

# Evaluation of STI Screening Recommendation Compliance and Expedited Partner Therapy Use in Northeast Wisconsin: A Tool to Educate Providers

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## INTRODUCTION

- Sexually transmitted infection (STI) incidence had been declining steadily in the U.S. for decades.
- Much of this success was attributed to better treatments, such as antibiotics, and improved screening techniques to limit disease transmission.
- Incidence of these infections in the U.S. has risen in recent years, including 18.6% and 6.9% increases in gonorrhea and chlamydia respectively from 2016-2017 according to the CDC.

## PURPOSE

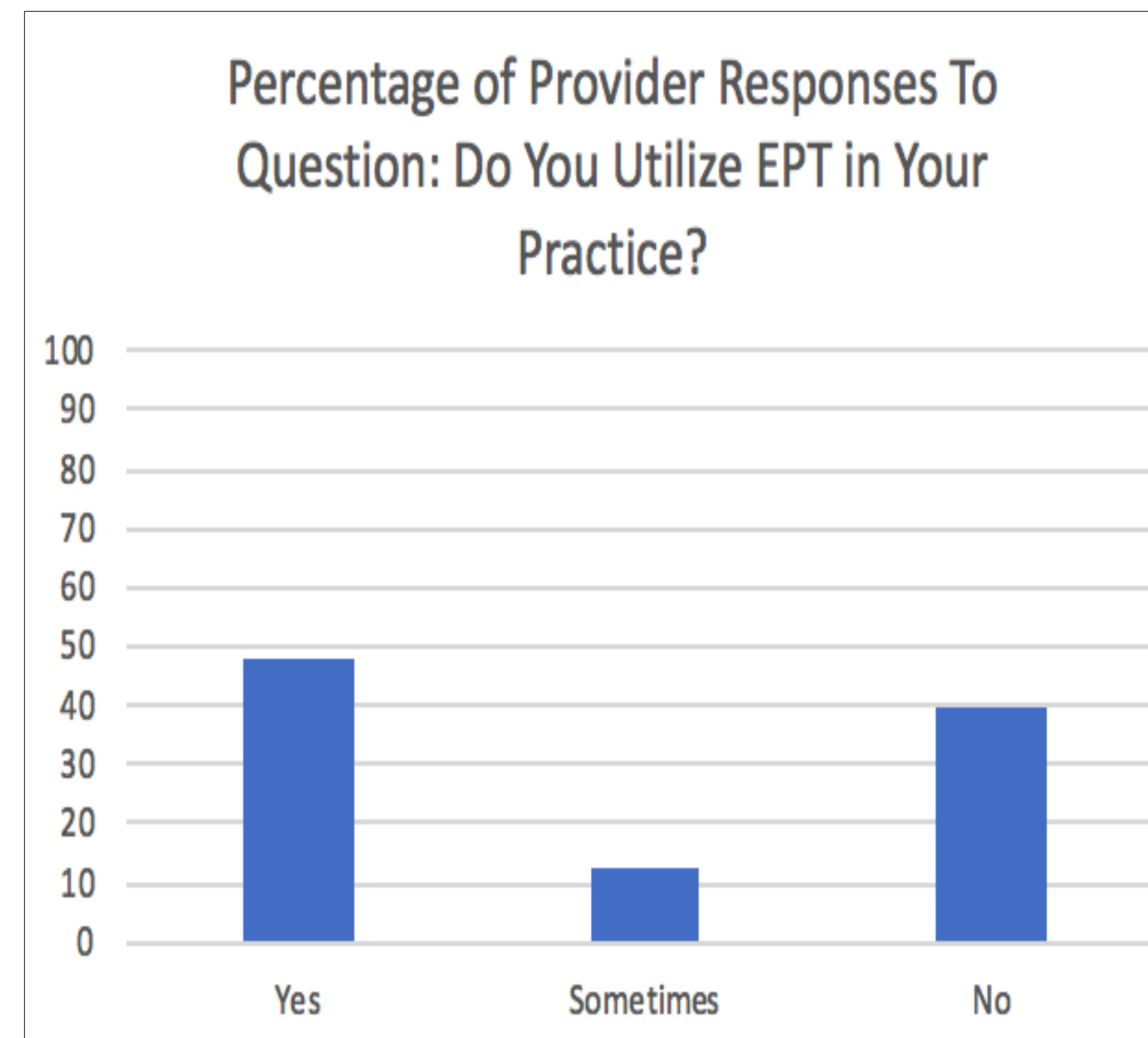
- This study is designed to assess the level of knowledge providers have in regards to CDC screening recommendations for chlamydia and gonorrhea as well as the use of Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) as a tool to prevent future disease transmission.

## METHODS

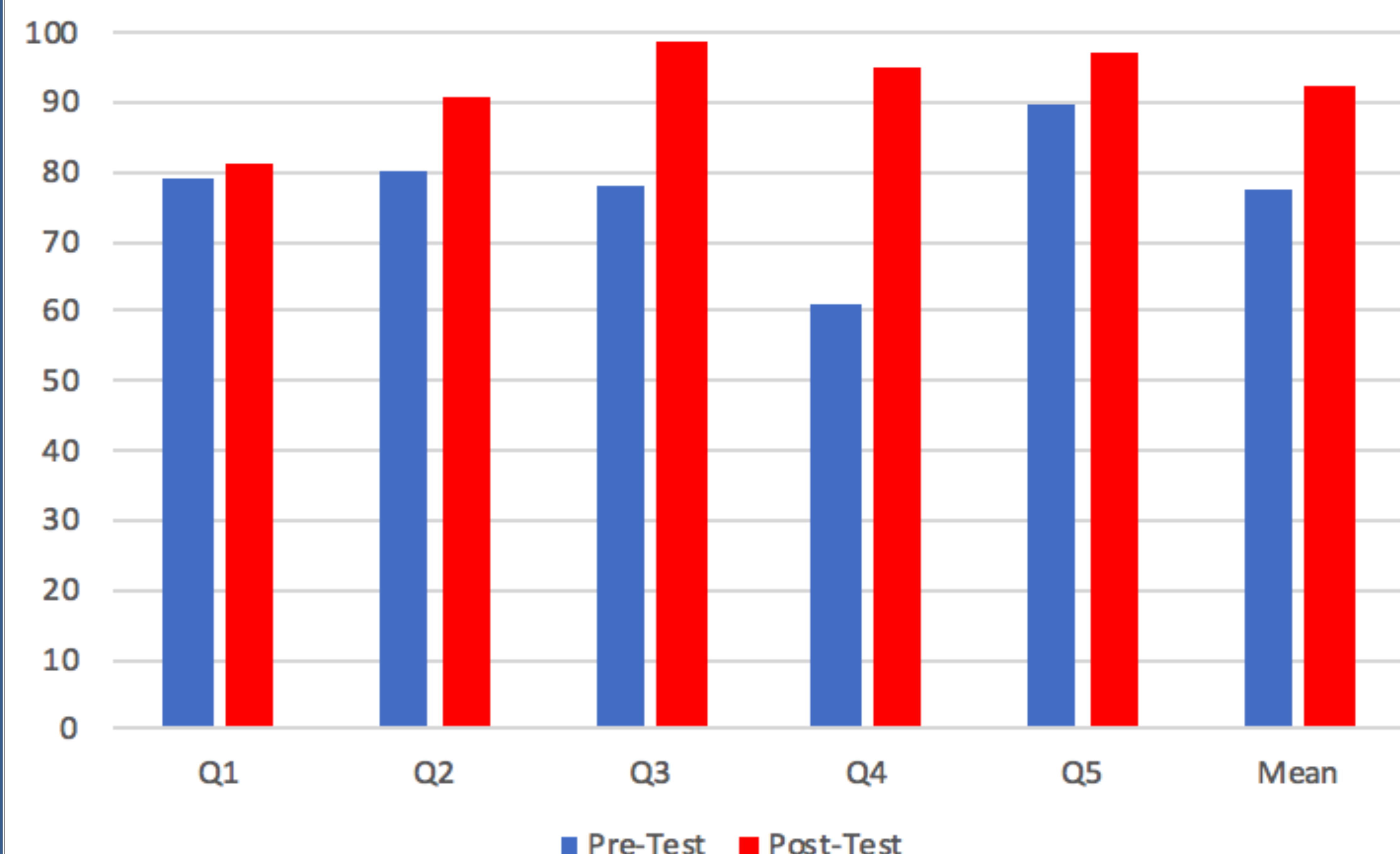
- The survey was comprised of a pre-test, an educational brochure that was approved by the Appleton Health Department, and a post-test.
- The survey was distributed through WALHDAB to 20 local health departments in Northeast Wisconsin, who subsequently distributed the survey to their own provider contacts.

## RESULTS

- Data from 85 surveys was collected online
- Of the 85 responses, 67% of providers practiced in Family Medicine
- Data was collected from providers in 17 counties



Percent Correct on STI Screening and Treatment Education Questions



## RESULTS (CONT'D)

- The majority of providers knew the screening protocols for chlamydia and gonorrhea, but improvement was still seen after the educational brochure.
- The lowest pre-test score was seen on the question regarding post-treatment retesting recommendations (Q4).
- Only 48% of providers regularly utilize EPT in their practice, and many who do not indicated they did not know it was legal.

## CONCLUSIONS

- A majority of respondents do not utilize EPT, indicating this could be an educational opportunity to combat the spread of STI's.
- Lower test scores on retesting recommendations may have identified a gap in STI prevention.
- On average, providers scored the usefulness of the survey an 8/10, indicating this could be an effective tool to educate physicians on emerging health concerns.

## Acknowledgements

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