Evaluation of Pediatrics Residents’ Knowledge of Patient Education Resources
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Background
- Caregiver health literacy is associated with improved child health outcomes1
- Written materials, such as asthma education plans, have been shown to increase caregiver health literacy and reduce ER visits2,3
- Two major national websites provide easy-to-read (and often multi-lingual) evidence-based handout materials:
  - AboutKidsHealth.ca (The Hospital for Sick Children)
  - Caringforkids.cps.ca (Canadian Pediatric Society)
- Residents are often responsible to provide relevant patient education resources (PERs) to caregivers
- Resident knowledge of available PERs has not previously been studied

Objectives
- Assess pediatric resident knowledge of available local and national PERs
- Assess differences in resident knowledge between years of training
- Evaluate resident perceptions on barriers to accessing PERs

Methods
- Cross-sectional survey from convenience sample of pediatric residents during an academic half-day session
- Participation voluntary with implied consent
- Participant demographic data was obtained (e.g., PGY level of training)
- Answers to survey questions were recorded either dichotomously (yes/no), or categorically
- Area left on survey for qualitative comments

Discussion
- Overall, results suggest that studied resident group lacked awareness of where to find patient education resources
- There also appears to be a perception that finding resources is time consumptive
- National online education tools appear most familiar to pediatric residents which could be due to ease of use, variability in institutions of training or comprehensiveness of published materials

Future Directions
- Our findings suggest the need for formal resident education in available PERs
- Having a unified Canadian evidence-based resource centre for written handout materials could potentially improve educational awareness, accessibility and overall use of PERs by residents

Results
- 25 participants completed the survey
- Regular use of PERs increased from PGY-1 to PGY-4 (43% vs. 75%; mean 52%)2
- When familiar with PERs, the most commonly used resources by residents in clinical practice were national online education tools (69-77%)2
- Awareness of where to obtain local resources was low with infrequent use (38%)
- The most commonly cited barriers to access resources were (in order of frequency): time constraints, language barriers and inability to find resources