

Introduction

A knowledge gap exists between frontline clinical staff and how to care for oncology patients with diabetes. Endocrine providers collaborated with nurse educators to develop a diabetes webinar series, covering various topics, optimized for real-world application by bedside nurses.

Primary Aim

Stakeholders were interested in raising awareness of the importance of optimized glucose management during cancer treatment by sharing knowledge and empowering bedside nurses to participate in diabetes management and education.

Method

Our group did not allow COVID19 to stop education efforts.

Instead, the team explored the opportunity to share education via video conferencing platforms.

Our diabetes team consisting of endocrinologists, advanced practice providers, and diabetes educators stepped forward to explore new methods of providing education and reaching a larger audience.

“Education is key when caring for diabetic patients”

Technique

The planning committee, consisting of diabetes providers and nurse educators, completed brainstorming sessions to determine series topics based on commonly asked questions and observed knowledge gaps when interacting with bedside nurses. The group aimed at opening communication and empowering bedside nurses to participate in the patient’s glucose management.

Date	Webinar Series Topics
09/28/20	Part 1 Glucose control of a person with diabetes in an oncology setting
10/26/20	Part 2 Glucose control of a person with diabetes in an oncology setting
12/07/20	Part 1-Nursing Management - Insulin Administration Dosing and Glucose Control Target
01/25/21	Part 2-Nursing Management - Insulin Administration Dosing and Glucose Control Target
02/22/21	What oncology nurses need to know about Diabetes Technology
04/12/21	Hyperglycemic emergencies Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) and hyperosmolar hyperglycemic syndrome (HHS)
05/24/21	Barriers and special populations in a cancer hospital for inpatient glycemic management

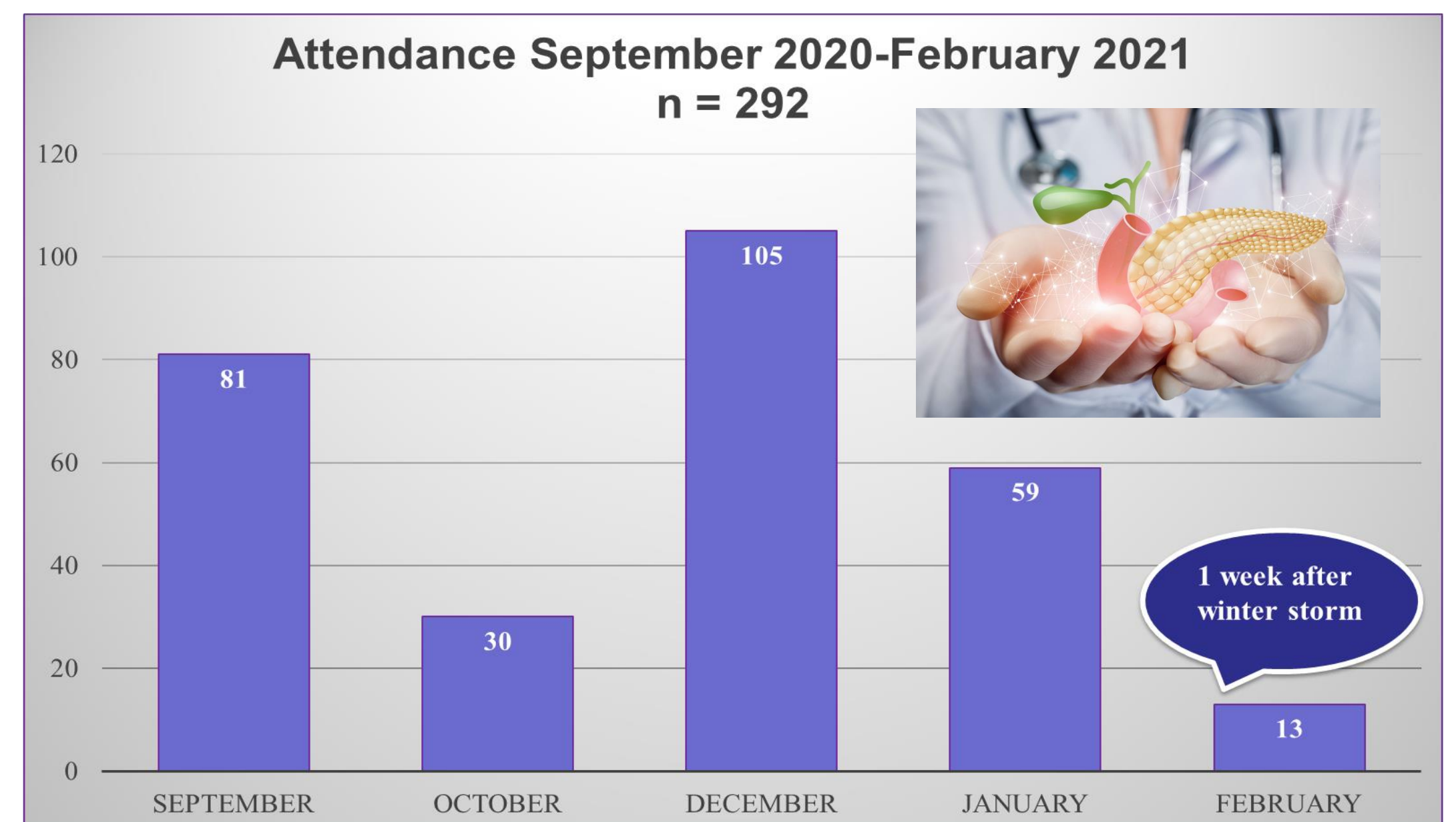
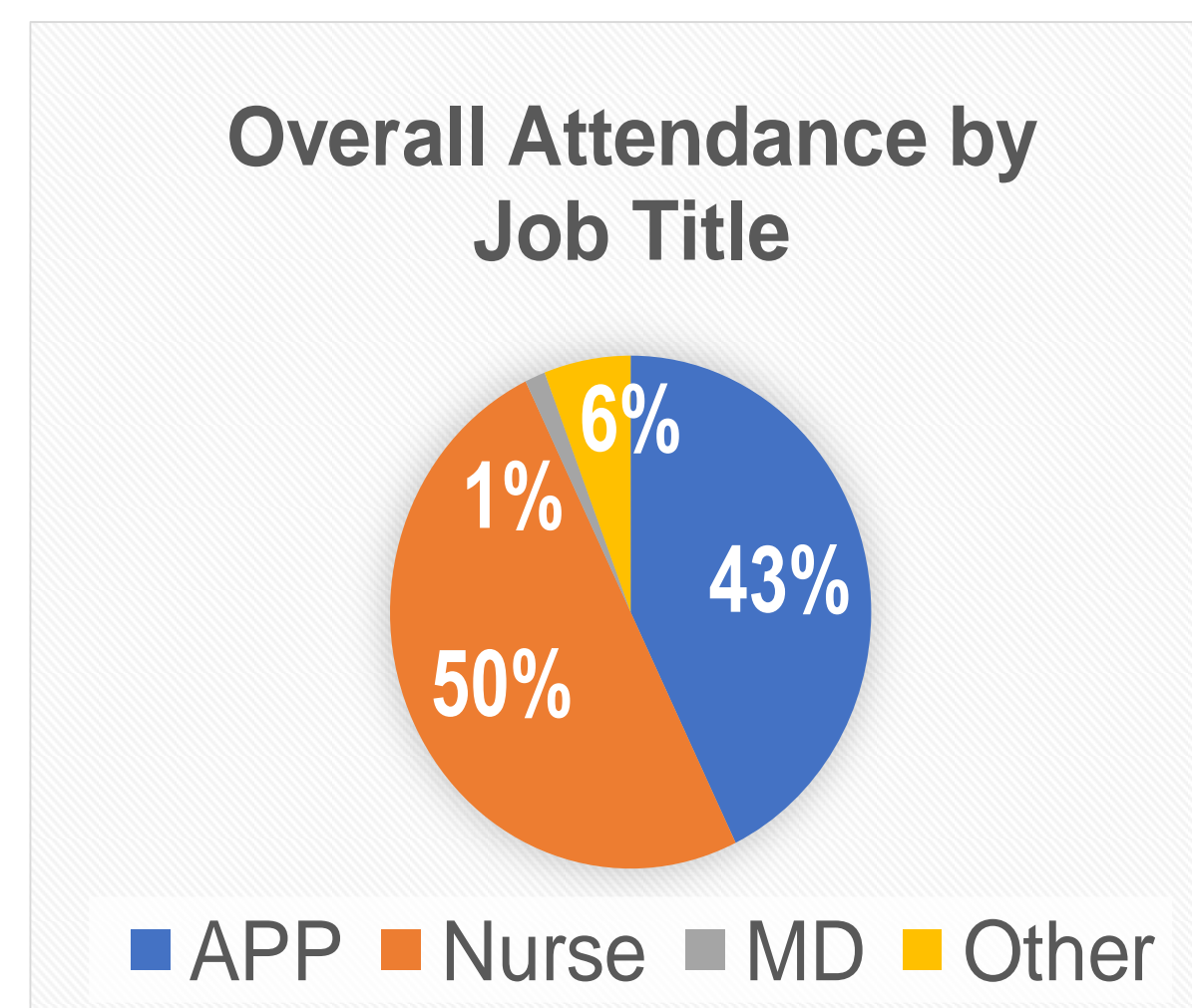
What is the most important thing you learned from this program?	Changes Participants Intend To Make
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When to consider giving insulin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share knowledge with nurses of the different types and actions of insulin.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding prandial insulin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be a resource to my staff.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When to give insulin to a patient 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide education to patients on diabetes management.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need every one's support for better glucose control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate the knowledge to my daily workflow.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Importance of adherence to medication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better manage blood glucose levels in patients, able to provide guidance to nurses managing complicated glucose levels.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The importance of basal insulin 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresher on insulins. 	

Results

December 2020 Webinar on Part 1-Nursing Management Insulin Administration Dosing and Glucose Control Target

89.87% (n = 79 participants) answered YES to the following survey question-

“As a result of this activity do you intend to make any changes to your professional practice/performance?”



“Great refresher on diabetes management!”

Planning Committee

- Chris Witcher-Nurse Educator
- Gillani Shahnaz-Nurse Educator
- Genalyn Bar-Tal-Nurse Educator
- Kirk Brooks-Nurse Educator
- Anna Varghese-Nurse Educator
- Vivian Crowder-Inpatient Endocrine APP
- Marjorie Ortiz-Inpatient Diabetes APP
- Michael Rizk-Inpatient Diabetes APP
- Jennifer Williams-Diabetes Program Coordinator
- Denise A. Palma-Inpatient Diabetes Educator



Future Considerations

It's only the beginning!

At MD Anderson, patients with diabetes (DM) make up on average 23% of admissions per year (Thosani, 2021). In addition, DM patients with hyperglycemia have longer length of stay than patients with new onset hyperglycemia (Thosani, 2021). As a team, we want to continue to build awareness throughout MD Anderson and assist with improving hyperglycemia metrics.

The series established a baseline to evaluate audience interest and build a curriculum for future presentations. We will use this data to expand the series to reach a larger audience and seek new-and-improved methods to reach frontline clinical staff.

References

- Thosani, S. (2021). Glycemic Management Committee Team (GlycAT) Meeting [PowerPoint presentation]. MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX.