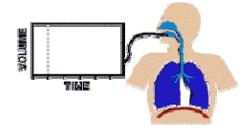


Provider Education Program: Spirometry Interpretation Workshop Outcomes

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ABSTRACT

Rationale: Barriers to utilization of spirometry in primary care have included challenges related to interpretation of spirometric data. The objectives of the workshops were to improve understanding about a) the role of spirometry for objective testing of lung function, b) spirometry terminology, quality control, and technique of measurement and c) to increase confidence in the interpretation of spirometry data.

Methods: A standardized, three part workshop-a 20-minutes technical presentation, a 30-minutes Spirometry Interpretation presentation and 60-minutes facilitated, interactive case discussions by specialists was developed. The program was accredited by the Canadian College of Family Physicians. Outcome measures included a pre-workshop assessment, a workshop evaluation, and a post-reflection evaluation in which participants were asked how their practice had been affected by their having completed a workshop 1 month previously.

Results: The Spirometry Interpretation Workshop outcomes are based on data from the pilot phase (5 workshops) and 08/09 session (15 workshops). In total there are 20 workshops with 409 attendees (162 physicians & 247 allied health). The workshops were highly rated and 97.8% of participants stated that they would recommend the workshop to a colleague. Further information will be summarized in the poster.

Conclusion: Our results suggest that a spirometry interpretation workshop has a favourable impact on attitudes toward the use of spirometry in primary care. Further research is needed to evaluate the influence of this workshop on spirometric diagnosis of common respiratory conditions

Background: The foundation of asthma and COPD management is to establish a correct diagnosis supported by objective measures such as spirometry. The Ontario Thoracic Society (OTS) Provider Education Program (PEP) has developed a workshop to address some of the knowledge gaps for spirometry interpretation amongst primary care providers in Ontario.

Purpose

- To improve the understanding of the role of spirometry for objective testing of lung function.
- To improve the understanding of spirometry terminology and quality control in primary care.
- To increase confidence in the interpretation of spirometry data.

Method:

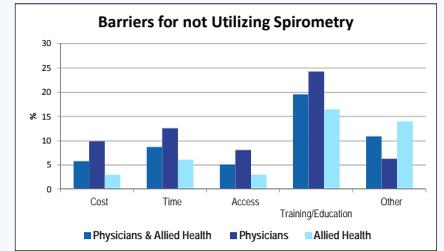
- CME program designed by professional experts (Respirologists, Family Physician, Registered Respiratory Therapists, Certified Asthma Educators, Provider Education Manager)
- 2.5 hour evening workshop
- 20 minute technical lecture by RRT or CACPT using a standardized slide kit
- 30 minute spirometry interpretation lecture by specialist using a standardized slide kit
- 60 minute interactive case discussions led by trained primary care facilitator
- Accredited by Ontario College of Family Physicians (2 MainPro C CME credits)
- Case based assessment-immediately pre and 1 month post-workshop.

Results:

Between February 2008 and March 2010, 162 physicians and 247 allied health professionals, attended 20 workshops. At the end of the workshop, a total of 369 attendees completed a workshop evaluation. Both physicians and allied health indicated satisfaction with the workshops.

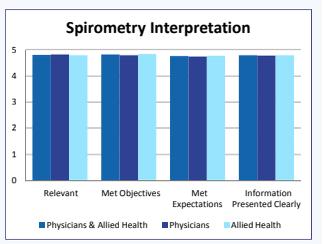
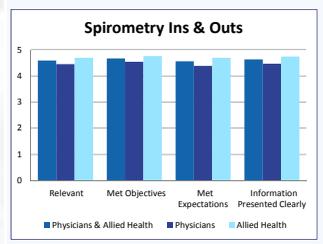
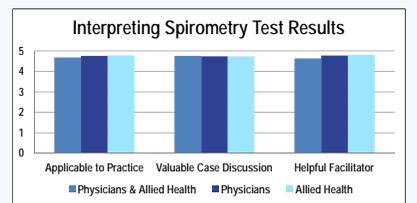
PRE-ASSESSMENT

- 275 (67.2%) attendees completed a pre assessment, 111 physicians and 164 allied health.
- 235 (85.5%) indicated having access to spirometry testing, 91 physicians and 144 allied health.
- 232 (84.4%) answered the question on how they utilize spirometry; 103 (37.5%) indicated that they perform spirometry and 134 (48.7%) refer patients for spirometry.
- 77(28.0%) attendees, 35 physicians and 42 allied health providers listed the barriers for not utilizing spirometry



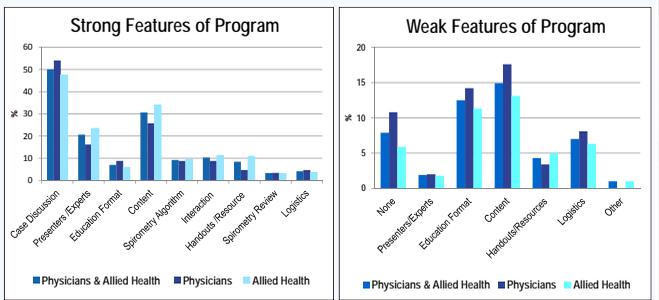
WORKSHOP EVALUATION

- 369 (90.2%) attendees completed a workshop evaluation 148 physicians & 221 allied health care professionals:

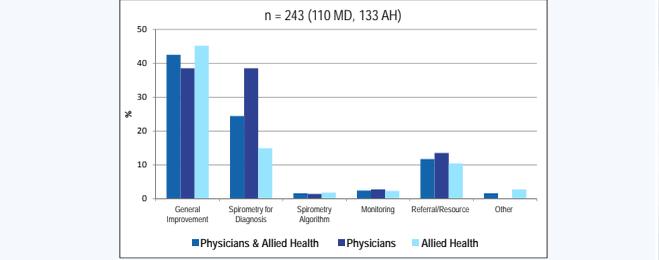


Strong/Weak Features of the Workshop

- 320 (86.7%) attendees responded to the strong features and 162 (43.9%) attendees responded to the weak features of the program:



Influence on Practice

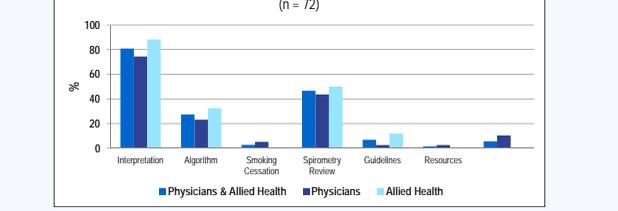


391 (97.8%) attendees would recommend this workshop to a colleague (144 Physicians and 217 Allied Health).

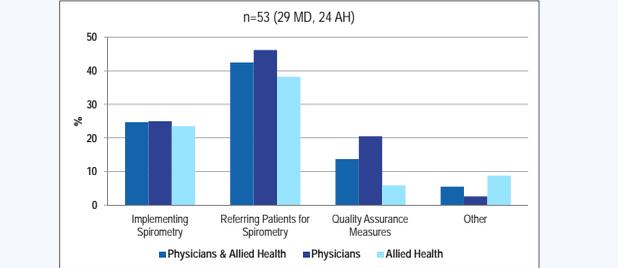
POST-ASSESSMENT

- 73 (17.8%) attendees completed a post assessment, 39 physicians & 34 allied health.
- 83.4% indicated that they were either very or extremely satisfied with the workshop.
- 48 participants (27 physicians & 21 allied health) had valid data for both the pre and post assessment for comparison.
- Ninety percent of participants indicated that they would recommend the workshop to a colleague.
- It is important to note that all mean scores improved and the total score improved significantly (p-value: 0.038). Given the small sample size this is encouraging.

Helpful Learning Points



Influence on Clinical Practice



CONCLUSIONS

- Our results suggest that a spirometry interpretation workshop has a favourable impact on attitudes toward the use of spirometry in primary care.
- Most respondents indicated that the workshop influenced their clinical practice in some way, including a heightened confidence in interpreting spirometry data.
- Further research is needed to evaluate the influence of this workshop on spirometric diagnosis of common respiratory conditions.

CONTACT

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