

Lisa W. Christian, OD, FCOVD, FAAO
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, ON

Sarah MacIver, OD, FAAO
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, ON

Marg Alfieri, RD
McMaster University
Hamilton, ON

INTRODUCTION

Family Health Teams (FHTs) in Ontario

- Improve primary health care¹
- Provide more services and a wide range of health options to improve patient centered care^{2,3}
- Focus: chronic disease management, disease prevention, and health prevention
- Goal: to collaborate and provide enhanced primary care services

Optometry's Role in FHTs

- To date, has been limited
- May have invaluable role in primary care and chronic disease management
 - Most common cause of blindness: Age related macular degeneration (ARMD), glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, cataracts⁴
 - Incidence of these diseases increase in chronic disease populations such as systemic hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and cardiovascular disease

Hypothesis: Integrating Optometry into a FHT is a favourable primary care model

- Improve access to care for patients with chronic disease^{5,6}
- Decrease threats of blindness in elderly population

PURPOSE

- To determine if integrating Optometry and Optometry learners into a Diabetes Managed Clinic could be a valuable model of Primary Care and to determine barriers for this model to be developed

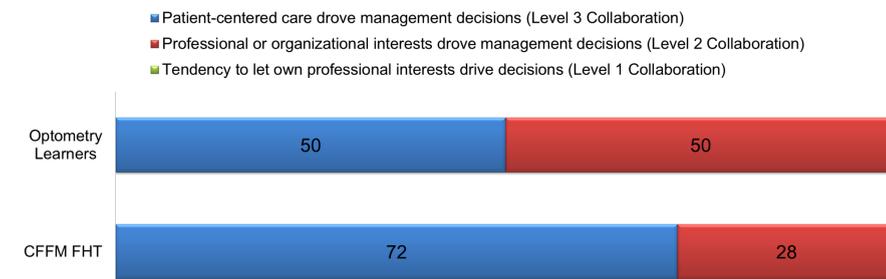
METHODS

- Following the collaboration, a questionnaire was given to Optometry learners and health professionals at the Centre for Family Medicine (CFFM) FHT Diabetes Managed Care Clinic to determine the strength of Optometry's role and intensity of collaboration of Optometry with the other health team members

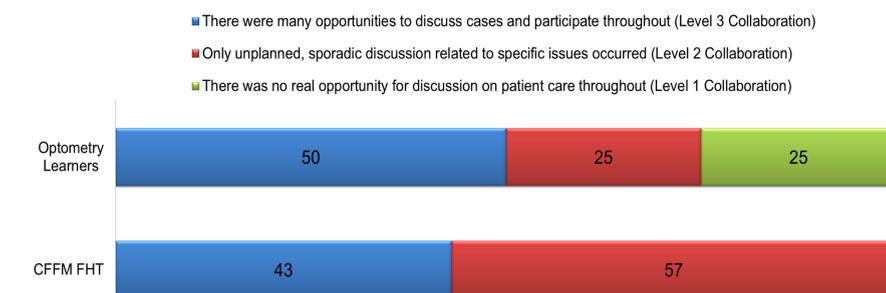
RESULTS

ECP = Eye Care Provider
CFFM FHT = Health Professionals at the Centre for Family Medicine (McMaster University) Family Health Team

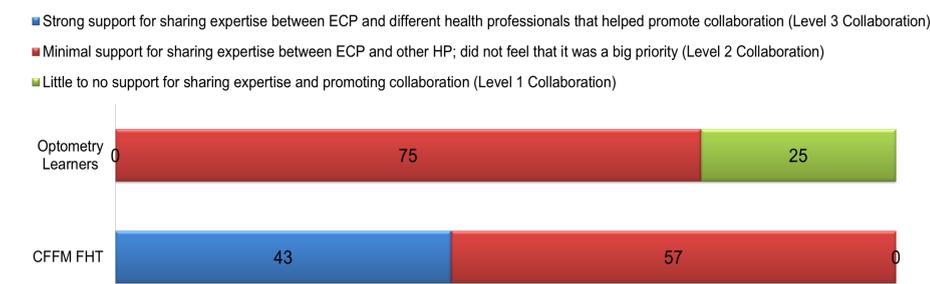
Assess the level of interprofessional collaboration that occurred with respect to patient-centred orientation.



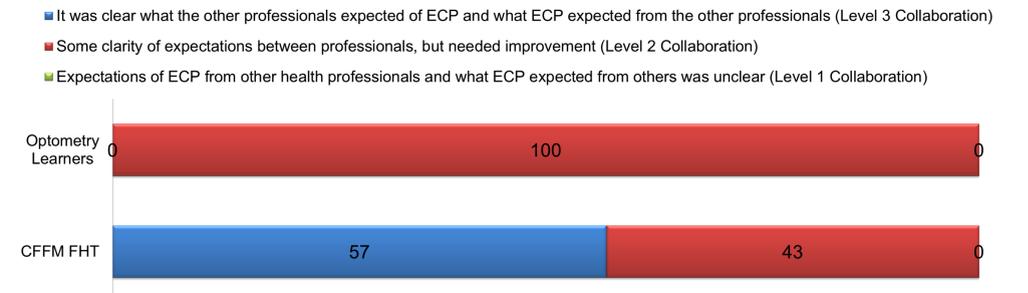
Assess the level of interprofessional collaboration that occurred with respect to support for innovation.



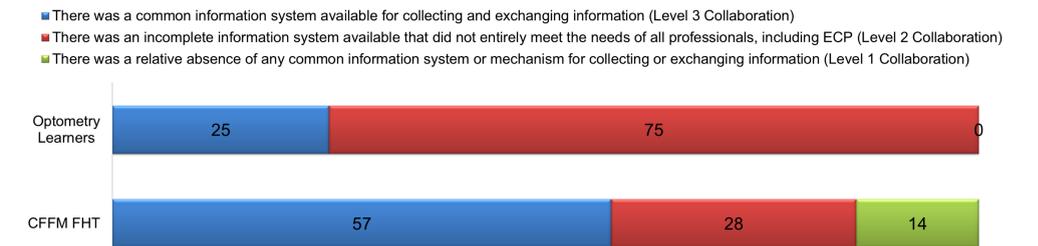
Assess the level of interprofessional collaboration that occurred with respect to patient-centred orientation.



Assess the level of interprofessional collaboration that occurred with respect to patient-centred orientation.



Assess the level of interprofessional collaboration that occurred with respect to information exchange.



CONCLUSIONS

- Both Optometry Learners and CFFM FHT health professionals felt the integration of Optometry into a FHT is a favourable health care model
 - Further education must be provided to Optometry Learners in the role they play within the FHT model
- Based on these results, Optometry is being further integrated into primary care at CFFM in the Healthy Futures program, Chronic disease management clinic

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