

Annual Review of Anticoagulation Management: Keeping Patients Current, Connected, and Safe

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Introduction

- In 2020-2021 the BIDMC Anticoagulation Management Service implemented a new initiative for annual physician reviews of clinical care for patients on warfarin

Purpose

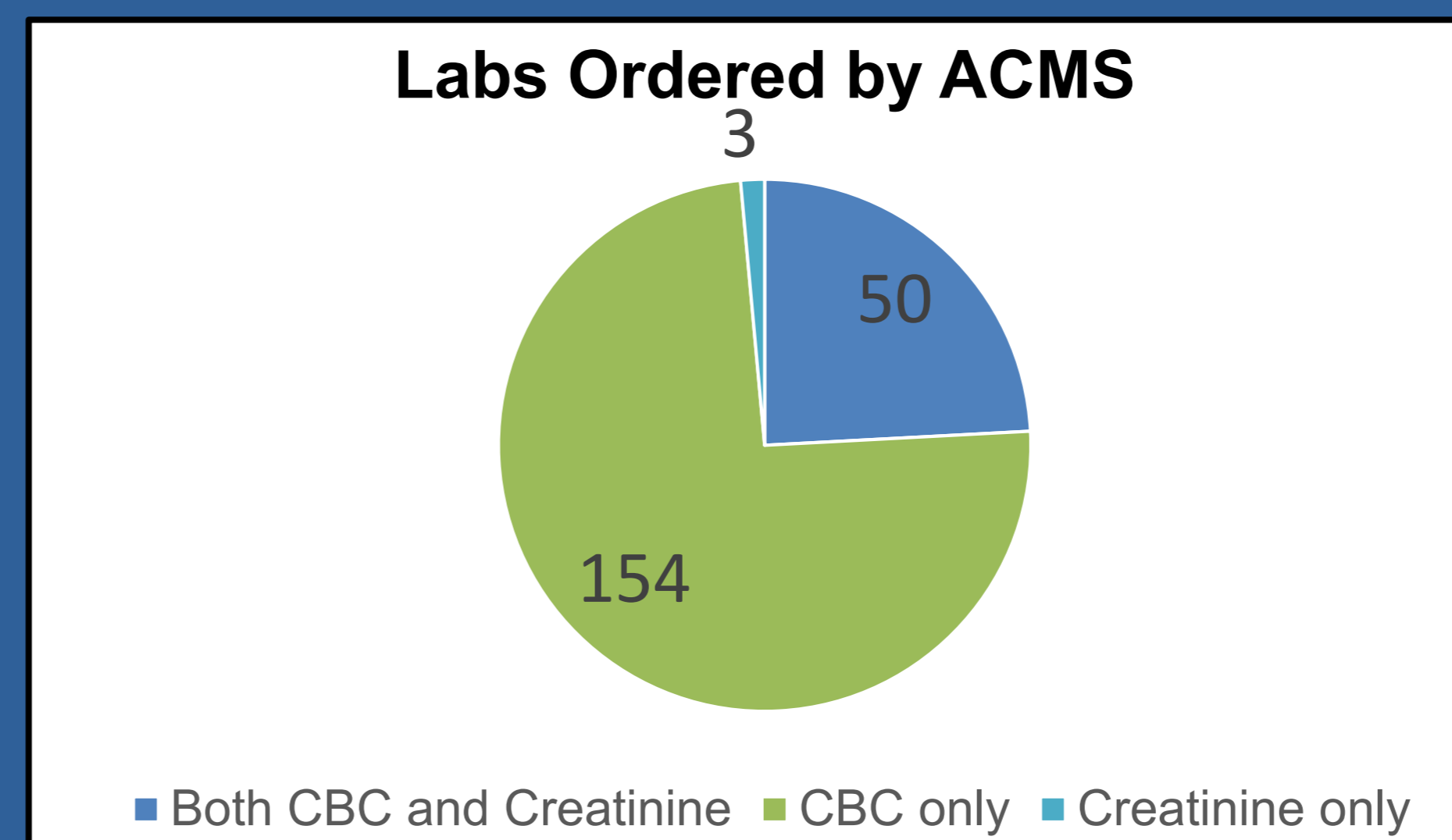
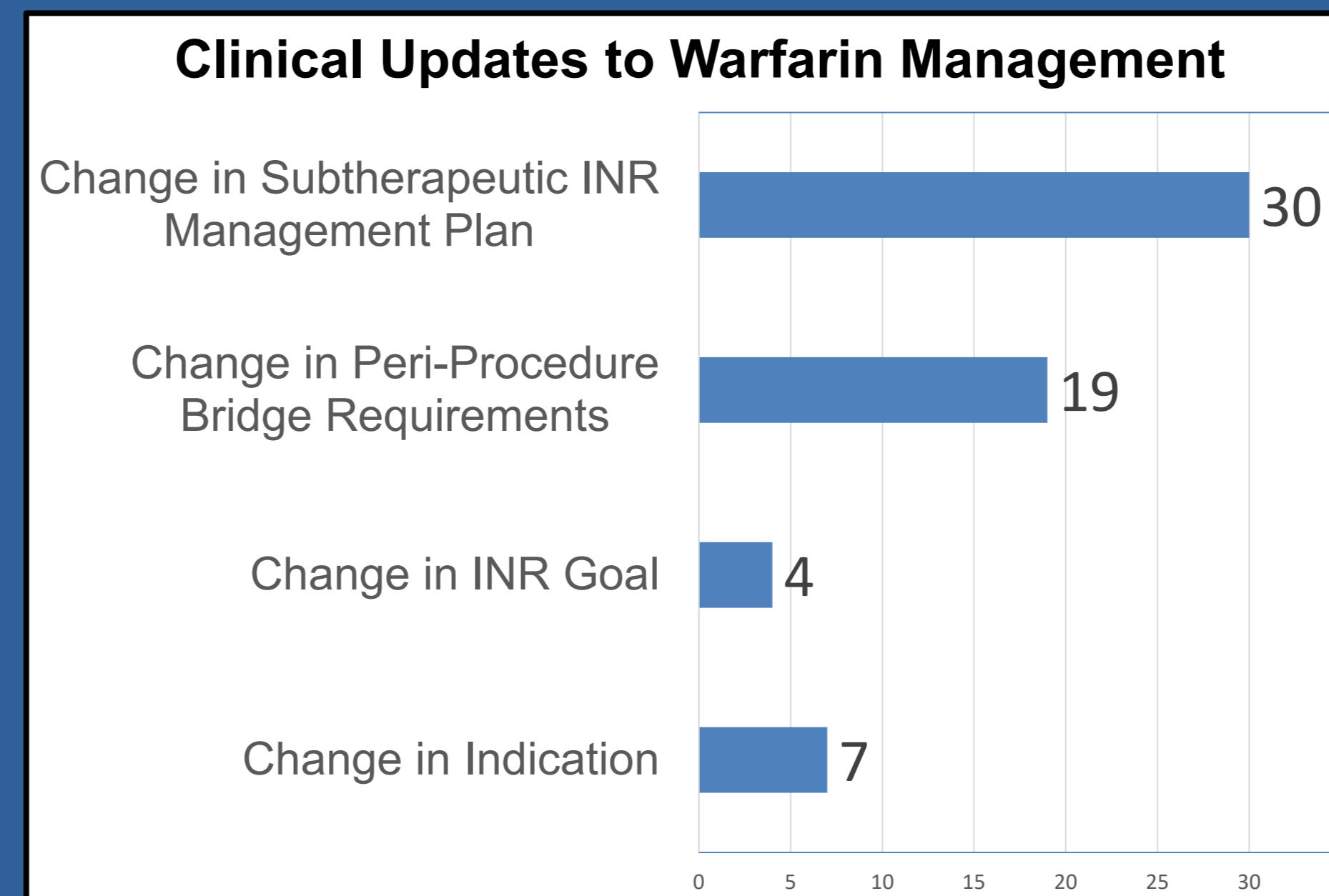
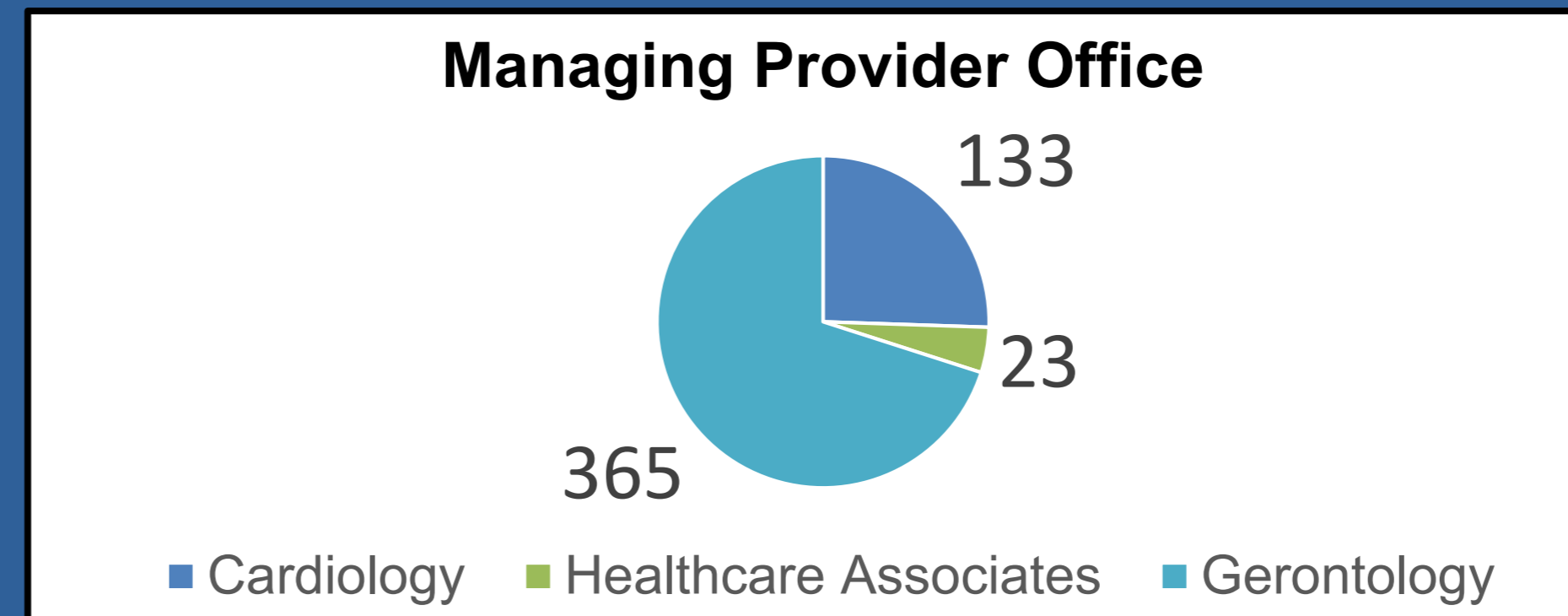
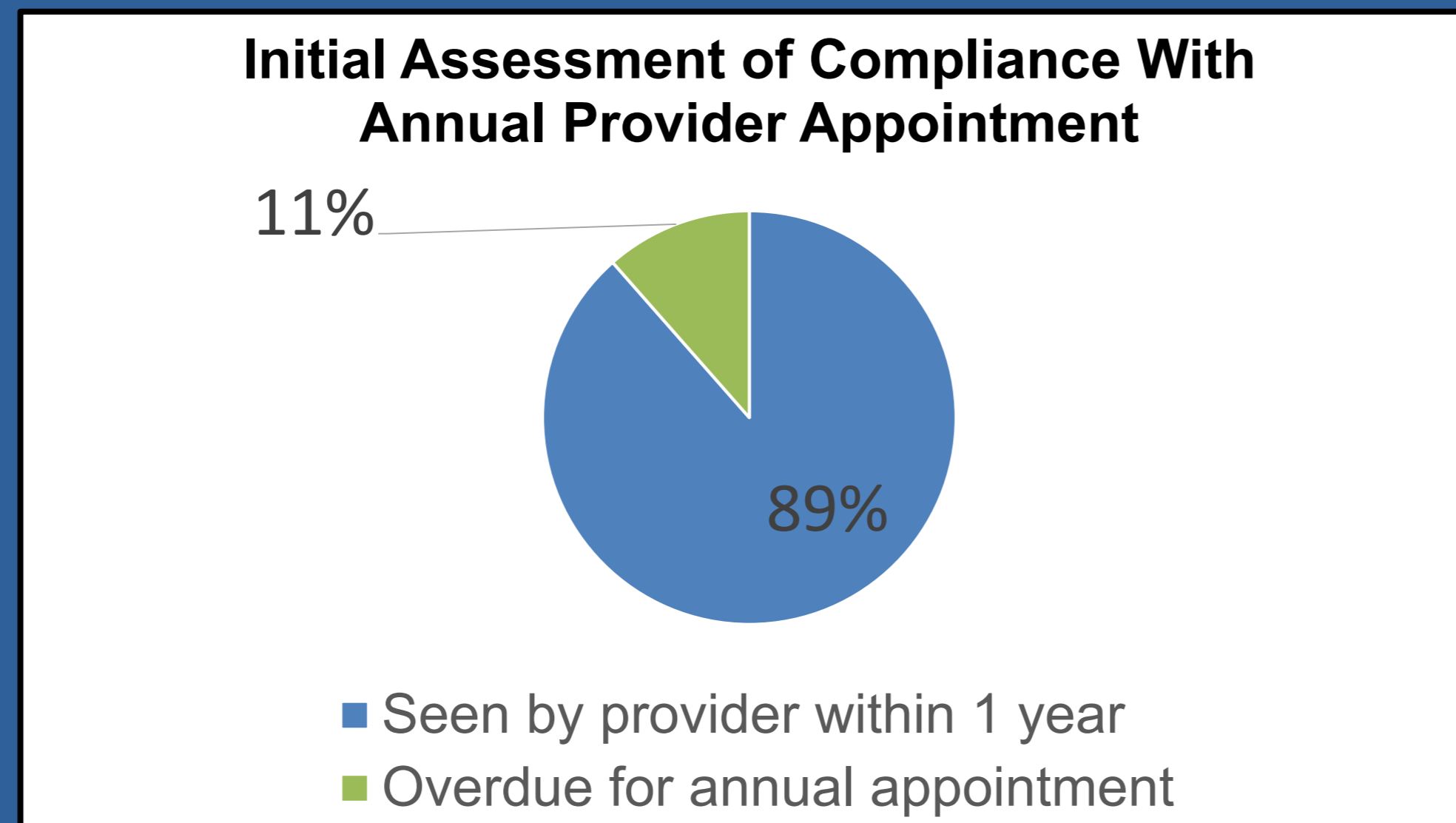
- Ensure up-to-date components of warfarin management including indication of therapy, INR goal, bridge requirements, annual labs, and general patient updates from physicians
- Confirm patients maintain active care with managing anticoagulation physician
- Identify patients who may have transferred care to a new provider
- Maintain compliance for medication refills and INR order renewals

Methods

- An "Annual Physician Anticoagulation Review" form was sent to each provider, totaling 524 reviews
- ACMS staff members supported physicians in ordering, retrieval and assessment of overdue annual labs as identified by the review
- Upon receipt of completed form from providers, ACMS staff entered updated order within OMR
- Changes selected by provider were updated within patient's anticoagulation care plan in OMR

Results

Warfarin Annual Reviews	
Reviews Sent	524
Completed Reviews Received	517
Overdue labs completed to date, n (%)	193 (93%)
Updated appointments made with warfarin provider to date, n (%)	46 (76%)
Average time to receipt of completed form (median)	20 days



Components of Review

- Forms contained individual data specific to each patient and their current warfarin management
- Last (kept) appointment with warfarin provider
- Patient annual time in therapeutic range (TTR)
- ACMS concerns with patient INR compliance over last 12 months
- Annual Labs:
 - CHEST guidelines recommend annual CBCs for patients managed on warfarin therapy
 - Patients utilizing low molecular weight heparin require creatinine levels checked a minimum of annually (more frequently if patient has chronic kidney disease)

Conclusion

- There are gaps in communication between patients, physicians and ACMS. The "Annual Physician Anticoagulation Review" is a useful tool to improve care coordination
- The annual reviews ensure patient's safety while on warfarin and enhance compliance to ACMS and BIDMC protocols

Acknowledgements

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