

Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices Associated With the Diagnosis and Management of Skin and Soft Tissue Infections Among Medical Students, Residents, and Attending Physicians

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Background

- The Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) provided new and revised guidelines in June of 2014.



Methods

- **35-question electronic survey**
- **Participants:** medical students, residents, and attending physicians
- **Specialties:**
 - Family Medicine
 - Internal Medicine
- **Banner-University Medical Center South in Tucson, Arizona**
- **July 2015 through March 2016**

Objectives

- **Knowledge Questions:**
 - Purulent vs non-purulent
 - Outpatient vs inpatient
 - Recognizing necrotizing fasciitis
 - Appropriate therapies based off IDSA guidelines



- **Attitudes and practices:**
 - Why certain therapies were chosen vs others
 - Consulting ID and Pharmacy for SSTIs
 - Opinions on antibiotic stewardship and management
 - Training for junior trainees

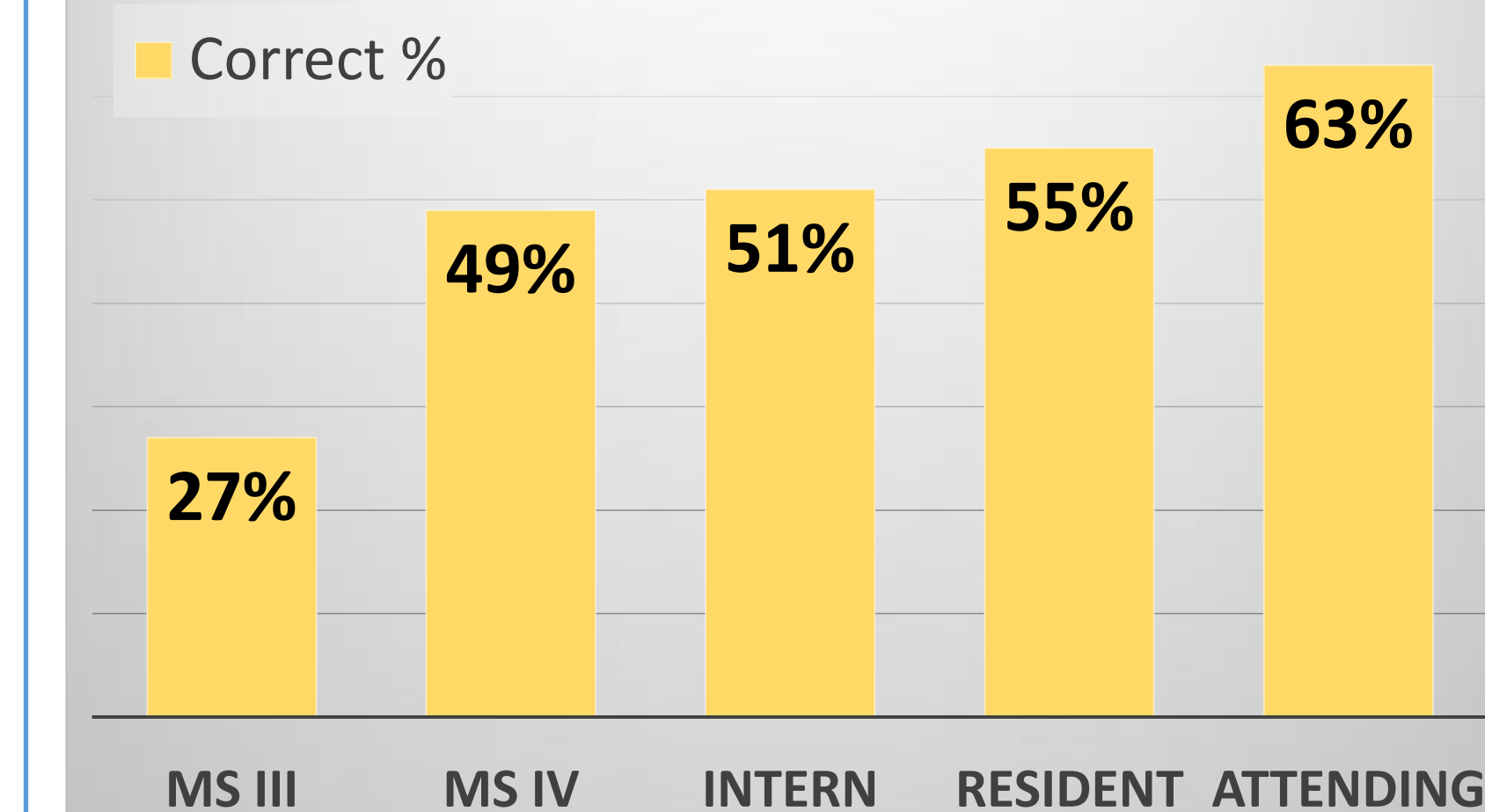
Results

103 / 121 completion rate (85%)

- FM South residents n=25
- IM South residents n=30
- IM & FM attendings n=18
- Medical students n=48
- **Most common SSTI encountered:**
 - "Cellulitis"
 - 95% of participants
- **73% of the group managing at least 2-10 SSTIs per week.**
- **The three most common antibiotics prescribed:**
 - oral cephalexin
 - oral TMP/SMX
 - oral clindamycin
- **Most common reasons for admission to the hospital**
 - SBP < 90mmHg
 - h/o intravenous drug use
 - Fever >100.4F°

Results

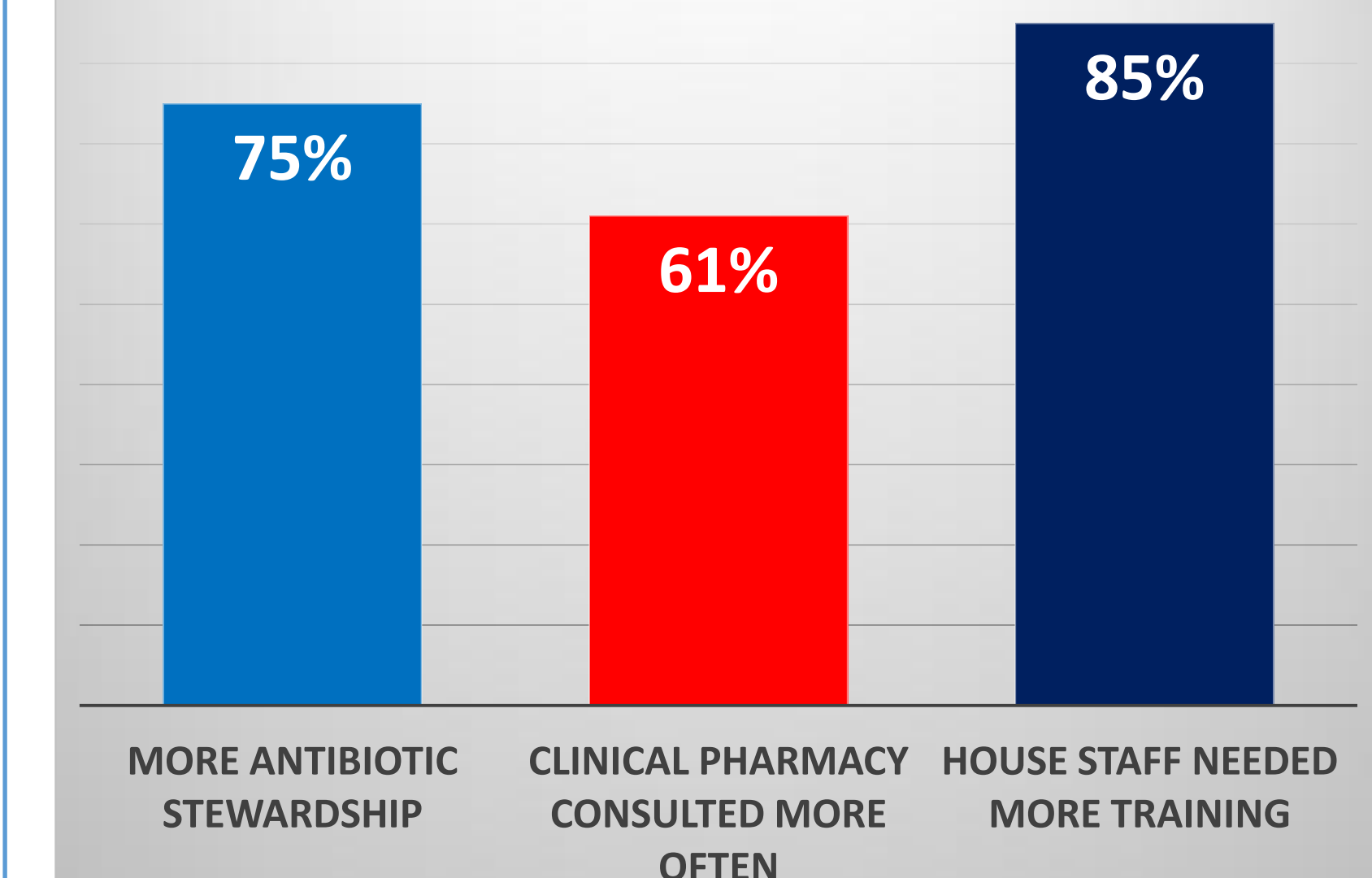
Knowledge Questions



- **48% answered correctly:** treatment modalities regarding non-purulent and purulent cellulitis
- **45% recognized** that an **immediate** surgical consult was the initial step in the management of suspected necrotizing fasciitis.
- **35% were familiar with the new 2014 IDSA practice guidelines**
- **50% did not feel confident with their SSTIs training**

Results

Antibiotic Stewardship & SSTIs



Discussion

- **Knowledge areas needing improvement:**
 - Necrotizing fasciitis
 - Understanding the different treatment approaches for non-purulent and purulent cellulitis.
- **Attitudes/Practices needing improvement:**
 - Antibiotic stewardship
 - Training for junior trainees
 - Promoting IDSA SSTI practice guidelines
 - Consulting with clinical pharmacy