



DAWN Clinic Surgical/Procedural Needs Assessment



Akaysha Joiner, MS4, Cristos Ifantides, MD
University of Colorado School of Medicine

Background

- DAWN Clinic is a student/resident-run clinic that serves the uninsured and immigrant populations of Aurora, CO
 - Goal of clinic is to improve the quality of and access to healthcare for underserved populations, alleviating healthcare disparities.
 - This is currently accomplished through primary care services, recurring specialty nights, and education about community resources.
 - The clinic does not perform procedures. Current interventions include:
 - Screening
 - Referrals (Denver Health)
 - Attempt to enroll in insurance (Medicaid, Medicare)
 - Initial treatment with medication (GoodRx)
- Current literature indicates that most student-run clinics do not perform procedures.¹
 - The cost of waiting until the disease progresses is significant
 - Surgical intervention is not feasible due to cost, staffing, and resource constraints

Objectives

- Conduct a needs assessment to determine which surgeries/procedures were needed within ophthalmology patients.
- Collaborate with community partners to provide the most needed procedure.
- Develop and implement a standardized process for tracking and scheduling patients for that procedure, improving access to care

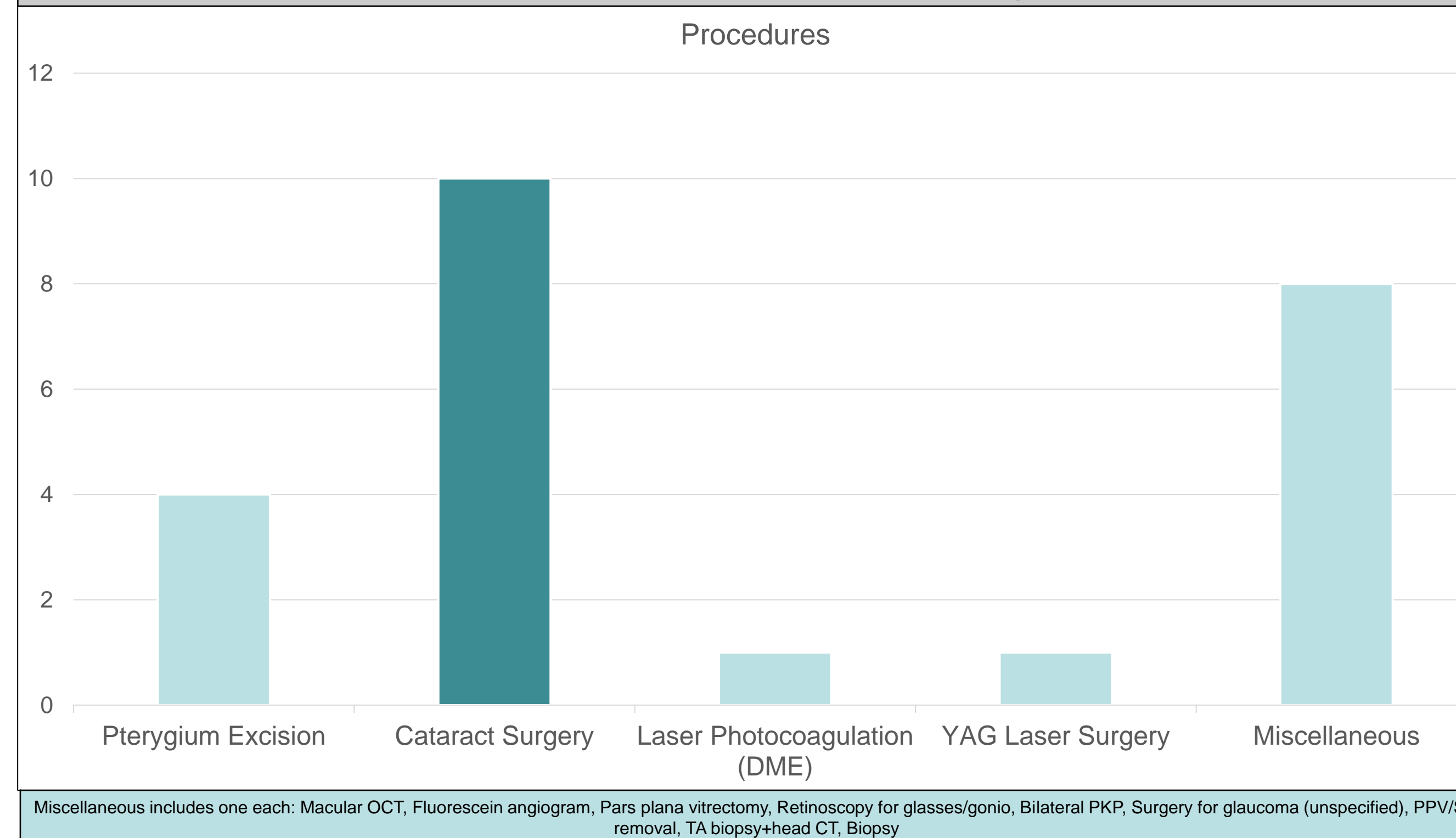
Methods

- Extensive ophthalmology patient chart review (Practice Fusion) from April 2016-April 2018
- Documentation of patient data
 - Demographics (including insurance status)
 - Diagnosis
 - Treatment plan
 - What was needed
 - What was already received
 - Comorbidities
- Present findings to ophthalmology team and clinic leadership

Data Collection

Data

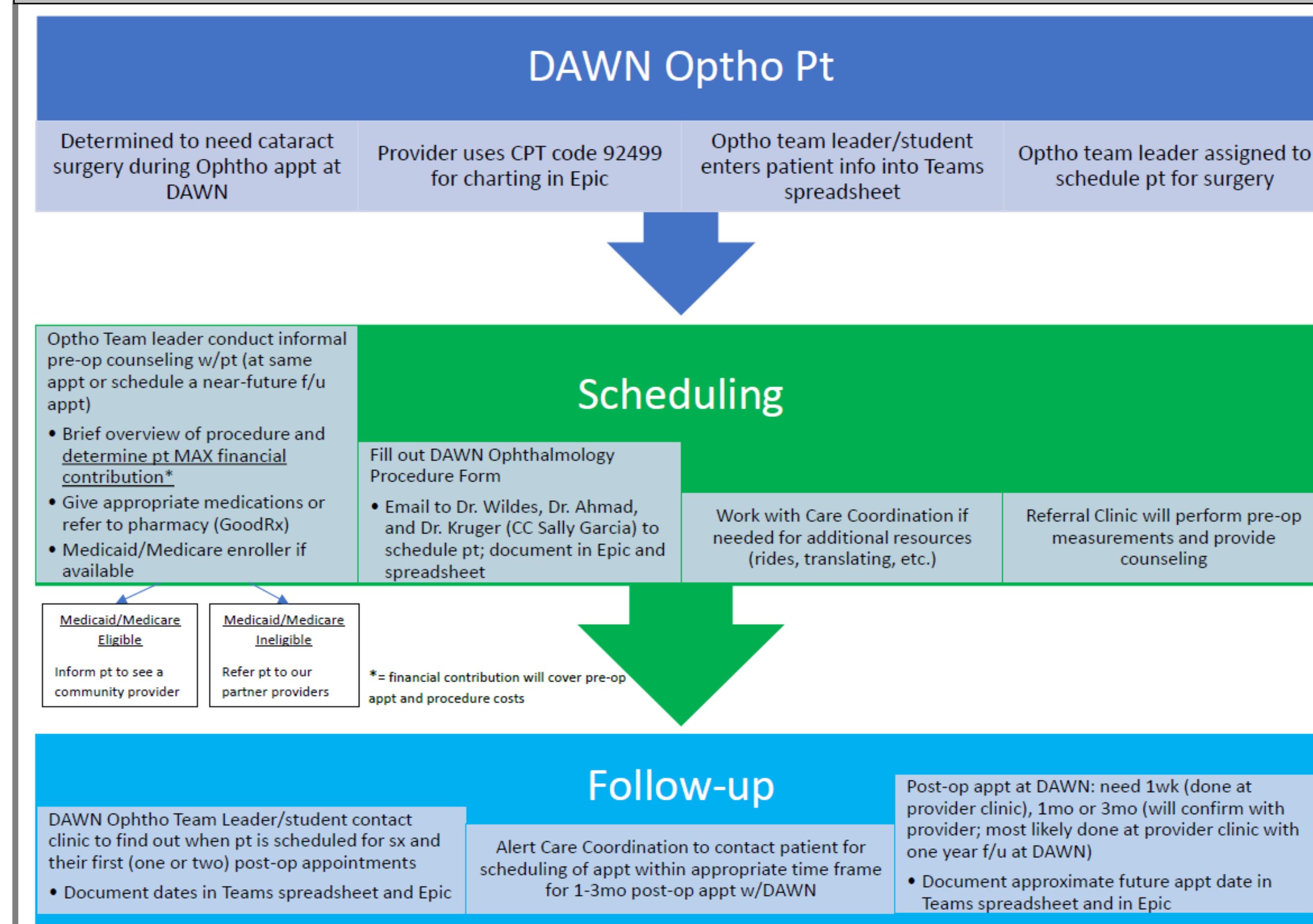
We found that 92 patients were seen for ophthalmologic issues during this time; of these, 24 patients (26%) needed surgeries or procedures:



Cataract surgery was the most prominent need (41.67%) of the procedures

Standardized Process

Scheduling Protocol



Patient Procedure Form

DAWN Ophthalmology Patient Procedure Form

Date: mm/dd/yyyy
 Filled by: First name Last name
 Role at DAWN: Click or tap here to enter text.
 Email: Click or tap here to enter text.
 To schedule: email to Dr. Wildes (mwildes11@gmail.com), Dr. Ahmad (mariam.ahmad@cuanschutz.edu), and Dr. Kruger (matthew.kruger@cuhealth.org) with CC Sally Garcia (sally.garcia@dawnclinic.org)

Demographic Information

Patient Name: Last, First
 MRN (Epic): Click or tap here to enter text.
 DOB: mm/dd/yyyy
 Patient Occupation: Click or tap here to enter text.
 Transportation: Click or tap here to enter text.
 Financial Contribution: Click or tap here to enter text.
 Seen by Medicaid/Medicare enroller: Y N
 Eligible for Medicaid/Medicare: Y N Other (explain): Click or tap here to enter text.
 Preferred Language: Click or tap here to enter text.

Contact Information

Email: Click or tap here to enter text.
 Phone Number: Click or tap here to enter text.
 Contact name: Last, First
 Relation to Patient: Click or tap here to enter text.

Surgical Information

Confirmed surgical candidate: Y N
 Ophthalmologist signing off: Click or tap here to enter text.
 Procedure to be scheduled: Click or tap here to enter text.
 Prior intraocular surgeries: Y N If yes, please specify. Click or tap here to enter text.
 Prior eye trauma: Y N If yes, please specify. Click or tap here to enter text.
 Prior intravitreal injections: Y N If yes, please specify. Click or tap here to enter text.
 History of or current alpha-blocker use: Y N
 Current use of blood thinners: Y N
 Any retinal pathology noted on dilated exam? Y N If yes, please specify. Click or tap here to enter text.
 Any phacodonesis on slit lamp exam? Y N If yes, please specify. Click or tap here to enter text.

Condition R EYE

VA: Click or tap here to enter text. With correction Without correction
 Other (i.e. cataract, scarring, etc.): Click or tap here to enter text.
 Last eval date: Click or tap to enter a date.
 Pre-op meds started: Click or tap here to enter text.
 Start date: Click or tap to enter a date.

Condition L EYE

VA: Click or tap here to enter text. With correction Without correction
 Other (i.e. cataract, scarring, etc.): Click or tap here to enter text.
 Last eval date: Click or tap to enter a date.
 Pre-op meds started: Click or tap here to enter text.
 Start date: Click or tap to enter a date.

Discussion

- In order to increase access to care, a needs assessment must first be conducted to identify and address the specific need.
- Due to student/resident/staff turnover, a sustainable, standardized process is needed.
- This baseline standardized process can potentially be replicated for other specialty clinics at DAWN once the procedural need is determined.

Conclusions

- DAWN clinic can play a crucial role in preventative care, screening, and advanced treatment of ophthalmologic diseases, specifically cataract surgery.
- It is necessary that other student-run free clinics conduct needs assessments to determine what procedures need to be provided.
 - The clinic can then leverage appropriate resources to increase access to procedures, and implementation of an established standardized protocol for tracking, scheduling, and follow-up is needed to successfully provide these services.
- The development of the protocol should involve collaboration with all reasonable constituents to ensure buy-in, different perspectives, and to allow for feedback and modification.

Reference

1. 'Presence and Characteristics of Student-Run Free Clinics in Medical Schools,' Smith, S, et al. JAMA. 2014; 312(22): 2407-2410. doi:10.1001/jama.2014.16066

