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## Background

- The 2-week elective in Allergy/Immunology at URM is offered to IM and Med-Peds residents and is comprised of 8 half-days of scheduled clinics as well as inpatient consult experience.
- The rotation curriculum used is the curriculum developed by the **American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI)** which covers common allergic and immunologic conditions across age groups, both pediatrics and adults, through various articles and video lectures.
- The **AAAAI curriculum** is not specific for internal medicine residents but intended to be used as a tool for any learner, including medical students, during their allergy/immunology rotation in any setting including private practice, academic or community based clinics. There have not been any recent updates as well.
- We wanted to assess whether this curriculum addresses the needs of internal medicine and medicine-pediatrics residents (MPR) and if the format is conducive to learning styles and needs of current residents.

## Objectives

- Identify **high yield allergy and immunology (A/I) topics** and **preferred learning modalities** of internal medicine and medicine-pediatrics residents to develop a new A/I clinical rotation curriculum geared for internists
- Gather **feedback** from residents about the **AAAAI clinical rotation curriculum** which we use currently

## Methods

- A voluntary, anonymous, 14-item online needs assessment survey was distributed to all internal medicine and medicine-pediatrics residents (n=126)
- The survey included multiple-choice, ranking, Likert scale, and free-text questions, focusing on identifying learning needs, evaluating the current A/I curriculum, and gathering resident feedback on A/I knowledge
- Data were collected and analyzed using REDCap

## Results

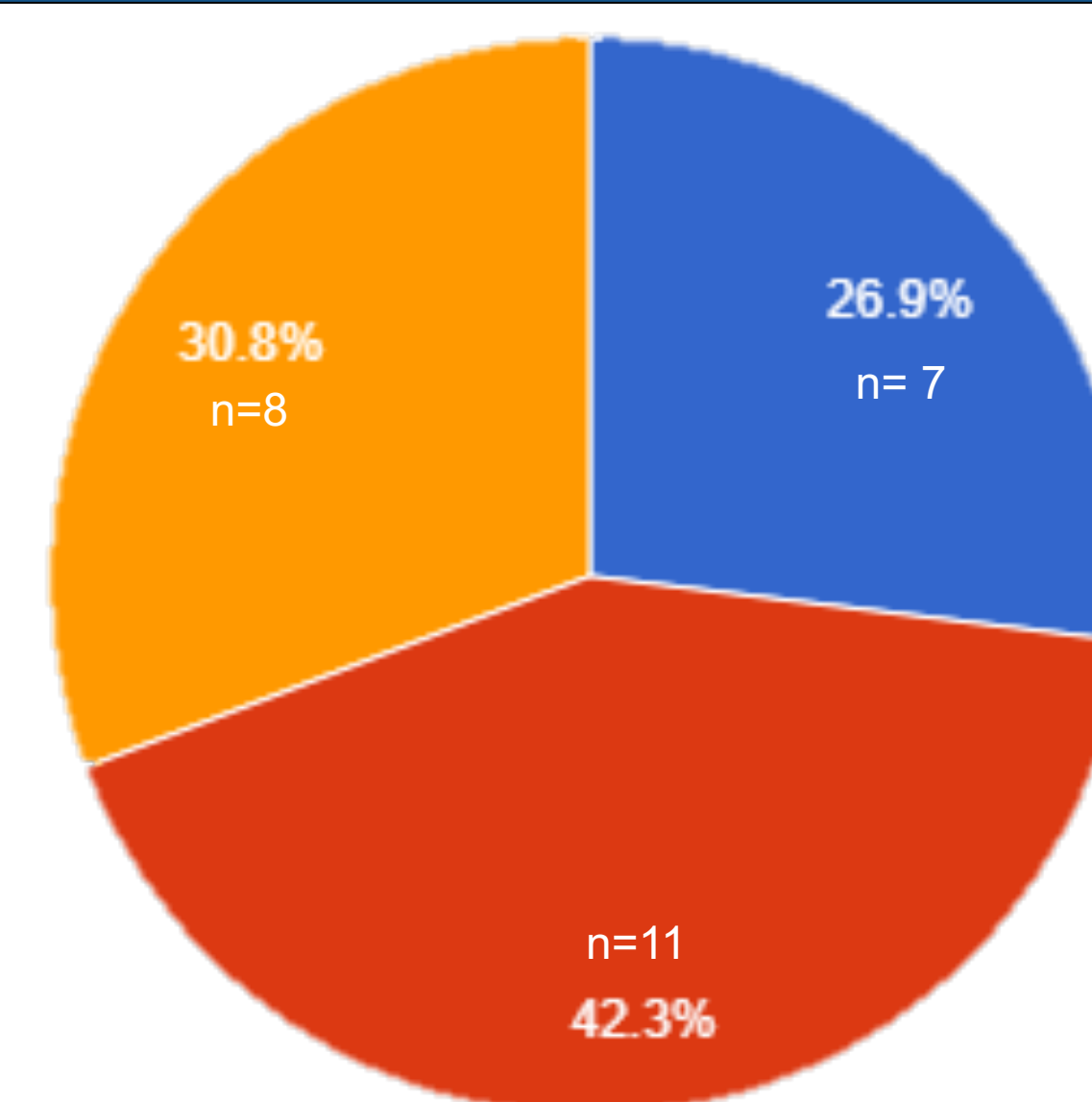


Figure 1. Breakdown of survey respondents: PGY-1 (blue), PGY-2 (red), PGY-3 (orange)

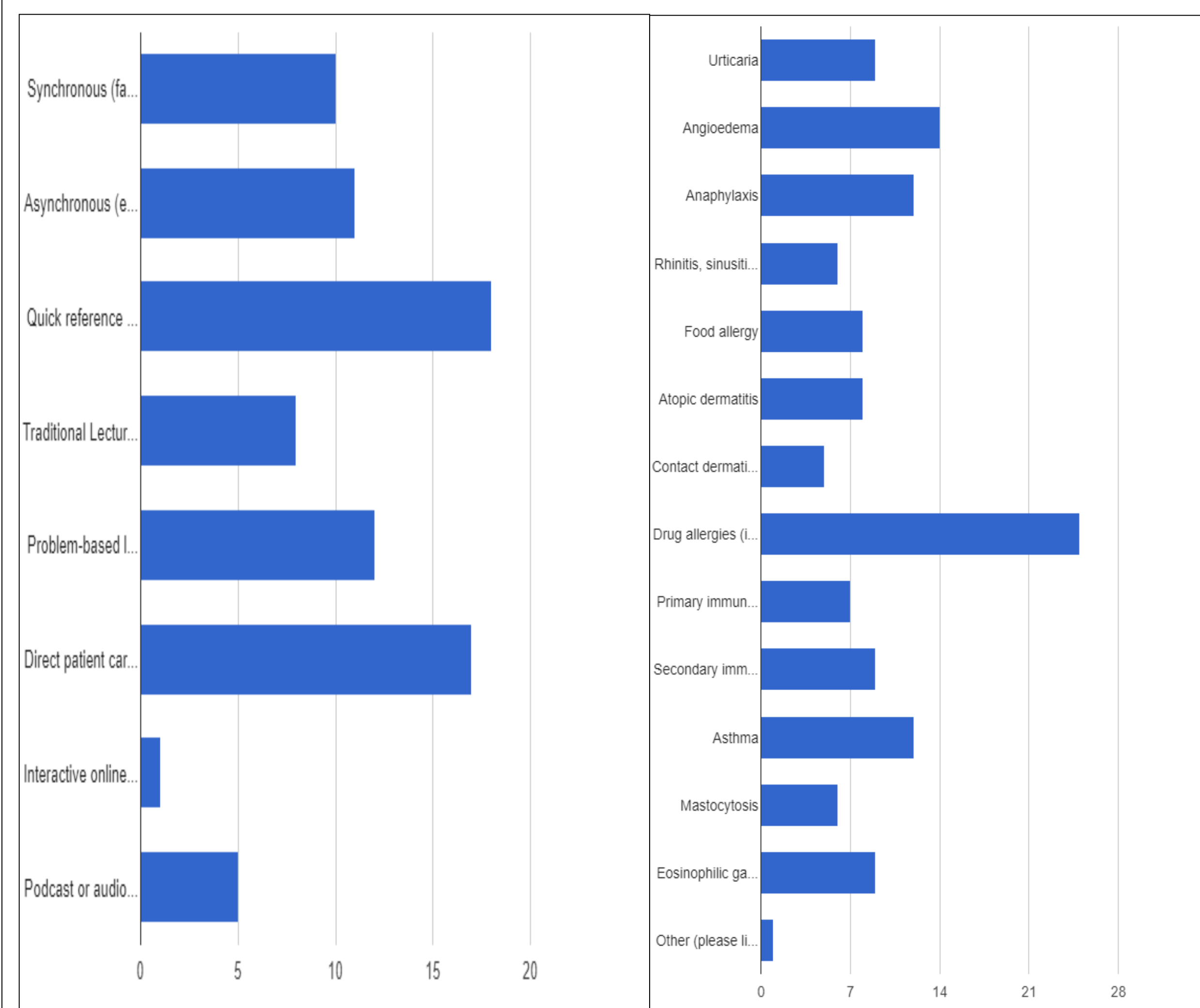


Figure 2. Distribution of residents' preferred learning styles- Most residents chose high-yield quick reference sheets (69%), followed by direct patient care (65%), and problem-based learning (46%).

Figure 3. Distribution of topics within A/I that residents would like to learn more about- Nearly all residents (96%) identified drug allergy, followed by angioedema (54%), anaphylaxis (46%) and asthma (46%) as topics of interest.

## Conclusions

This needs assessment identified several areas for improvement in terms of our current A/I elective curriculum:

• Interestingly, **online modules were the least preferred learning modality selected by our residents**, and the **current curriculum** which is based on the national AAAAI curriculum, **are mostly online modules and readings**. Future curriculum should consist of high yield quick reference sheets, and problem-based or case-based learning.

• **As most residents agreed that it is "very important", for internists to be trained on allergy/immunology topics**, there is a need for effective teaching of these topics, which a new or revised curriculum could achieve.

• Specifically, almost all of our residents would like **more education on drug allergy**. Other popular topics of interest included angioedema, anaphylaxis and asthma. Incorporation of these topics into resident learning curriculum is important.

• The majority of residents who had completed the elective were **not aware that a curriculum existed**, implying that there needs to be more publicity of the curriculum prior to starting the rotation. Additionally, of those that were aware of the curriculum, **all agreed that the current curriculum was too granular/dense**.

• **Current curriculum may not be addressing the needs of the residents**, so development of a new curriculum geared for internists is warranted.

## Limitations

- Our survey was limited by relatively low response rate (20%).
- There was a low number of responders who completed the A/I elective (n= 8), increasing potential for bias regarding feedback on the current curriculum.

## References

1) National Resident Matching Program, Results and Data: Specialties Matching Service 2024 Appointment Year. National Resident Matching Program, Washington, DC. 2024.