Supporting Development of Comprehensive Family Planning Curriculum in a Family Medicine Training Program
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Abstract:

Purpose: Travel and transportation can pose significant barriers to care for many patients seeking abortion services, and these barriers disproportionately impact rural and suburban patients. Distant referrals may place undue stress on already vulnerable patients to travel elsewhere for treatment well within the scope of Family Medicine. Given that abortion care is often stigmatized, many providers will not openly advertise their service. As a result, limited objective data exist to demonstrate the capacity/need for local abortion services.

Methods: Study design: Cross-sectional survey. Participants: OB/GYN physicians and family medicine residents providing care to women of reproductive age at a large academic medical center. Measures: Outcomes were measured through quantitative and qualitative survey items.

Results: Data collection is currently underway, however preliminary results show gaps in available resources for abortion services within our sample. A majority of respondents refer to locations that may pose a geographic barrier to patients. Survey responses suggest family medicine residents are well positioned to meet the need for additional services to better care for vulnerable patients. Additional findings will be presented at research day.