

INTRODUCTION

- ❖ ECU offers a night clinic from 6pm-9pm located 0.5 km from the PED entrance.
- ❖ Non urgent PED comprise 50% of ED visits annually. (1)
- ❖ A study found that 86% of presenting patients had some form of insurance (5).
- ❖ One study found that 45% of parents only required history, physical, and reassurance while only 11% required intervention not located in an office/clinic setting (6).

The Goal

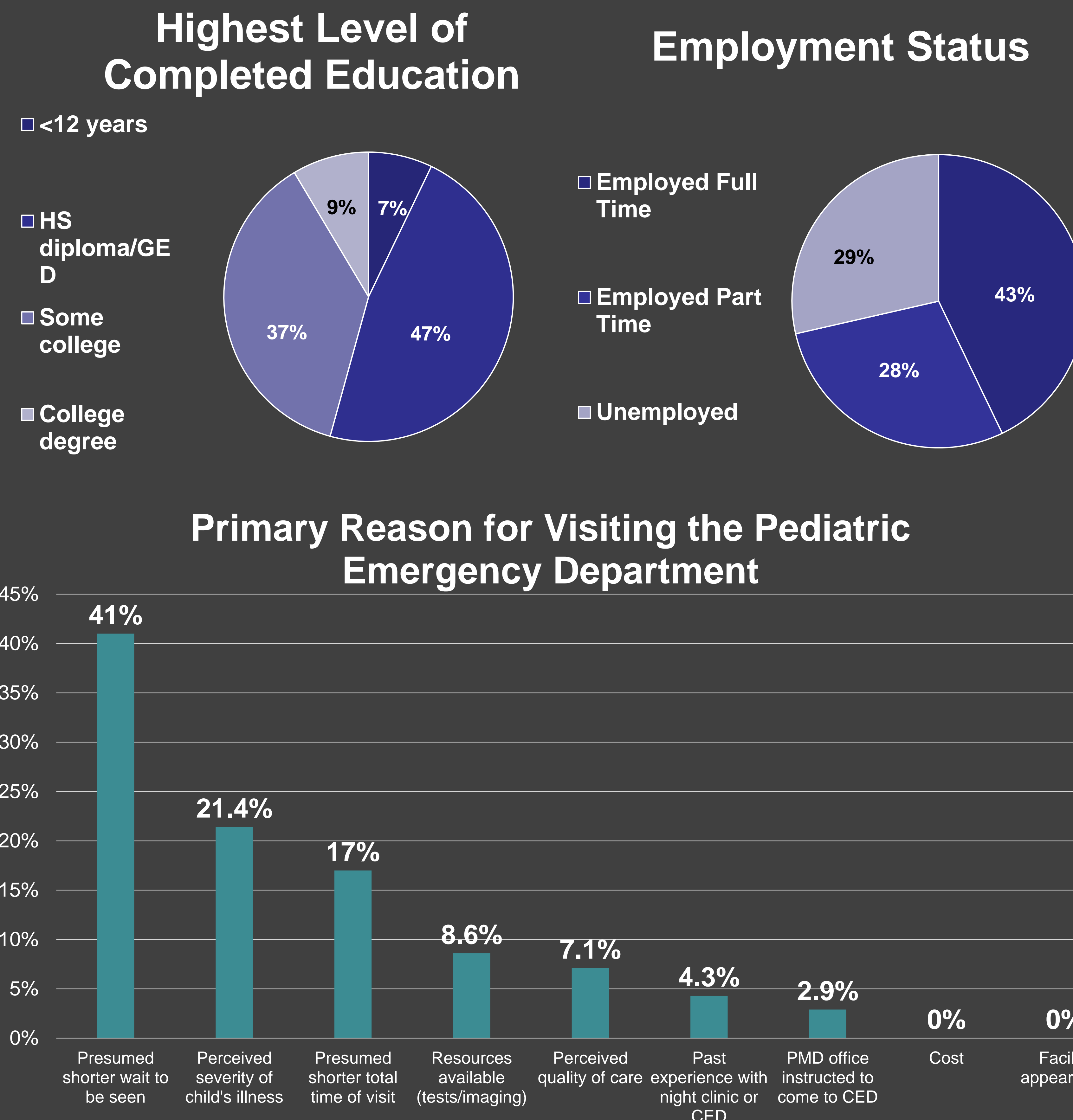
To identify reasons why parents/guardians choose PED over the acute night care clinic.

MATERIALS & METHODS

- ❖ Eligible patients were given a 2-section survey when presenting to the ED during a 4-week period.
- ❖ **Eligibility**
 - ❖ Pediatrician participated in the night clinic.
 - ❖ Presented during night clinic hours 6pm-9pm.
 - ❖ Emergency severity index (ESI) 4 or 5 only, indicating low acuity.

RESULTS

Parents/Guardians with lower overall education levels are more likely to take the children to the PED as opposed to a pediatric acute care clinic.



DISCUSSION

- ❖ Analysis of the caregiver's PCP revealed a large population, nearly half, who utilized the ED as their PCP which is likely attributable to their own upbringing as well as a lack of understanding of the utility of a PCP for both general exams as well as in appropriate acute illnesses
- ❖ Caretakers that have completed less education or whose children have Medicaid suggests that health literacy may play a role in the decision to utilize the PED over the night clinic.
- ❖ Future education for caregivers regarding severity and symptoms in acute illness may facilitate more appropriate utilization of the acute care clinic over the PED.

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