

## INTRODUCTION

- E-consult: electronic referral by providers to assess need for an in-person urology clinic visit
- E-consult systems have been piloted in other specialties but minimal experience published in urology
- We recently implemented an e-consult system at Parkland Hospital in Dallas Texas

## METHODS

- We assessed any e-consult requests during 2018
- Assessed demographics, timing of visit, and reason for visit
- Diagnostic categories created to classify patient pathology
- Data was compared via Wilcoxon rank-sum and Fisher's exact tests

## RESULTS

Diagnostic Category	N=	Clinic Referral (N=326)		Cystoscopy Referral (N=78)		Attended Appointment (N=260)		Scheduled Follow-Up (N=195)	
Hematuria	114	102	(89%)	72	(71%)	78	(76%)	39	(50%)
Renal/Adrenal	95	38	(40%)	0	(0%)	27	(71%)	24	(89%)
BPH/LUTS	78	64	(82%)	1	(2%)	53	(83%)	46	(87%)
Scrotum/Testis	47	20	(43%)	0	(0%)	16	(80%)	7	(44%)
Stones	40	30	(75%)	1	(3%)	28	(93%)	27	(96%)
Elevated PSA	30	24	(80%)	0	(0%)	20	(83%)	19	(95%)
UTI	23	14	(61%)	2	(14%)	8	(57%)	5	(63%)
Penis/Urethra	19	15	(79%)	0	(0%)	12	(80%)	12	(100%)
Bladder	15	10	(67%)	2	(20%)	9	(90%)	7	(78%)
Prostate	11	9	(81%)	0	(0%)	9	(100%)	9	(100%)

Table 1: Diagnostic Categories and Associated Referral Rates

Figure 1: Pop-up prompting providers to order a urology e-consult in the EMR.

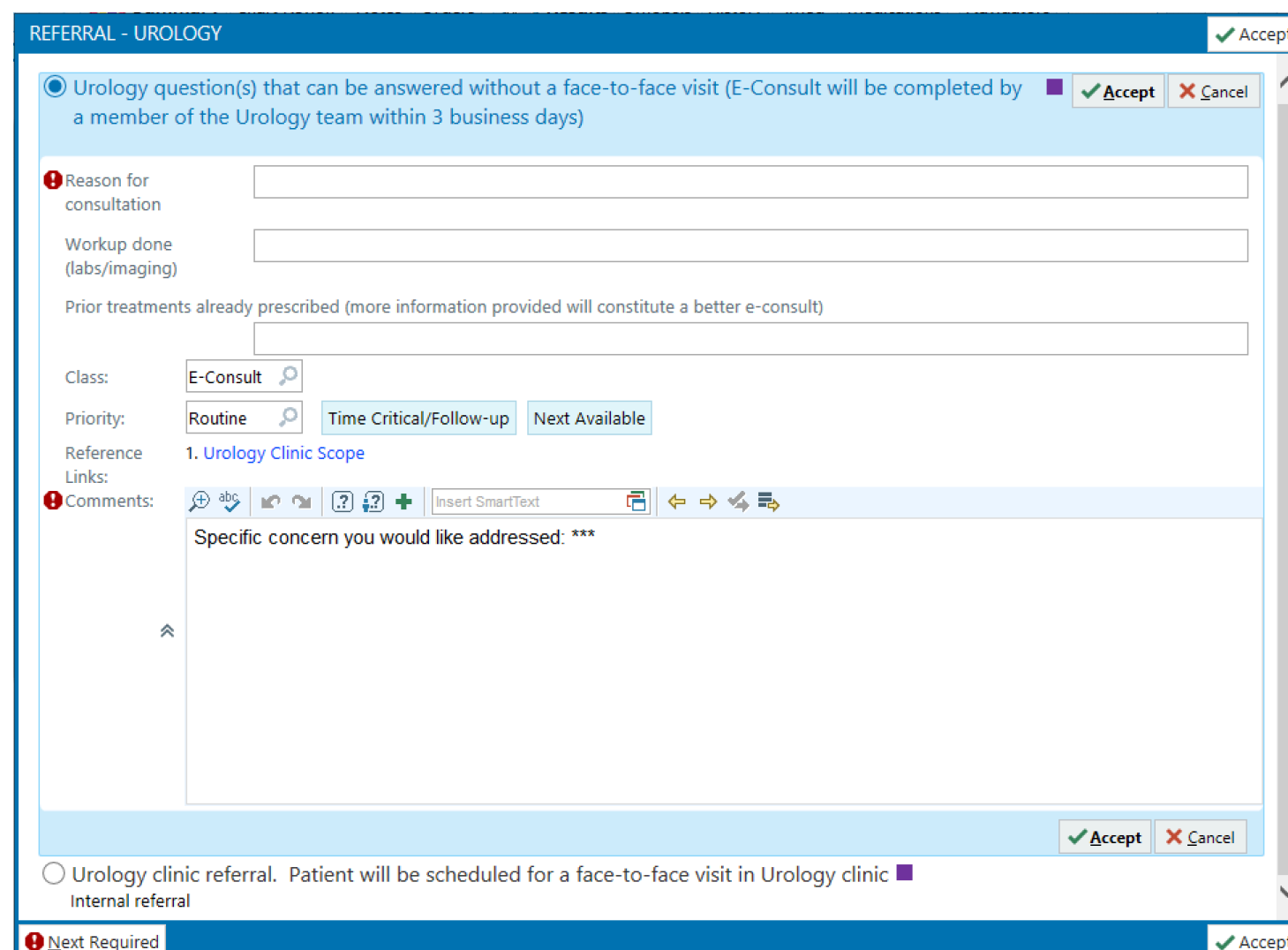
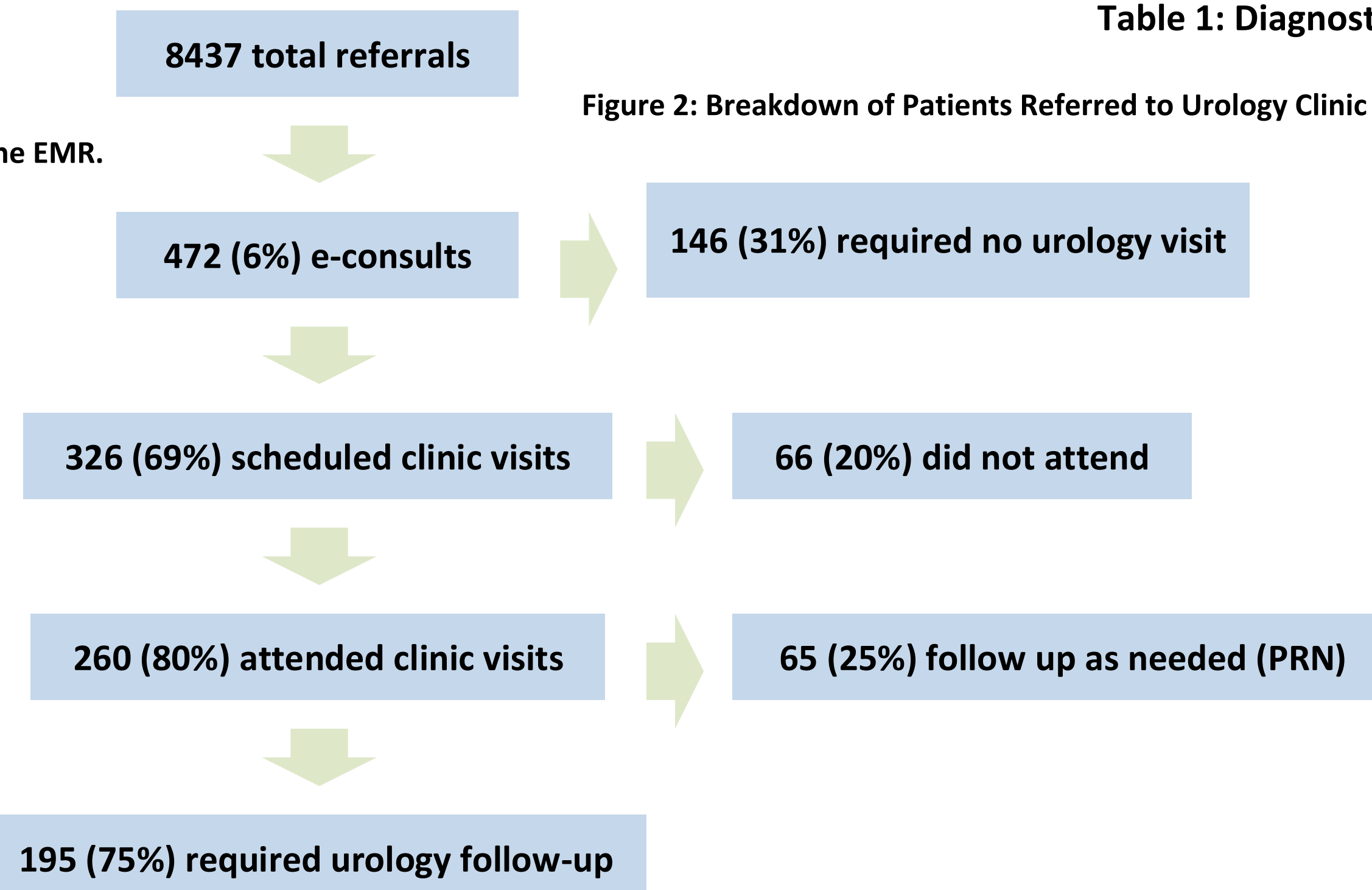


Figure 2: Breakdown of Patients Referred to Urology Clinic



- 472 e-consults for 454 patients in 2018 (6% total clinic referrals)
- 62.3% e-consults were men, median age 55 [IQR 44-63]
- Age, gender, and race did not affect whether patients were scheduled for an appt
- Median time from e-consult to appt: 39.5 days [IQR 33-50]
- Median time for a cystoscopy visit: 50 days [IQR 44-55]
- 89% of patients had their appt within 60 days

## CONCLUSIONS

- E-consults reduced 30% of potential in-person visits
- Avoided visits to discuss benign imaging and lab findings
- May save patients from a pre-cystoscopy visit

## ABBREVIATIONS

BPH – benign prostatic hyperplasia      PSA – prostate specific antigen  
 LUTS – lower urinary tract symptoms      UTI – urinary tract infection