Clinical Correlation: Establishing a Diagnostic Radiology Patient Consultation Service

Shira Steinberger
Sakshi Dua
Jun Yeop Lee
Andrew Pagano
Michael Chung
Adam Jacobi

Mount Sinai

Literature Review:

Pros

Patients:

- Increases understanding of radiology
- Improves understanding of disease
- Enjoy reviewing images with "imaging expert"
- Decrease anxiety

Radiologist:

- Decrease Burnout
- Resident Education
- Added value

Cons

Patients:

- Want result from "their" doctors

Radiologist:

- Removes radiologist from revenue-generating activities
- Unclear reimbursement and compensation
- Lack full clinical picture to answer questions

Pahade J, et al *AJR* 2012

Plan: Increase radiologists' visibility and value

1. Install PACS in Mount Sinai Pulmonary fellows clinic consultation room

2.   Radiology fellows and senior residents conduct one-on-one patient encounters to review imaging

3.   Pre and post imaging surveys assess patient understanding of imaging results, anxiety, willingness to stop smoking, and the role of the radiologist

4.   Medical students survey control group: Patients who only saw pulmonology

Materials Needed

Computer/ workspace already present in pulmonary clinic
PACS was installed on a standard computer
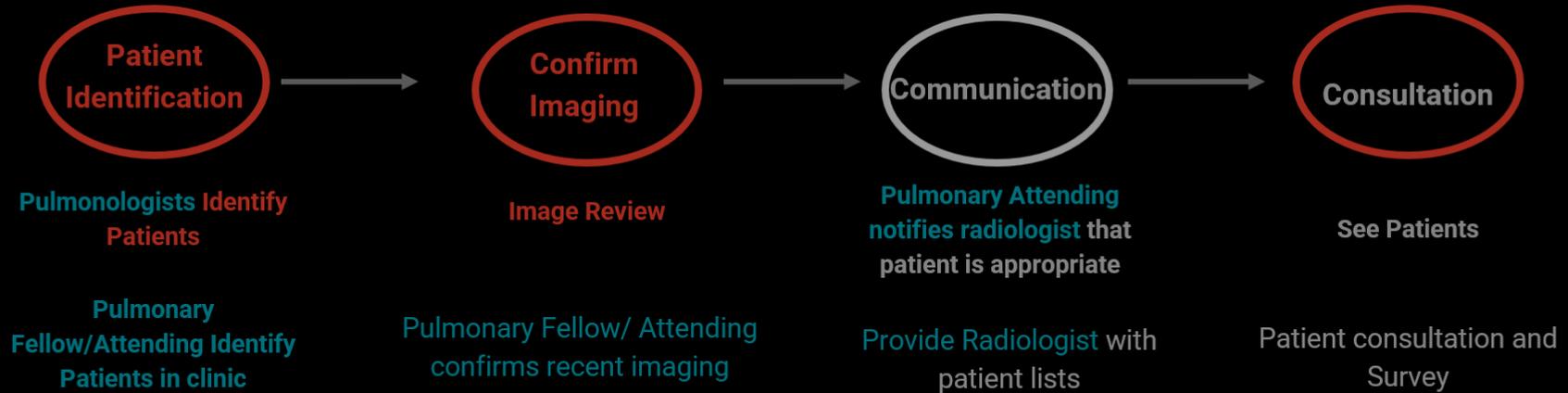EMR can also be used for image review

☑ Workspace

☑ Computer

☑ PACS

Cost= $0

Mount Sinai

FINAL Proposed Workflow:

Patient Identification

Pulmonologists Identify Patients

Pulmonary Fellow/Attending Identify Patients in clinic

Confirm Imaging

Image Review

Pulmonary Fellow/ Attending confirms recent imaging

Communication

Pulmonary Attending notifies radiologist that patient is appropriate

Provide Radiologist with patient lists

Consultation

See Patients

Patient consultation and Survey

Pulmonology teams identified patients with recent imaging

Patient Demographics: 84 patients

	Imaging Review n=48	Control Group n=36
Mean Age (SD)	57 (11.9)	54 (15.6)

Gender
  Female
  Male
	
	34
	14
		
		20
		16

Race
  White
  Asian
  African American
  Other
	
	6
	2
	9
	31
		
		3
		2
		8
		23

Ethnicity
  Hispanic
  Non hispanic
	
	28
	20
		
		10
		26

Primary Language
  English
  Spanish
  Other
	
	40
	7
	1
		
		30
		5
		1

Other Imaging Findings:

Cystic lung disease

Malignancy

Pulmonary Embolism

Bronchiolitis/ Atypical mycobacterial infection

Pneumonia
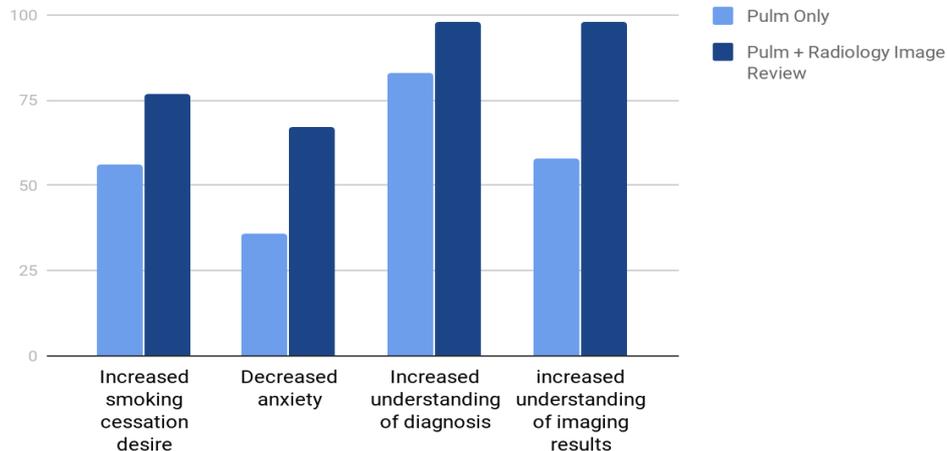
Pre Survey: 21/48 (44%) Image review and 10/36 (28%) pulmonary control patients did not know their CT scan results

CT Findings

Legend:
- Pulm Only
- Pulm + Radiology Image Review

Categories: Emphysema, Nodules, Interstitial Lung Disease, Other

Post Surveys

Legend:
- Pulm Only
- Pulm + Radiology Image Review
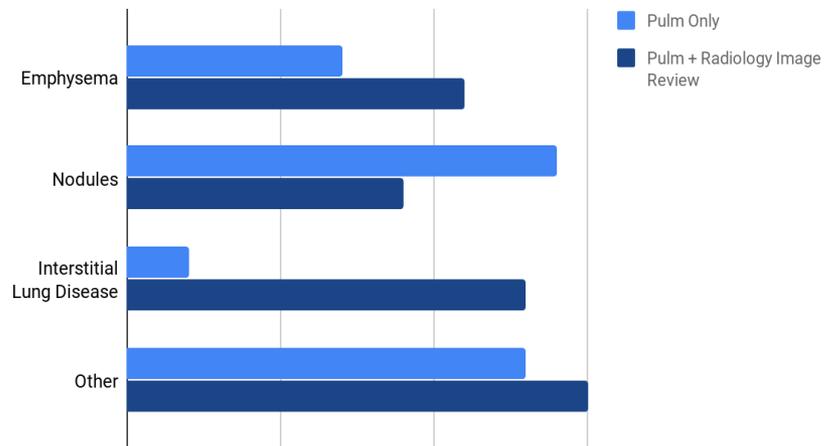
Categories: Increased smoking cessation desire, Decreased anxiety, Increased understanding of diagnosis, increased understanding of imaging results
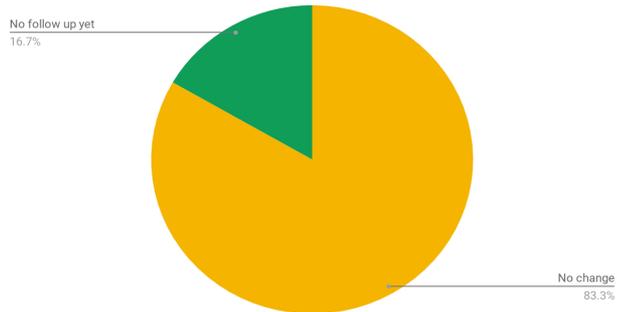
Radiologists?

- 14/36 (39%) control (only pulm) patients identified radiologists as physicians

- Pre image review, 34/48 (71%) identified radiologists as physicians, increasing to 90% post image review
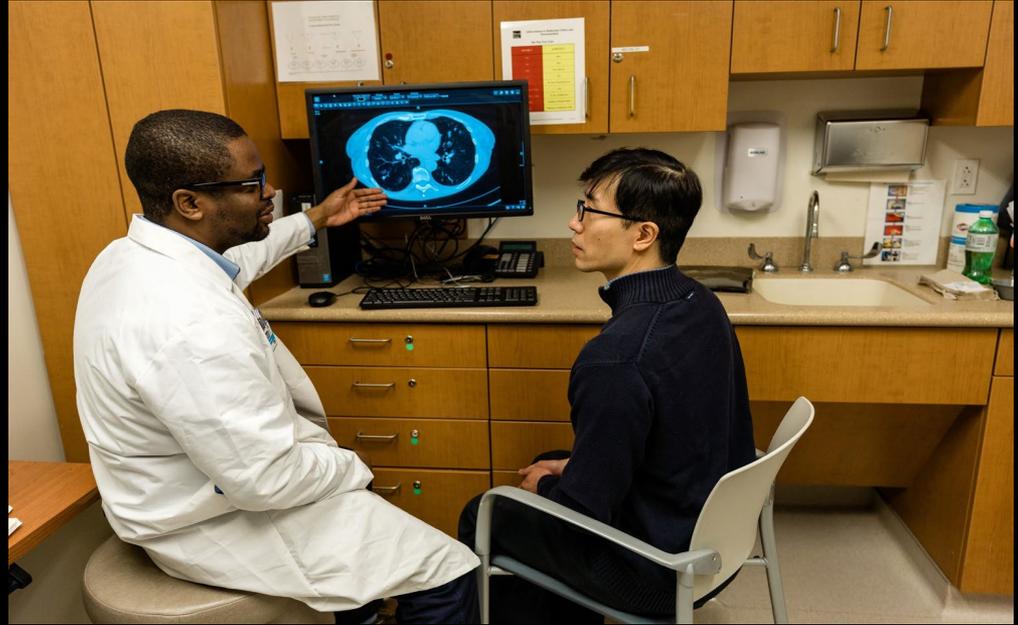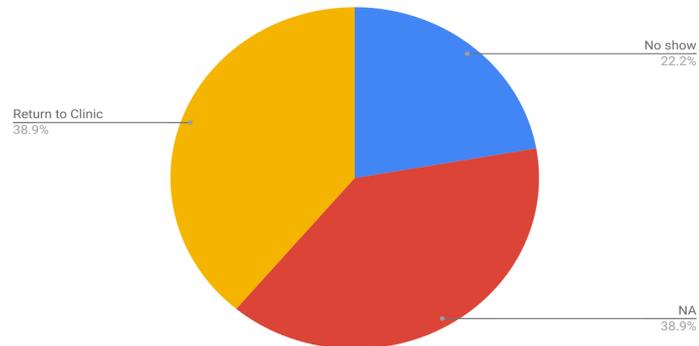

95% wanted to meet with a radiologist again to review future imaging
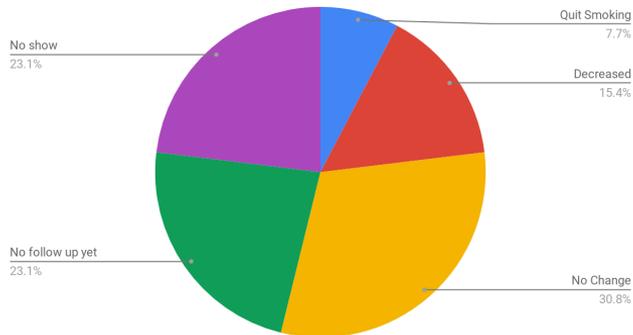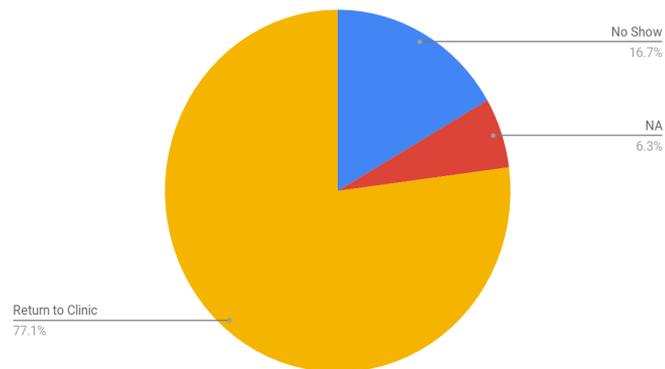100% found meeting with a radiologist helpful

Results

Conclusions

- Many Patients are unaware of or do not understand their CT scan results

- After meeting with a radiologist patients have:

  - Better understanding of imaging finding

  - Improved understanding of radiologists' role

  - Increased desire to stop smoking

Next Steps

- EMR Video Visits

- Screen share images with patients and consult virtually

- Documentation of visit in EMR

Mount Sinai