

Preliminary Analysis of the Clozapine CHAMPION Consultation Center

Gopal Vyas, DO¹, Matthew Glassman, MS¹, Ikwunga Wonodi, Gloria Reeves, MD⁵, Charles M. Richardson, MD¹, Heidi J. Wehring PharmD, BCPP¹, Marie Mackowick PharmD, BCPP², Robert W. Buchan, MD¹, Elaine Weiner, MD¹, Fang Liu, MA¹, AnnMarie Kearns, MS¹, Heather A. Adams, PsyD¹, Raymond C. Love PharmD, BCPP², Sophie Lanzkron, MD³, Brian Barr, MD⁴, Megan Ehret PharmD, BCPP², Erica Davis PharmD, BCPP², Frederick Nucifora, MD³, Jared Hunt, BS¹, Emily Bryant¹, Nicole Letvin PharmD, BCPP², Nicole Leistikow, MD⁵, Sharon Pugh, PA¹, Patricia Ball, RN¹, Julie Kreyenbuhl PharmD, PhD⁵, Deanna L. Kelly PharmD, BCPP¹

¹University of Maryland School of Medicine Maryland Psychiatric Research Center, ²University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, ³Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, ⁴University of Maryland School of Medicine, Cardiology, ⁵University of Maryland School of Medicine, Psychiatry

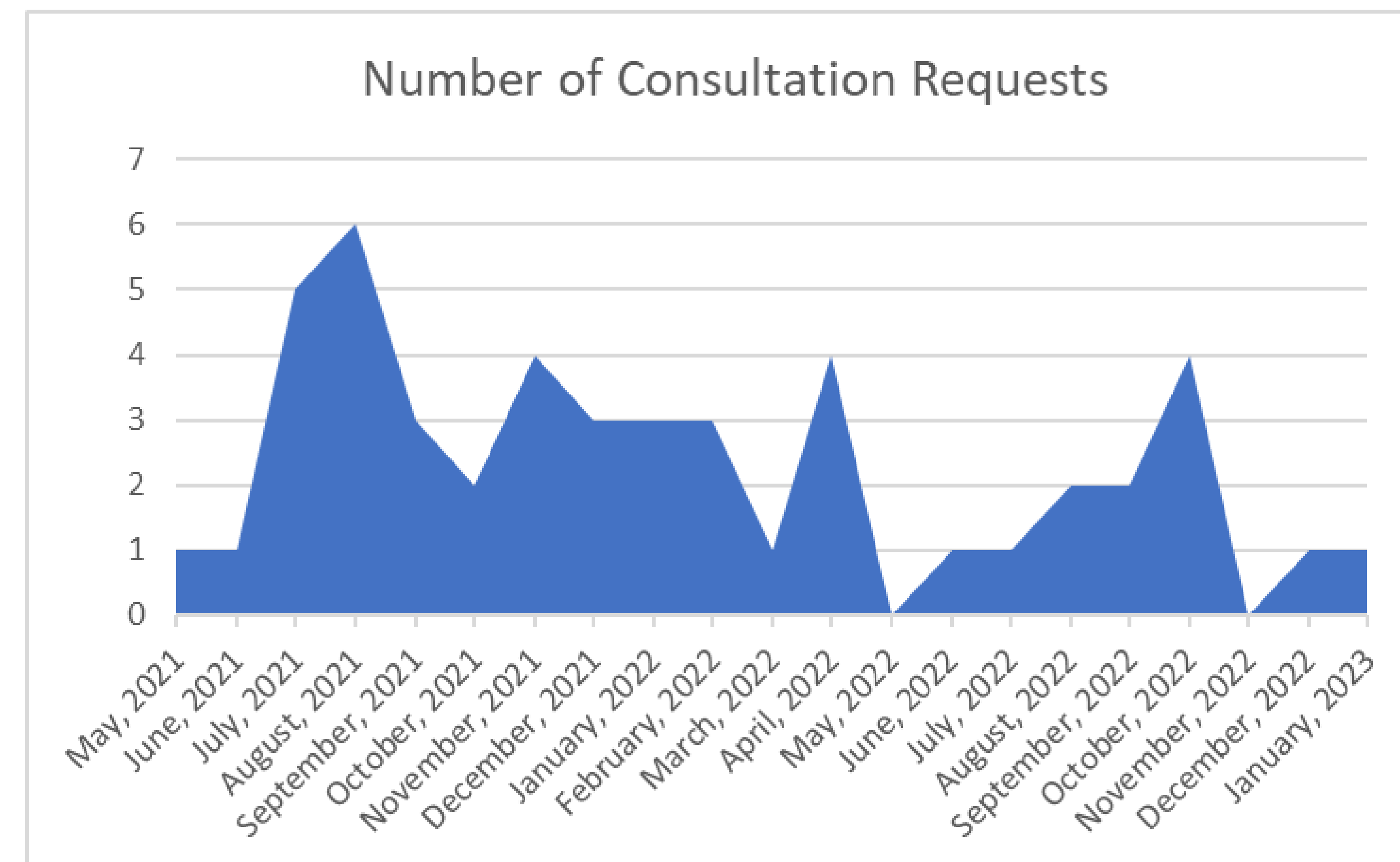
Background

- Clozapine is an underused antipsychotic for the treatment of schizophrenia related disorders.
- Breaking barriers and improving use could be important to improve patient outcomes
- In addition to logistical issues with blood draws, lack of education and competence are highly cited reasons for prescriber underuse/nonuse
- Our research team is completing a randomized education program for prescribers in the State of Maryland (CHAMPION-ECHO educational sessions or Enhanced Treatment as Usual (TAU)) to improve prescriber knowledge, competence and use of clozapine.
- As part of the program for the clozapine CHAMPION study and for all people in the State of Maryland we developed a consultation line
- Here we present preliminary data from the consultation line to better inform future studies of the types of questions for which clinicians around the State needed assistance

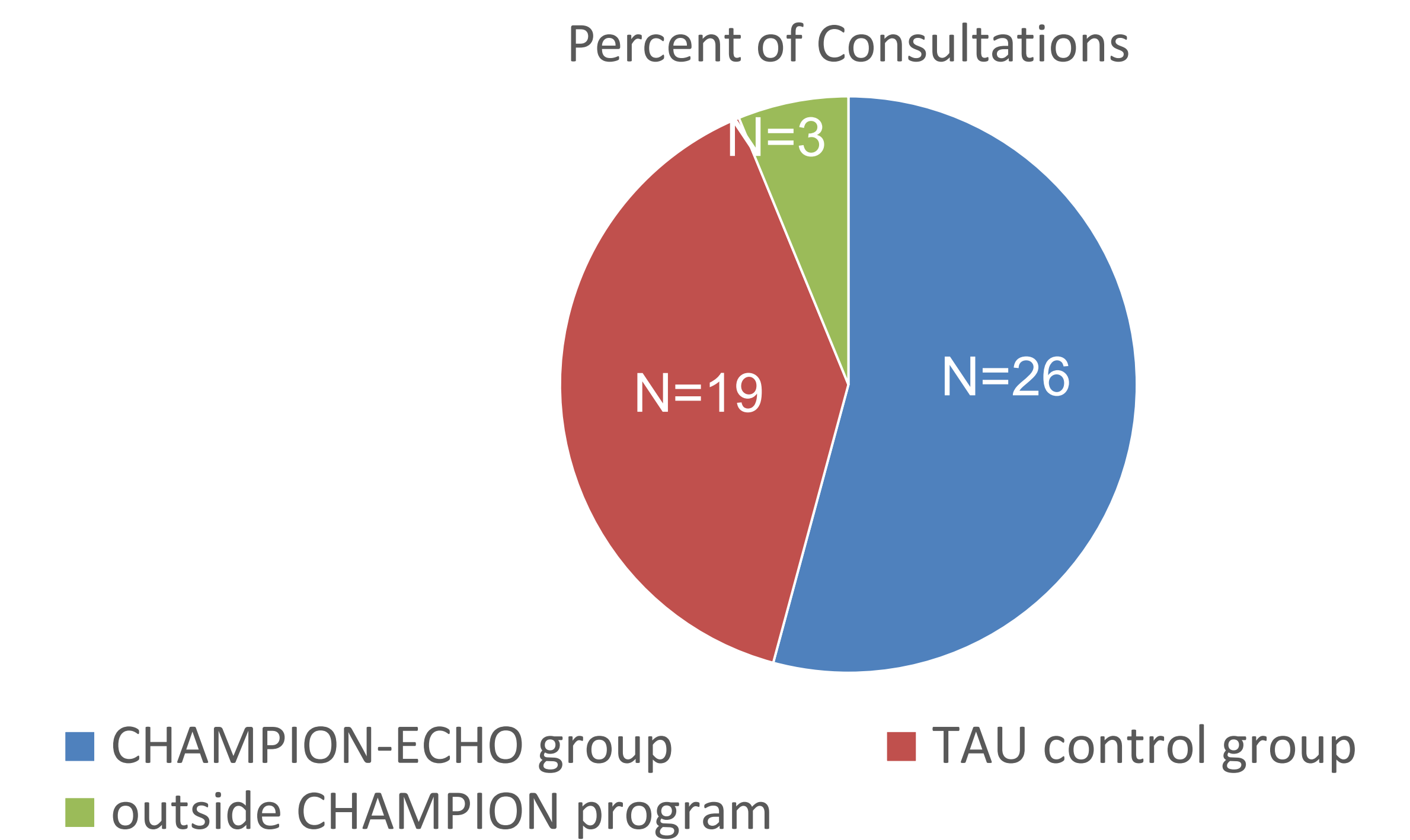
Study Methods

- We developed a team of clozapine experts that could provide consultation on various topics regarding clozapine treatment such as:
 - initiating clozapine treatment
 - managing common side effects,
 - registering in the clozapine Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies (REMS) system, etc.
- These 12 experts included psychiatrists, psychiatric pharmacists, nurses, physician assistant, cardiologist and a hematologist.
- The consultation program provided consultations through a referral system using email or phone.
- Prior to triage by a trained research staff, the clinicians provided a summary of their issue and preferred contact method.
- The clozapine consultation center was advertised through the email network repeatedly and mentions on all 26 of the educational sessions for those assigned to the CHAMPION-ECHO educational program.
- Though not strongly advertised outside of the CHAMPION-ECHO participant group, the consultation line was open to any prescriber or clinician in Maryland.
- All requests for consultation were captured and categorized based on the primary topic of the consultation.
- Time from initial contact to expert referral and from referral to the actual consultation was tracked, and experts were asked to make note of the recommendations made during the consultation.
- Follow-up consultations were provided if necessary or requested.

Number of Consultation Requests



Origin of Requests



Other Results

- The clozapine consultation line has received a total of 48 requests for consultation from 37 different providers (30 prescribers, 7 non-prescribers).
- Most requests were received via email (92%). Forty-four of the 48 requests resulted in recommendations directly from the CHAMPION team (6) or were triaged for consultation from an expert (38).
- 89% received responses from the CHAMPION team within 24 hours.
- Clozapine experts were highly responsive to consultations with time from referral to consultant contact typically occurring within 24 hours (74%).
- Consultations were completed evenly via email (47%) and via phone (53%).

Discussion

- Breaking down barriers to clozapine underuse is important.
- Improving educational gaps as well as logistical concerns with blood draws and continuity of care are under study with the CHAMPION ECHO project.
- We will better understand the utility of the clozapine consultation center with final study results.
- There are a wide variety of types of calls, however clozapine REMS questions account for 23% of all calls. of consultations.
- The Clozapine Consultation Center remains open until August 2023.

Consultation Requests by Topic

