Geriatrics & Physician Resource Planning for the Future

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Presenter: **Lesley Charles, MBChB, CCFP(COE)**

- Speakers Bureau/Honoraria: Workshop Participant Fee - FMF
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- Other: N/A
- The College of Family Physicians has provided support in the form of expenses to attend the Working Group on the Assessment of Competence in COE and CFPC Peer Review Committee for CACs in Family Medicine in Care of the Elderly

Objectives

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Outline what COE programs are and the role of their graduates in specialized geriatric services.
- Discuss the competencies required in COE
- Be aware of the range of Certificates of Added Competence

Care of the Elderly (COE) Programs

- Established

- COE Programs officially established in Canada in 1989
- Currently, there are 15 COE Programs in Canada

COE Programs

- Supplementary Training

- “Provide elective, supplementary training in care of the elderly for 6 or 12 month’s duration, available after the 2-year core Family Medicine residency”
- Must meet the same competency and the 6 month program is mostly only open to return from practice physicians

Competence

- CFPC Working Group on the Assessment of Competence in Care of the Elderly 2013-2016
- Developed Priority Topics and Key Features for COE[1]

1. Charles L, Frank C, Allen T, Lozanovska T, Arcand M, Feldman S, Lam R, Mehta P, Mangal N. Identifying the Priority Topics for the Assessment of Competence in Care of the Elderly. C Geriatr J 2018; 21(1):6-13. doi:10.5770/cgj.21.289. eCollection 2018 Mar. PubMed PMID: 29581816; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5864573.

CCFP18 Priority Topics

1. Medical conditions
2. Cognitive Impairment
3. Appropriate prescribing
4. Falls and mobility issues
5. Teams (working with)
6. Communication issues
7. Frailty continuum/ spectrum
8. Decision-making capacity
9. Family and informal care support
10. Care in different settings
11. Organizing care using community resources
12. Goals of care
13. End-of-life care
14. Depression/ Anxiety
15. Delirium
16. Urinary incontinence
17. Driving Issues
18. Pain

Certificate of Added Competence

- The CFPC created a Certificate of Added Competence (CAC) in care of the elderly (COE)
- The Family Medicine Residency Training Profile describes holders of the COE CAC as “increas[ing] the capacity for provision of care to the aging adult through direct patient care, consultations, peer support and education …. They augment and support the care provided by family physicians, other physicians and other care providers typically around issues of frailty, complexity, comorbidity and functional decline in the elderly.”

CACs

:

Awarded CACs in COE		
Credentialing - Phase 1 2015	Residency route	159
	Leader route	114
Added Competence Verification route		41
2015-2020 Graduates		100
Total		414

CACs by Province

Awarded CACs in COE
(as of April 15, 2021):

Province/Country (current residence)	Credentialing - Phase 1			Added Competence Verification (ACV) Route	Residency Training Application Route (2015-20 Cat1 graduates)	Total by Province
	Leader Application Route	Residency Application Route	Total			
AB	14	42	56	4	17	77
BC	23	13	36	8	10	54
MB	6	4	10	1	4	15
NB	3	2	5	0	0	5
NL	4	2	6	1	4	11
NS	3	8	11	0	2	13
ON	44	72	116	22	40	178
PE	0	0	0	0	1	1
QC	13	14	27	4	22	53
SK	2	0	2	0	0	2
YT	0	0	0	1	0	1
USA	1	0	1	0	0	1
Jordan	0	1	1	0	0	1
Saudi Arabia	0	1	1	0	0	1
Switzerland	1	0	1	0	0	1
Total	114	159	273	41	100	414

COE Program at University of Alberta

- The COE Program was established and accredited at the University of Alberta in 1993[2]
- 4 one-year positions each year
- 66 residents have completed the COE program to date
- Majority have completed the 6-month program
- Program recently expanded
- 1 year program with an Exit Examination

2. The Standards for Accreditation of Residency Programs (20180701_RB_V1.2_ENG.pdf (cfpc.ca)

Collaboration between Divisions COE/GM

- Joint program at the University of Alberta between the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Division of COE
  - Training medical students, rotating residents, COE and GM residents
  - Practice – some sites have both GM and COE physicians
  - Joint Residency Program Committee
  - Geriatric Grand Rounds
  - Academic Half Day
  - Research – numerous shared projects
  - Geriatric Conference yearly

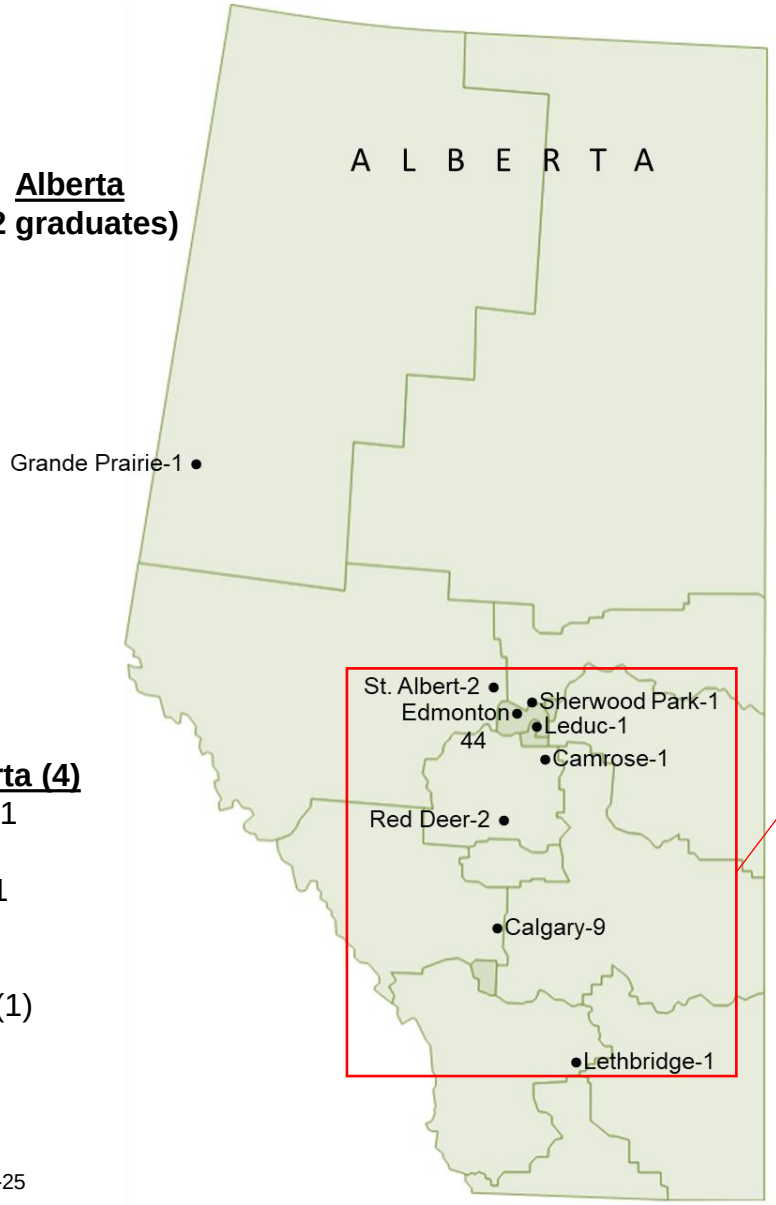
COE Practice

- Functions typically done by Geriatricians:
  - Consultations in patient and outpatient including telehealth
  - **A**cute **C**are of the **E**lderly units (ACE Units)
  - Geriatric rehabilitative teams including tertiary rehab
  - ED consultation
  - Academic contribution to many university-based training programs
  - Non-clinical teaching, administration, and research
- Primary care geriatric practices:
  - Senior Clinics some in Primary Care Networks, Good Samaritan Seniors Clinic
  - **C**omprehensive **H**ome **O**ption **I**ntegrated **C**are of the **E**lderly Programs (CHOICE)
  - **G**eriatric **E**valuation & **M**anagement Teams (GEM)
  - Supportive Living
  - Home Living

Future plans to expand in rural communities and consultation in continuing care

Location of COE Graduates

Alberta
(62 graduates)



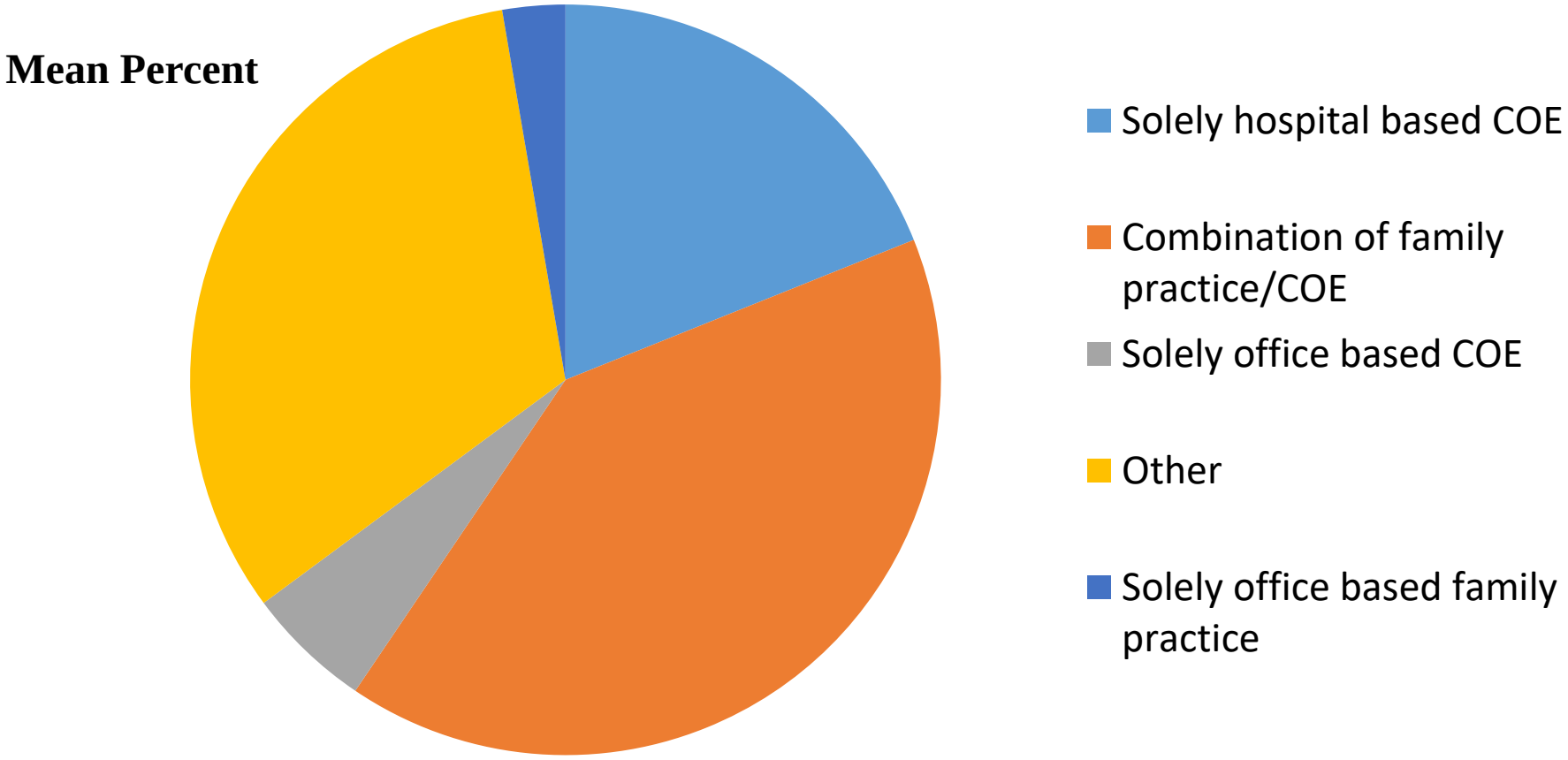
Outside of Alberta (4)
British Columbia-1
Ontario-1
New Foundland-1
U.S.A.-1

Note: Deceased (1)

Last updated: 2021-Mar-25

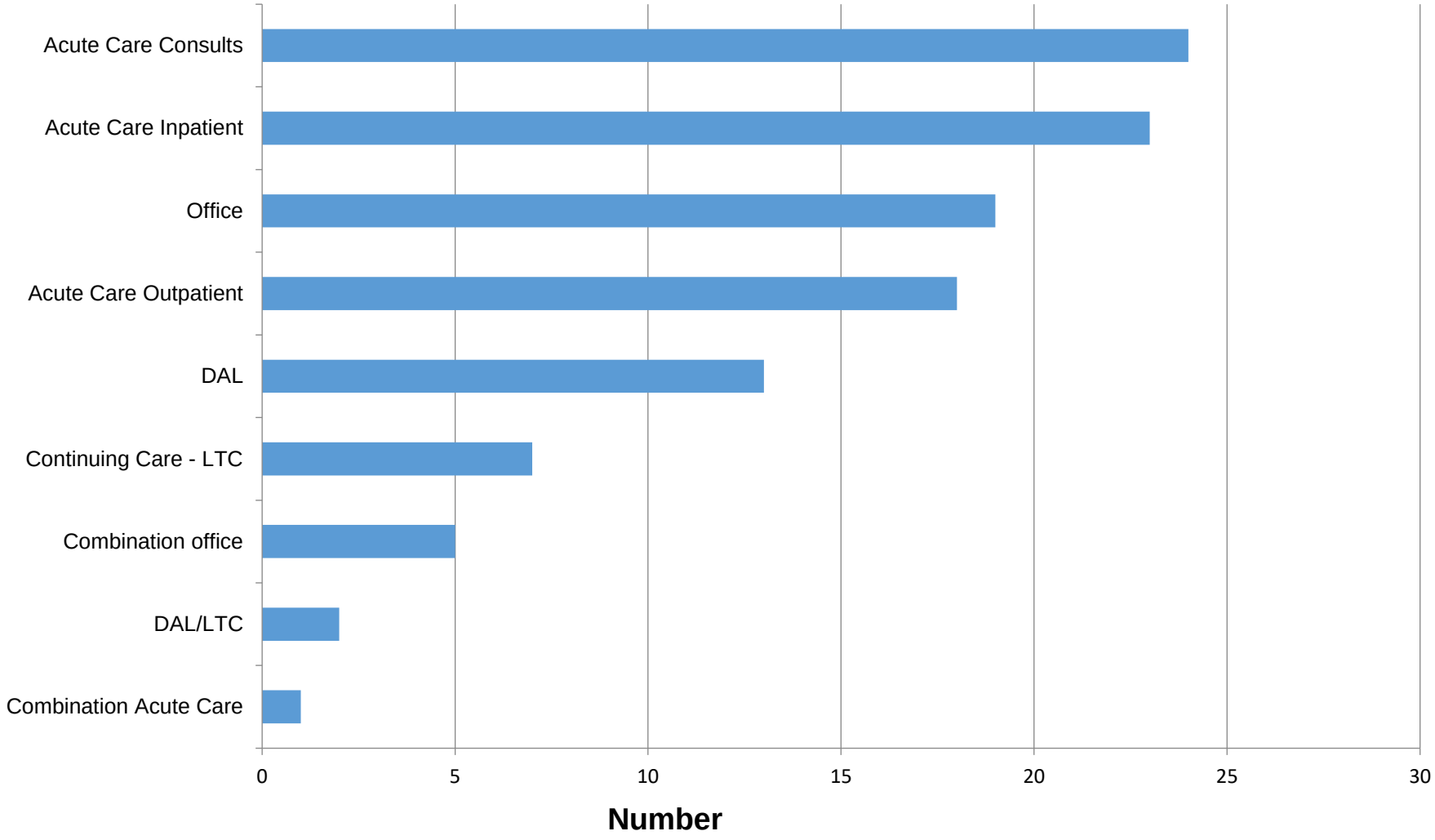
Primary Nature of Current Practice[3]

80% of former COE residents were working as a COE physician on average 0.7 FTE

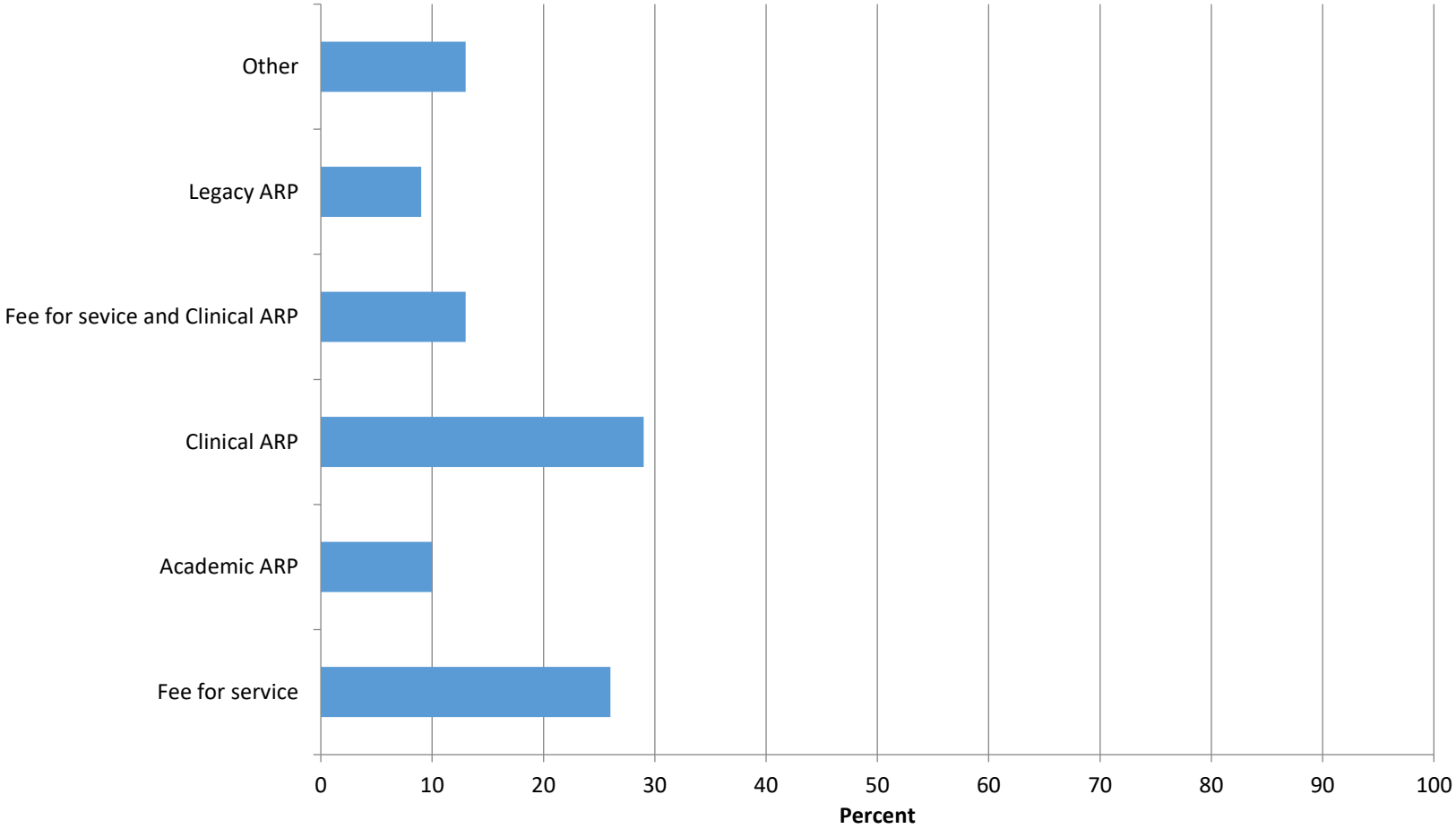


3. Charles LA, Dobbs BM, McKay RM, Babenko O, Triscott JA. Training of specialized geriatric physicians to meet the needs of an aging population--a unique care of the elderly physician program in Canada. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2014 Jul;62(7):1390-2.

Practice Setting of COE Graduate



Reimbursement for COE Work[3]



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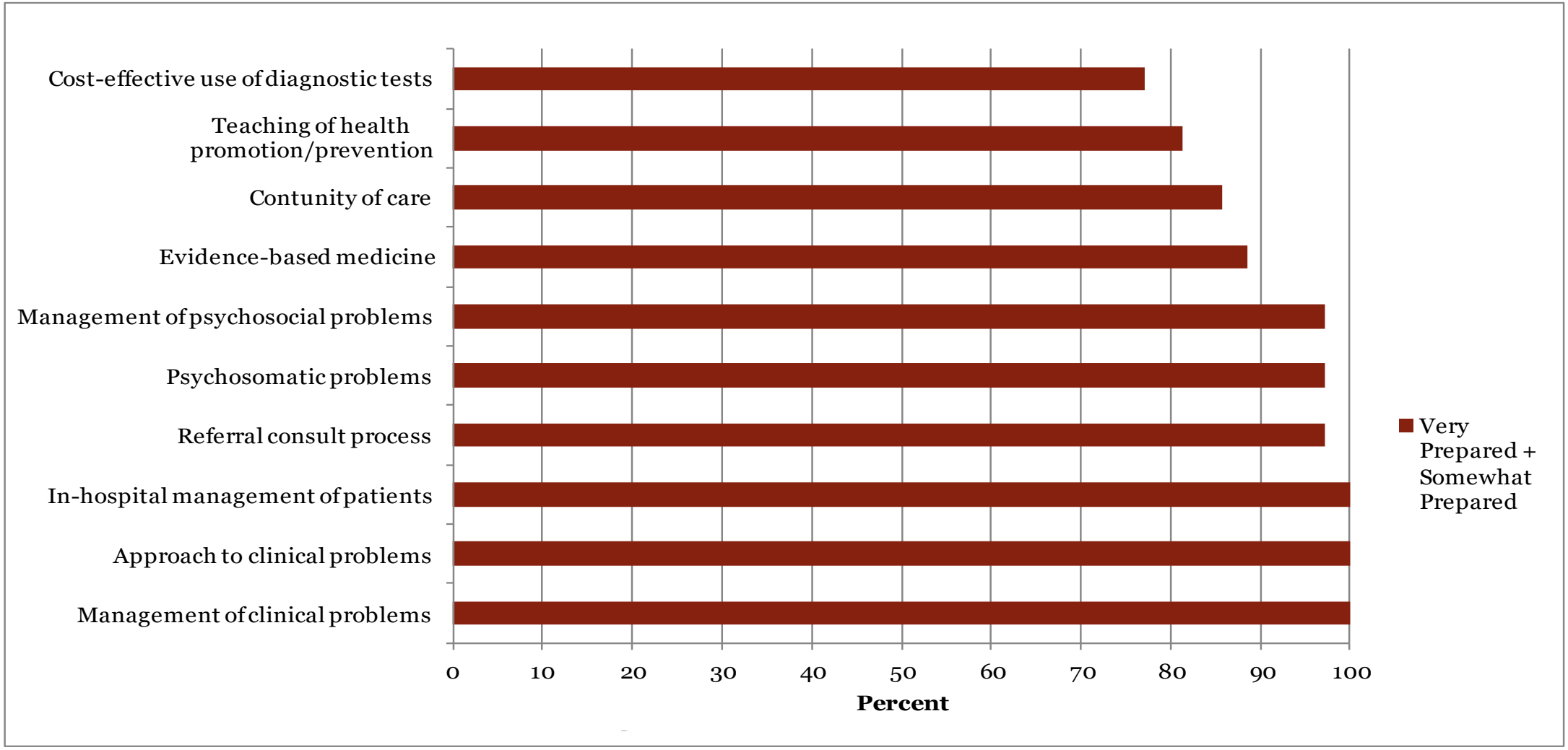
Preparedness for Clinical Practice[3]



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