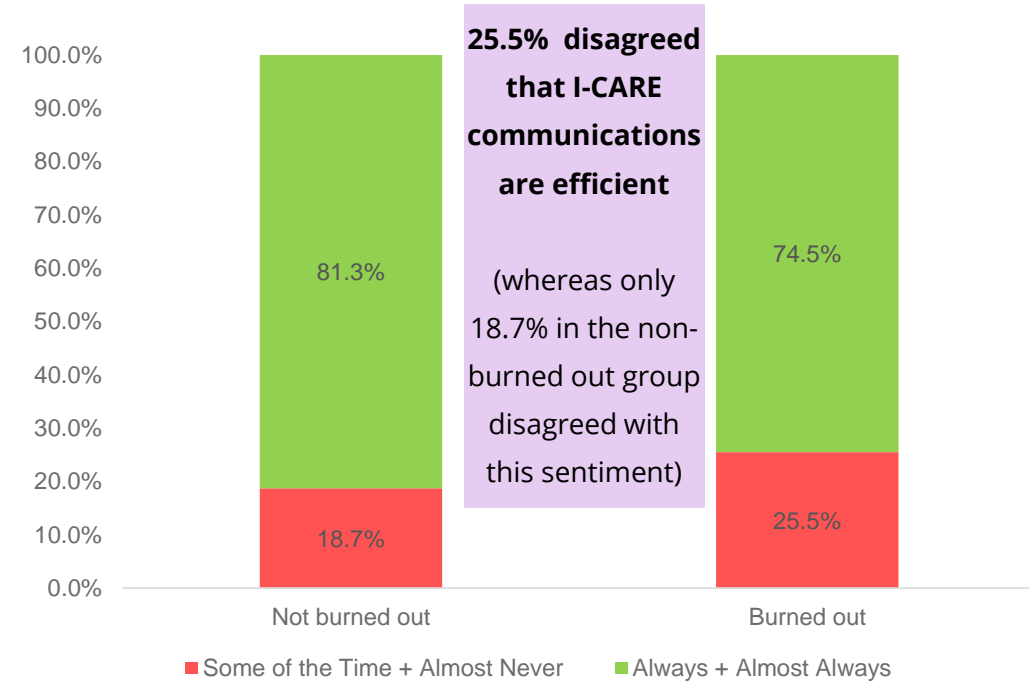
Do you feel communication regarding EHR changes are efficient? (p<0.047)

Tajirian, T., Stergiopoulos, V., Strudwick, G., Sequeira, L., Sanches, M., Kemp, J., Ramamoorthi, K., Zhang, T., & Jankowicz, D. (2020). The Influence of Electronic Health Record Use on Physician Burnout: Cross-Sectional Survey. *Journal of medical Internet research*, 22(7), e19274. https://doi.org/10.2196/19274

Benchmark Survey: Physicians' Experiences with EHR

Themes amongst those participants with

Low EHR Satisfaction	High EHR Satisfaction

Usability:
"not intuitive",
"not user friendly",
"too many redundant tasks",
"too many clicks"

Technical issues:
"system crashes",
"have to log out and back in often"

Additional training:
"don't know any shortcuts", "forwarding notes is a great function and surprisingly underused"

Need for customization:
"I use my own templates, not EHR templates",
"personal short cuts"

Workarounds:
"type long consult notes in word then copy into EHR",
"enter appointments in my calendar"

Information retrieval:
"difficult to find documents",
"info you need is buried"

System speed:
"unresponsive", "slow",
"clunky",
"takes away from time spent with patients"

Fixes:
"prompts for diagnosis hinders workflow",
"dialogue boxes that cannot be dismissed"

New users:
"still getting used to it",
"probably use not all the functionalities"

Speech recognition:
"use speech recognition tool exclusively instead of typing progress notes"

Tajirian, T., Stergiopoulos, V., Strudwick, G., Sequeira, L., Sanches, M., Kemp, J., Ramamoorthi, K., Zhang, T., & Jankowicz, D. (2020). The Influence of Electronic Health Record Use on Physician Burnout: Cross-Sectional Survey. *Journal of medical Internet research*, *22*(7), e19274. https://doi.org/10.2196/19274

Multi-Pronged Physician Engagement Strategy

Improve Physicians' experience by rapid handling of EMR issues (SWAT)

Enhance physicians engagement and leadership (Physician Think Tank)

Leverage accessibility to system use data and metrics to measure outcomes (System Use Data Dashboards)

Develop education and communication strategies (peer education, e-learning, physicians portal and CMIO newsletter)

ENGAGE

INSPIRE

CHANGE

Develop education and communication strategies (peer education, e-learning, physicians portal and CMIO newsletter)

CMIO Monthly Newsletter
(September 2019 onwards)
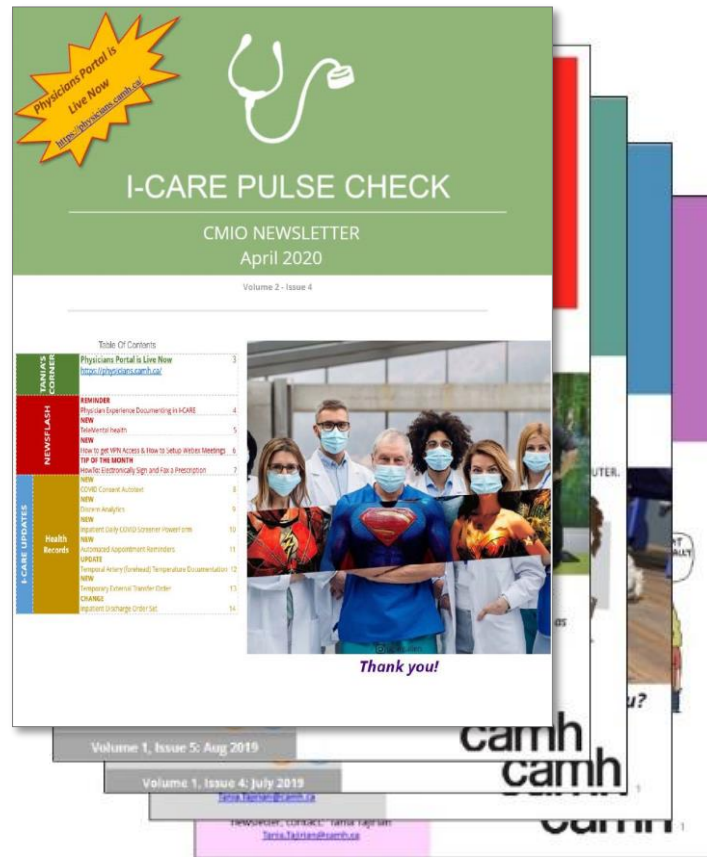
Content:
-Initiatives updates
-Interviews
-EHR Tips & Tricks
-EHR changes in 3 categories
(Pharmacy, labs, health records)

Open Rates
(Out of 500 recipients in September 2020)
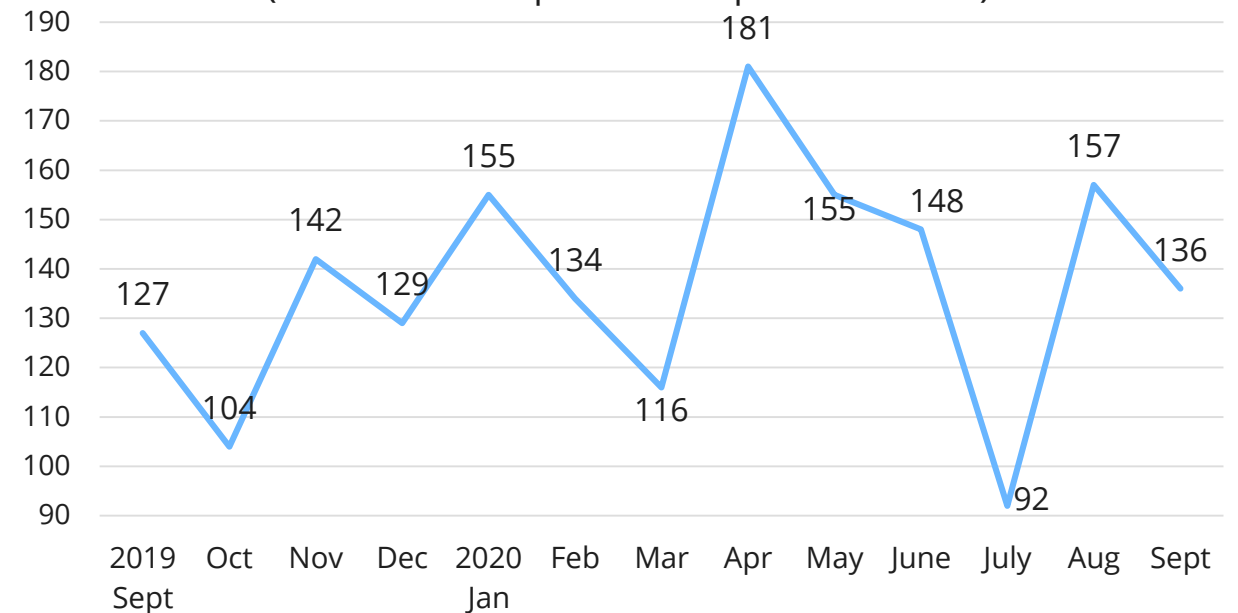
Performance metrics: Delivery rates, Open rates, Links clicked.

Develop education and communication strategies (peer education, e-learning, physicians portal and CMIO newsletter)

Physician Portal
(March 2020)

Content:
-Stories
-Wellness initiatives
-EHR Tips & Tricks
-In case you missed

Wellness tips

Policies & Procedures

Basic How-To

Newsletters
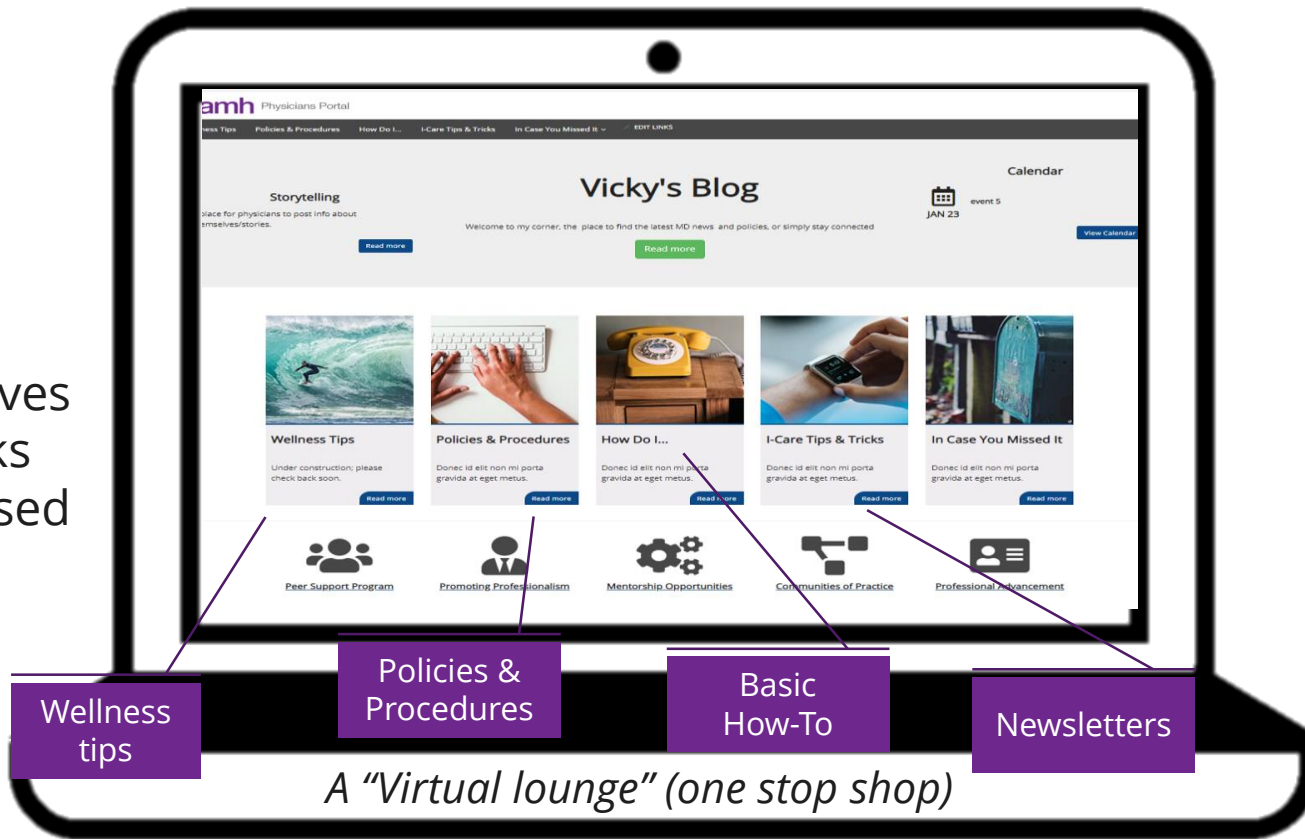
A "Virtual lounge" (one stop shop)

Leverage accessibility to system use data and metrics to measure outcomes
(System Use Data Dashboards)

Allowing physicians to view their own system use metrics:

Time in EHR
- Total active time
- Time spent **per patient** including:
  - documentation
  - chart review
  - orders time
  - orders

Time Spent in EHR After Hours
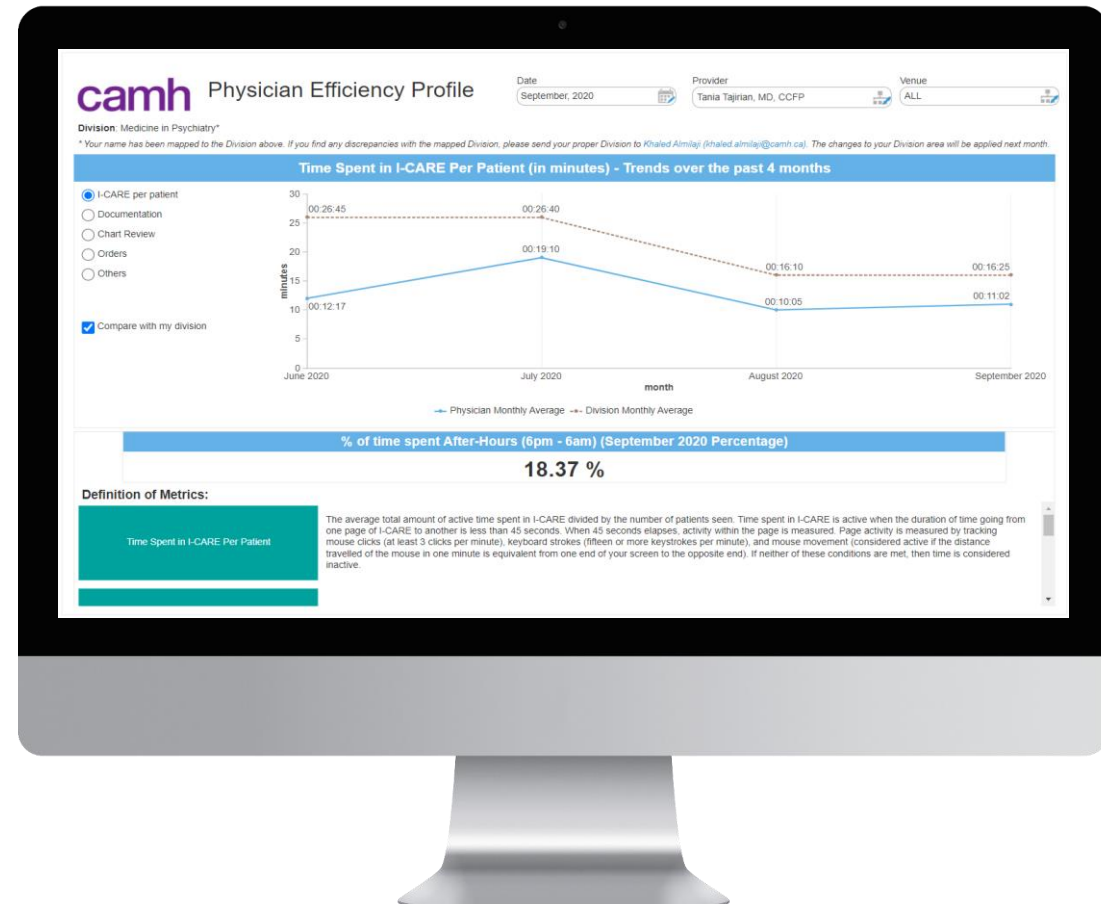
Enhance physicians engagement and leadership (Physician Think Tank)

Physician Think Tank
(Cross divisional lens)

Membership

CMIO (Chair)

Physicians 'Divisional Liaisons'

Clinical Informatics Nurses

Clinical Applications Team

Health Information Management

Pharmacy Informatics

Laboratory and Diagnostics

Professional Practice Office

Enterprise Project Management Office

Goals

- Discuss new topics/changes
- Lead the improvement of EHR

Benefits

- Part of the Change Control Governance
- Representation from all divisions and stakeholders

SWAT

Improve Physicians' experience by rapid handling of EHR issues (SWAT)

Goals

- Apply rapid changes and fix "the pebbles in your shoes"
- Fill the gaps in the physicians' EHR knowledge

Benefits

- Multi disciplinary team
- Follows agile methodology

Process

- Collect issues from divisions
- Engage team
- Categorize requests
- Submit change requests
- Develop education material
- Close the loop (newsletter, divisional meetings)
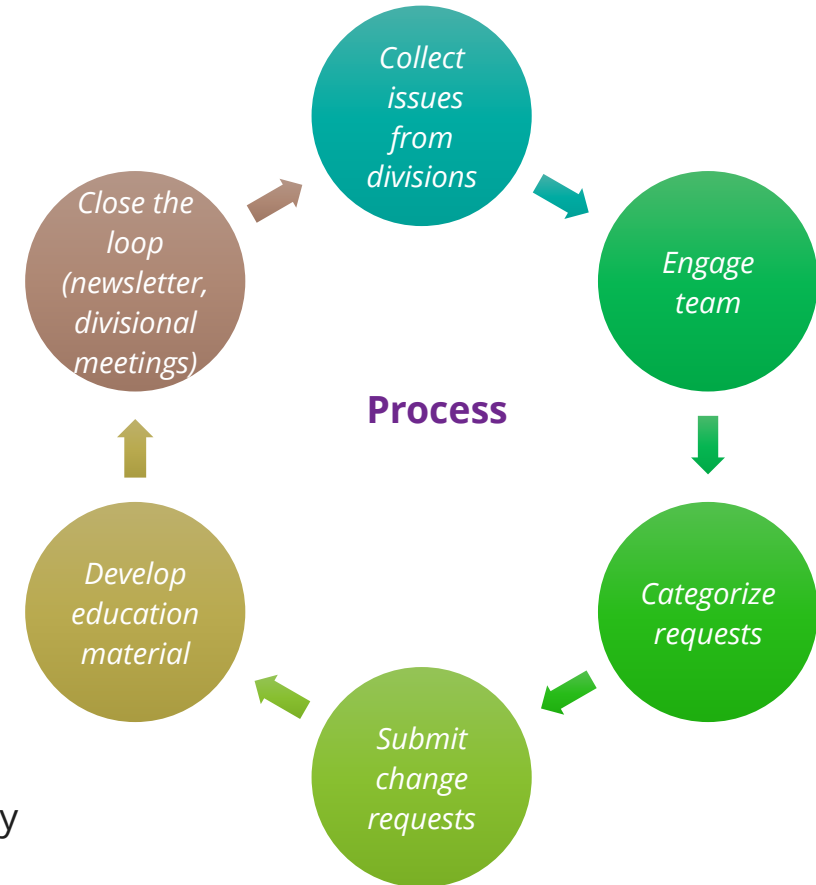
SWAT: Request Categorization

Blue Requests
Needs more training

Green Requests
Fixes will be delivered within 6 weeks of submission to change control governance

Yellow Requests
Request is applicable but needs time due to needed system upgrade or other requirement (On-Hold)

Red Requests
Change is not in scope, or not aligned with policies and regulations

100% Implemented

Red 10%
N=12

Green 15%
N=20

Yellow 42%
N=56

Blue 33%
N=43

We collected **133** EHR Change Requests

51% In Progress *49% Implemented*
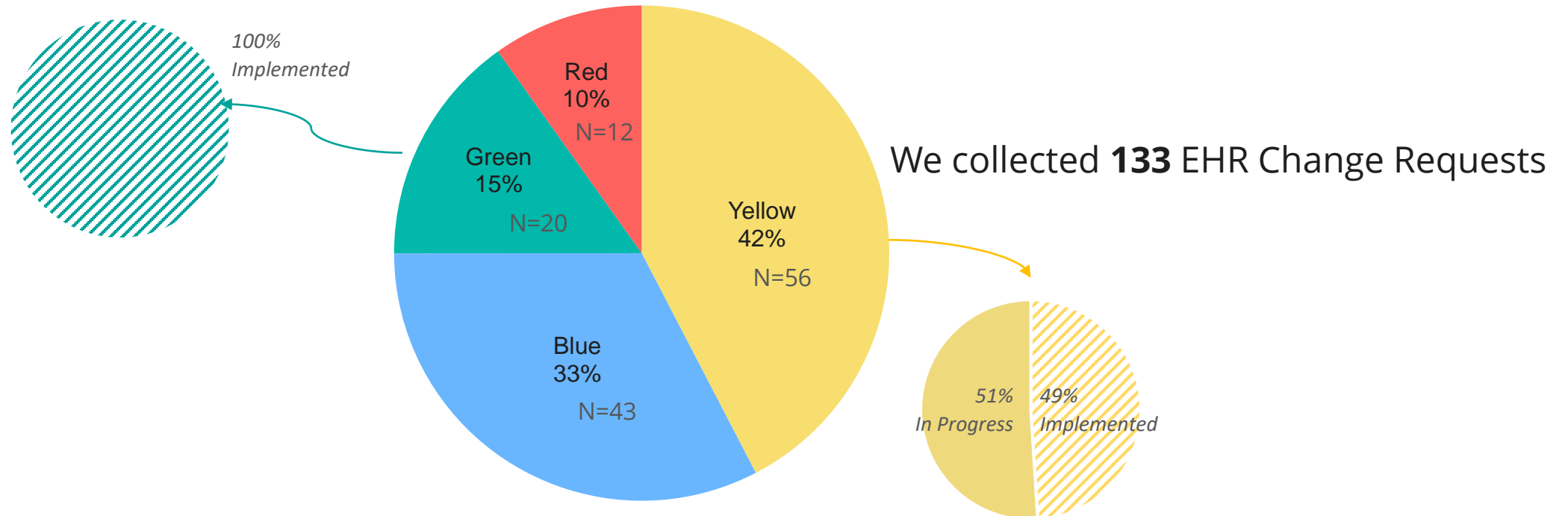
SWAT: Divisional Dashboards

- Shareable interactive dashboard to monitor the status of all requests including:

  - Feedback for each request
  - Visualization by: Division, Status, Category

- Allows for real-time updates

SWAT: Lessons Learned from SWAT I

✓ Agile methodology

✓ Attending physician divisional meetings

✓ Engaging divisional leadership

✓ Multi disciplinary representation in the SWAT team

✓ Development of SWAT II (education focus)

✓ SWAT III (closing the loop) to maintain accountability

SWAT II:
- **EHR education sessions resumed in September 2020**

Multi-Pronged Physician Engagement Strategy: Lessons Learned

- Physicians are main stakeholders/decision makers in all initiatives of the strategy

- Multi-disciplinary team to be engaged in direct discussions with MDs

- Initiatives are connected and provide essential input to each other
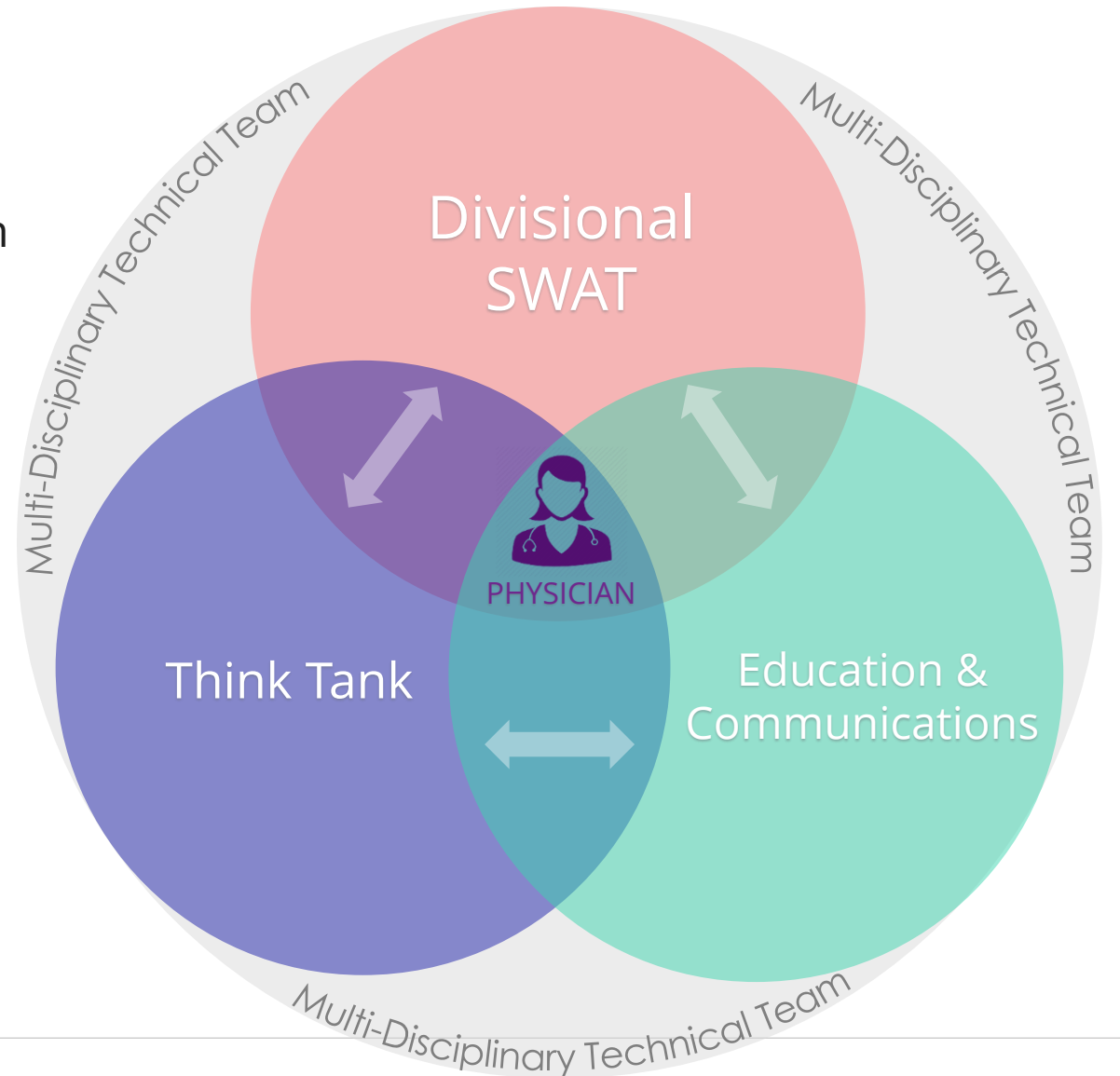
Next Steps

- Continue to increase *satisfaction* through
  Reducing inefficiencies and **improving education**
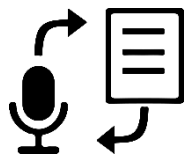
Speech recognition technology

Peer education, videos, e-learning, super users

- **Measure impact** & continuously improve (PEPs)

- *Return to what EHR was intended to do:*
  - *Provide fast access to patient information*
  - *Support clinical decision making*
  - *Support the patient journey through transitions of care*
  - *Improve patient safety & quality of care*

Data rich = Data driven

Questions?

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