



# DAWN Clinic Surgical/Procedural Needs Assessment

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## 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.<sup>1</sup>

- 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

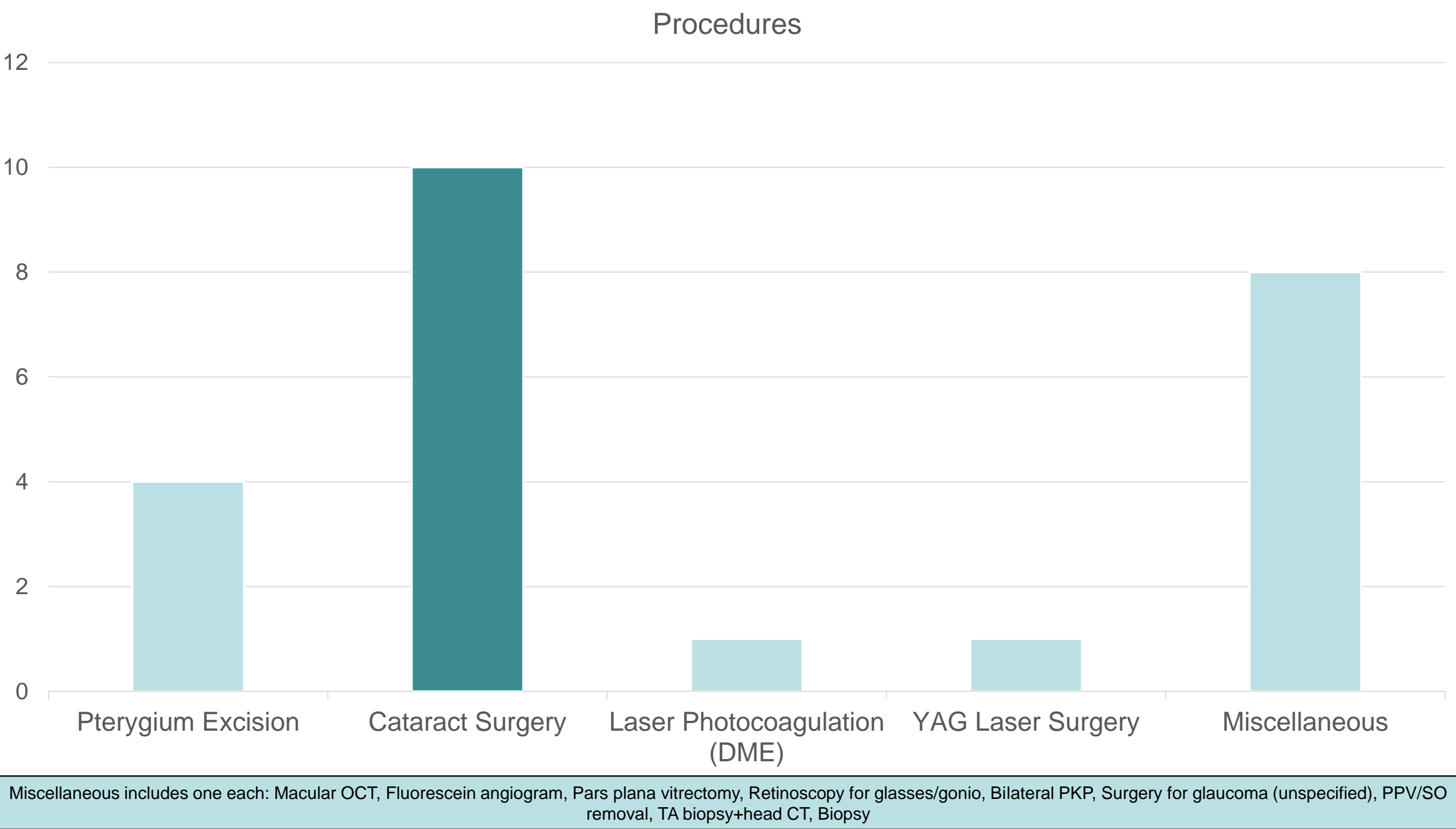
## Methods

- 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

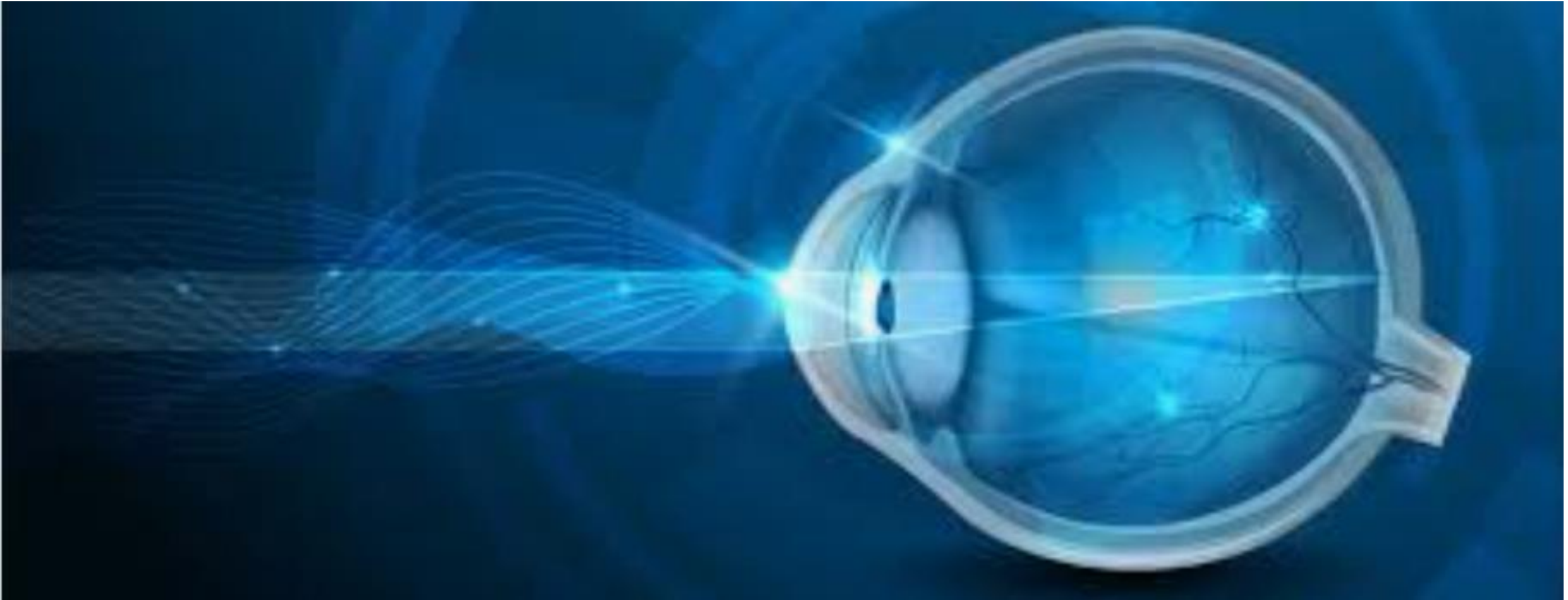
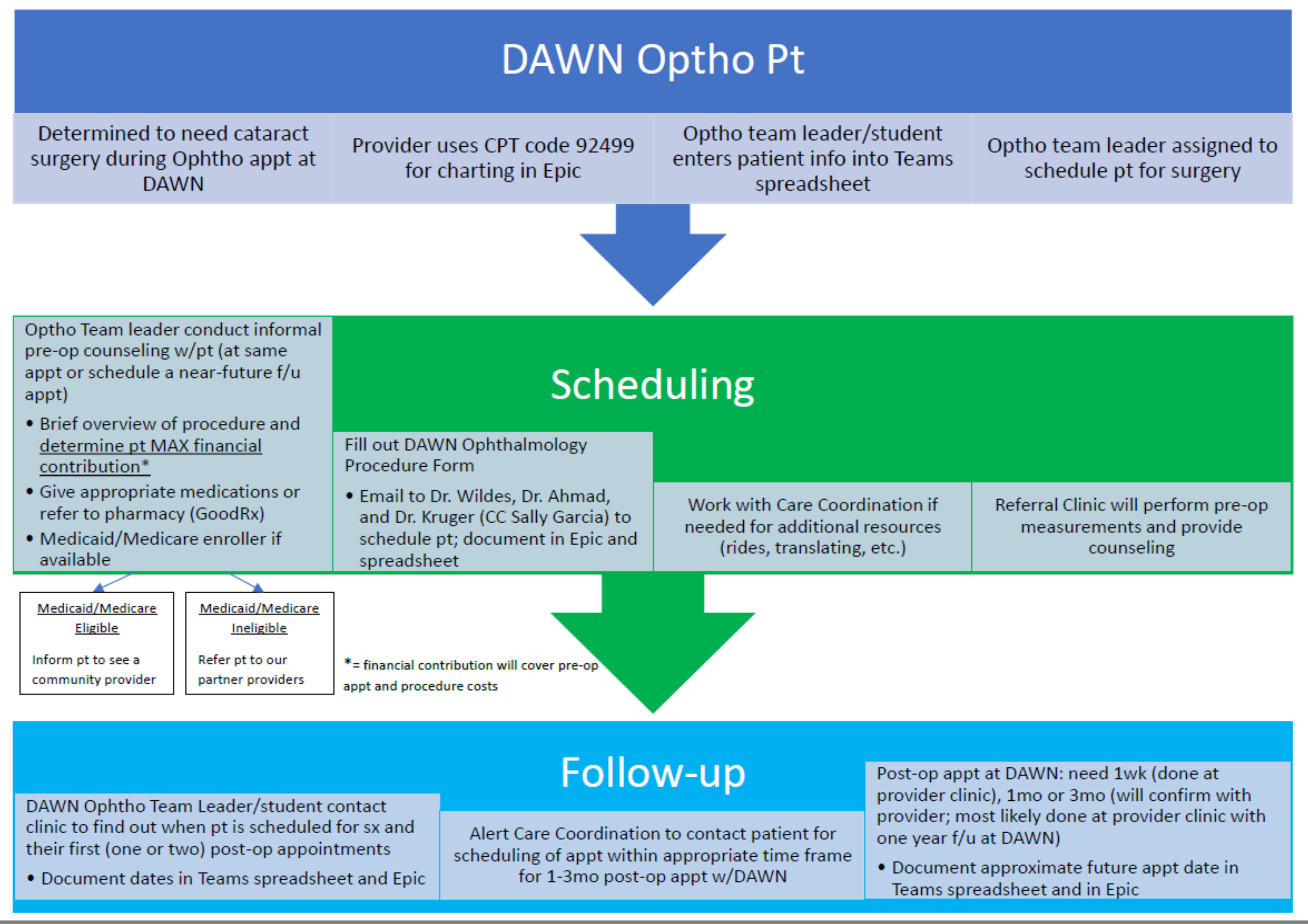
We found that 92 patients were seen for ophthalmologic issues during this time; of these, 24 patients (26%) needed surgeries or procedures:



**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@uchealth.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 one 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