Musculoskeletal (MSK) conditions account for over 90 million office visits annually yet are underrepresented in medical curricula. Medical trainees express discomfort in accurately diagnosing and managing common MSK pathologies.

The Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education (CoEPCE) integrates physical therapy services within an interprofessional primary care training program and clinic. In this integrated model, patients with MSK complaints are able to be concurrently evaluated by medical trainees and physical therapists (PT). This was shown to increase patient and trainee satisfaction in addition to likelihood for follow-up. Additionally, PT provides didactic sessions to the medical trainees.

However, delayed identification of appropriate patients results in an underutilization of co-evaluations, which are estimated to occur in less than 40% of eligible visits.

**Objectives**

- Increase the number of co-evaluations by implementing an early screening system
- Measure the impact on trainee confidence in evaluating and diagnosing MSK complaints
- Assess barriers to co-evaluation utilization

**Patient Population**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Patients</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Age (years)</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
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<tr>
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<td>68.6</td>
<td>72.3%</td>
<td>36.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>46</td>
<td></td>
<td>68.6</td>
<td>72.3%</td>
<td>36.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mean Age (years)</td>
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<td>Median Age (years)</td>
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<td>16.4</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Chronic</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Results**

**MSK Concern Evaluated**

- Lower back
- Knee
- Shoulder
- Neck
- Other

*Other included elbow, hip, ankle, foot, gait evaluations

**Confidence in MSK Examination**

- Neck
- Shoulder
- Lower back
- Knee
- Overall MSK

**Perception of MSK Education**

- Not enough
- Adequate
- Just the right amount

**Confidence in MSK Diagnoses**

- Neck
- Shoulder
- Lower back
- Knee
- Overall MSK

**Future Directions**

- Elicit feedback on screening tool utilization
- Maximize PT availability
- Expand on balanced didactic and bedside teaching

**References**

4. Walker J, Zito JD, Conteau C, Prindo D, M.S. B, Brienza, R.S. (in preparation) Integration of Physical Therapy into an Interprofessional Primary Care Training Clinic (in preparation)