



Primary Care Providers & Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Survey Results

Survey Goals

- Determine barriers and facilitators of diagnosing and treating Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD) to guide future training and education efforts among SC Primary Care Practitioners (PCPs)
- Assess current views of ADRD diagnosis and treatment among PCPs in SC
- Survey target population: PCPs in SC who treat/diagnose patients with ADRD

Survey Questions

- 22 Questions
 - Mix of multiple choice, select all that apply, Likert scale, and free response questions
- Main categories of questions:
 - Practice demographics
 - Current views on ADRD diagnosis and treatment
 - Diagnosis process
 - Treatment process (including follow-ups and referrals)
 - Barriers to diagnosis and treatment
 - ADRD education and training program interest

Survey Administration

Survey disseminated through newsletters and listservs for multiple organizations

- Spartanburg Regional Hospital
- SC Medical Association
- SC Hospital Association
- MUSC
- Ralph Johnson VA
- Dorn VA
- USC School of Medicine
- Prisma Health
- Lexington Medical Center
- Tidelands Health
- Conway Regional
- All Members of the ARCC
- All Members of the Senior Center Directors Association
- Alz Assoc SC Staff
- All Alz Assoc Board Members

Survey Results

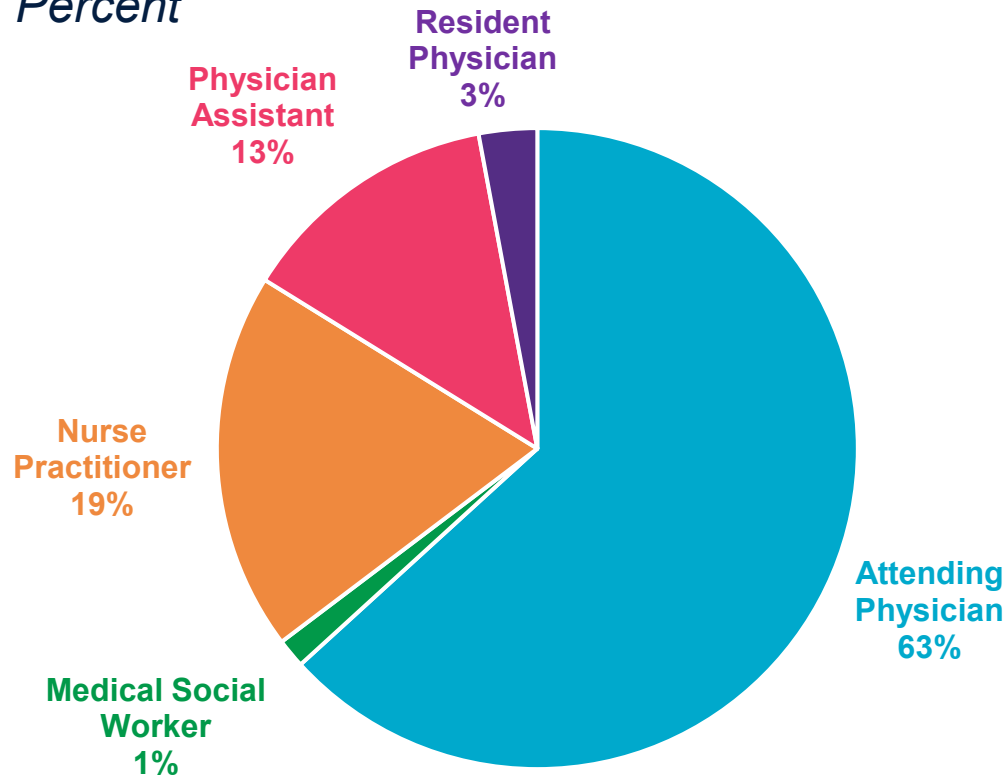
PCP and Patient Population Demographics

PCP/Patient Population Demographics



Practitioner Type

Percent

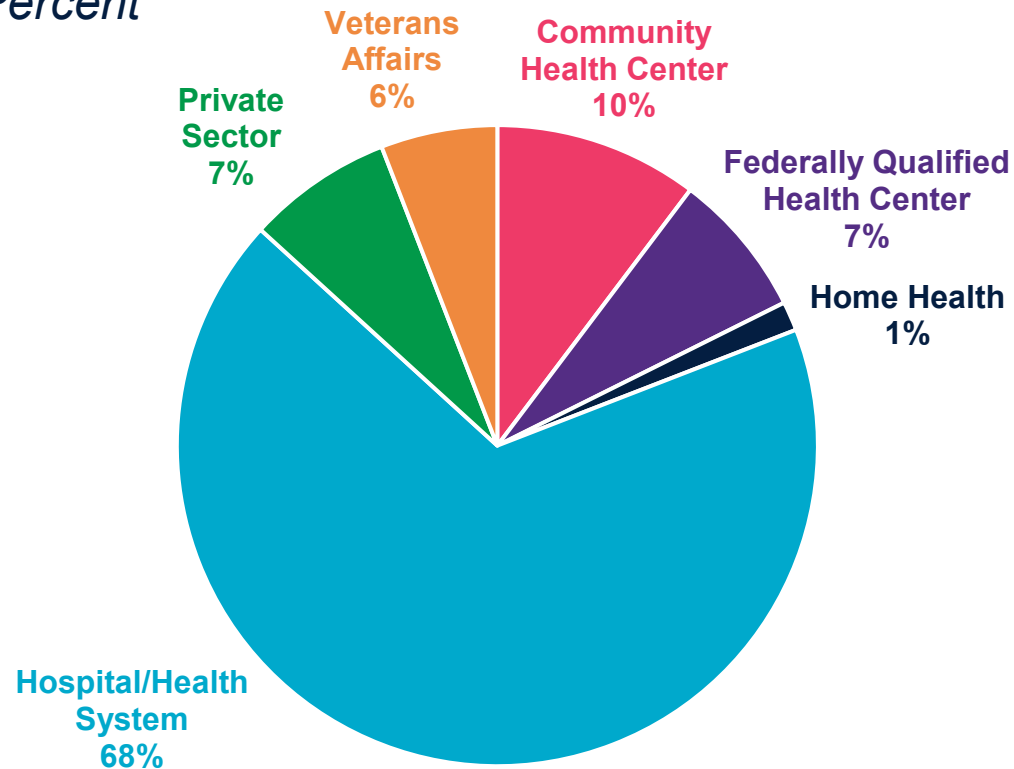


- 73 respondents were reached
- 68 provided services to patients with ADRD
- Of these 68, the most common type of practitioner surveyed was an attending physician

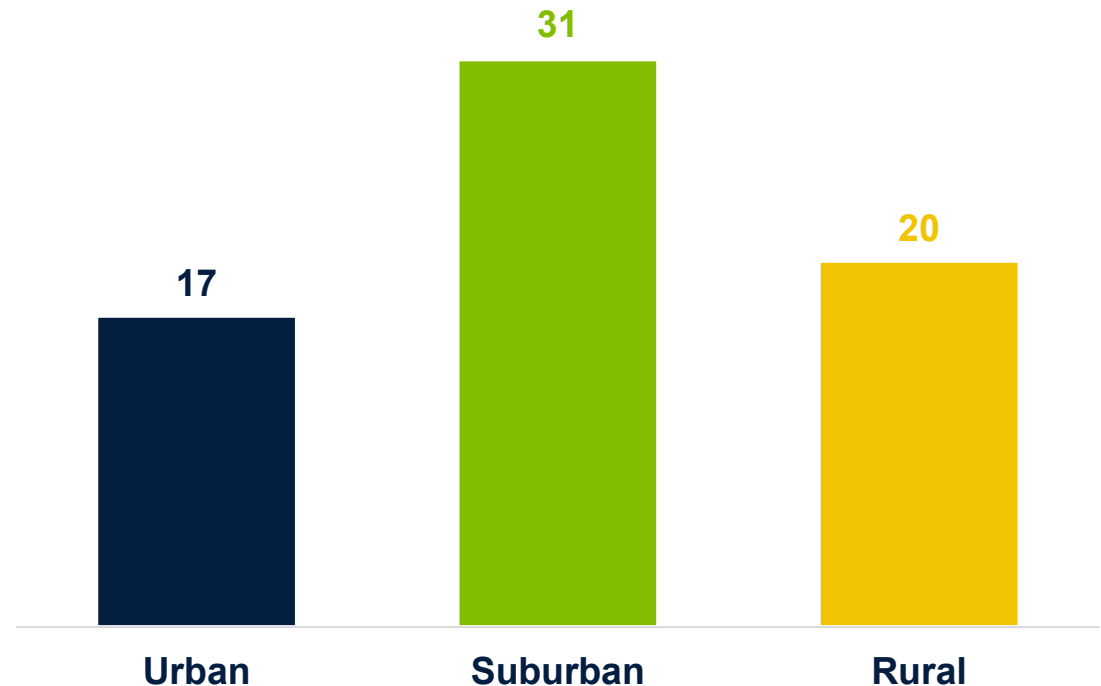
PCP/Patient Population Demographics



Practice Setting
Percent



Location of Primary Practice
Number

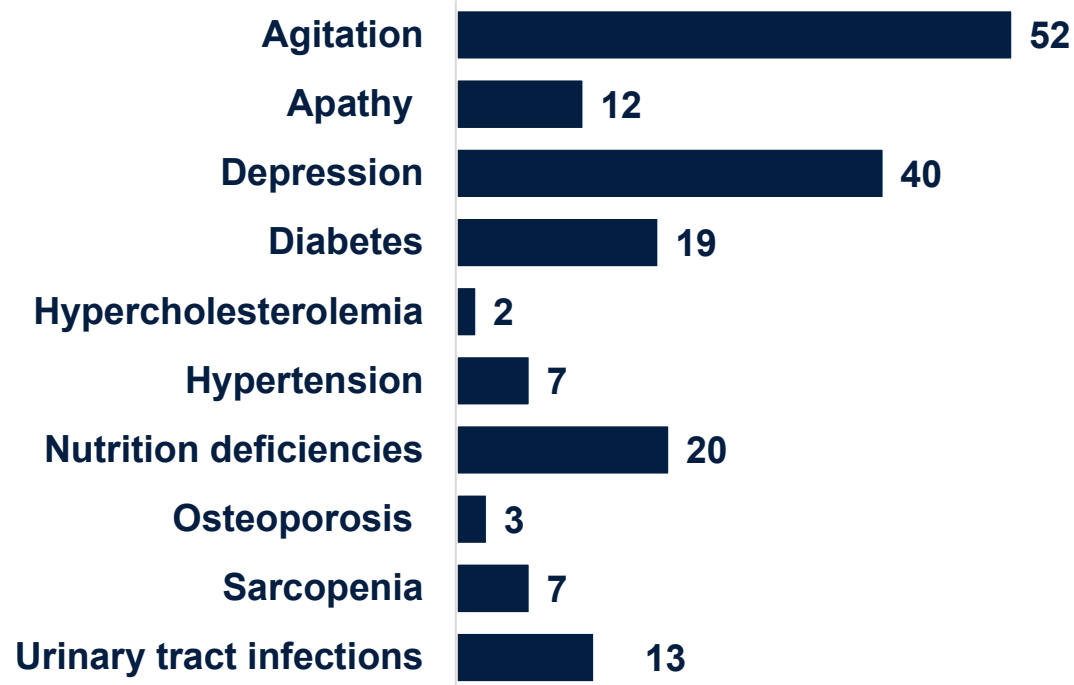


PCP/Patient Population Demographics



ADRD Comorbidities Found to be Most Challenging

Number



- For the majority of PCPs, ADRD patients comprised **0-25%** of their patient population
- The comorbidities PCPs found the most challenging to co-manage with ADRD were behavioral conditions such as **agitation** and **depression**
- **57%** of PCPs provided telemedicine/telehealth services for patients with ADRD
- Telemedicine/telehealth services were most commonly provided by **attending physicians** (74%) and among PCPs who worked in the **private sector** (80%)

Survey Results

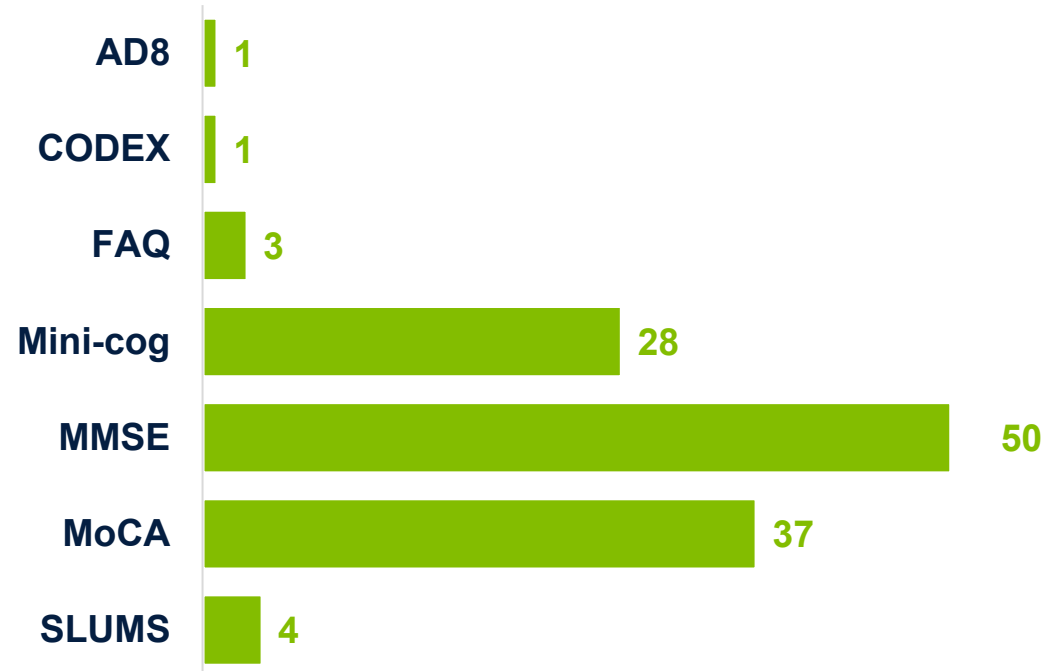
Diagnosis and Treatment of ADRD

Diagnosis and Treatment of ADRD



Tools Used for Early Detection and Diagnosis of ADRD in General Practice

Number



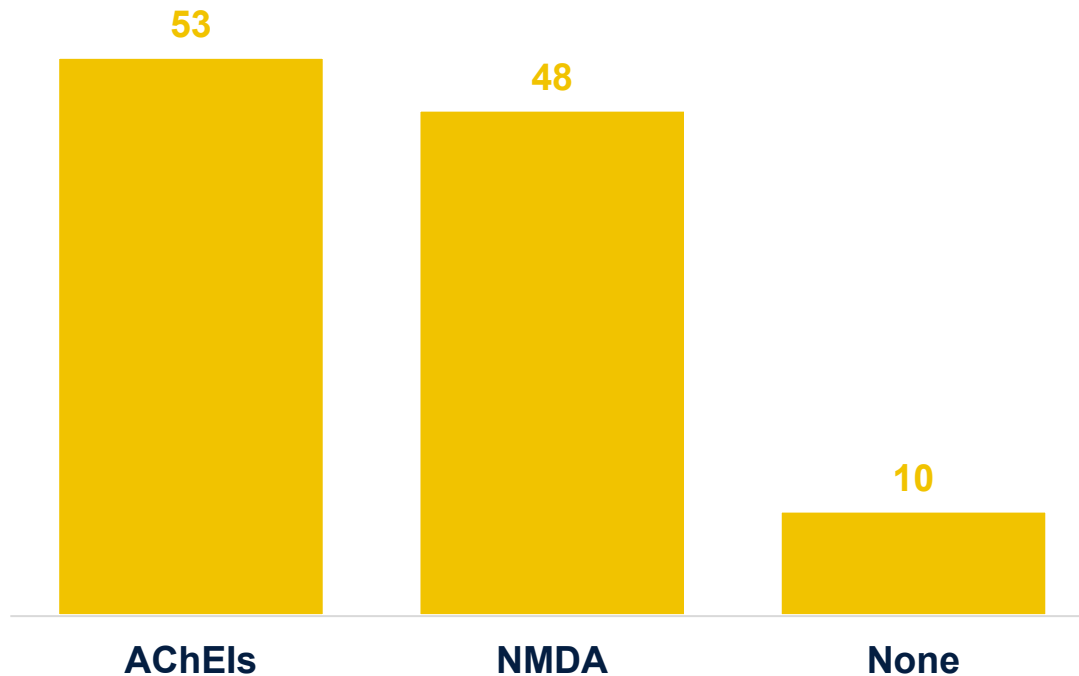
- The most common diagnosis tools used by PCPs were:
 - The Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE)
 - The Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA)
 - The Mini-cog
- The MMSE was commonly used across most PCP types and practice settings
- The MoCA was most commonly used by attending physicians and resident physicians

Diagnosis and Treatment of ADRD



Medications Most Likely to be Prescribed to ADRD Patients

Number



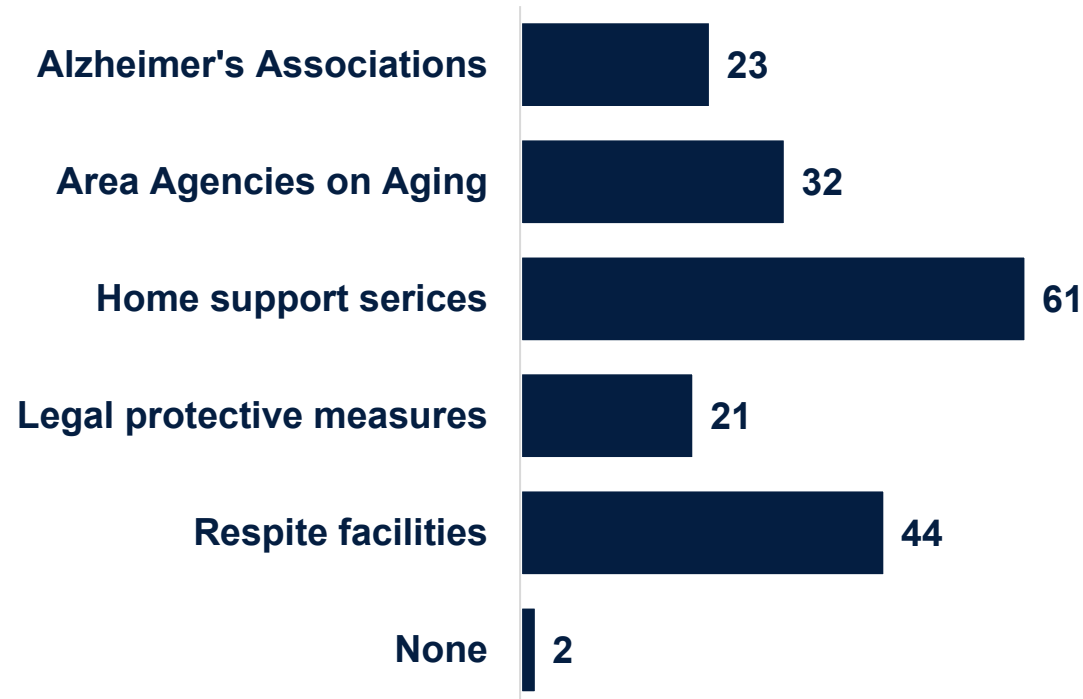
- The most common medications prescribed by PCPs were:
 - Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitors (AChEIs, Donepezil, Rivastigmine, Galantamine)
 - NMDA Receptor Antagonists (Memantine)

Diagnosis and Treatment of ADRD



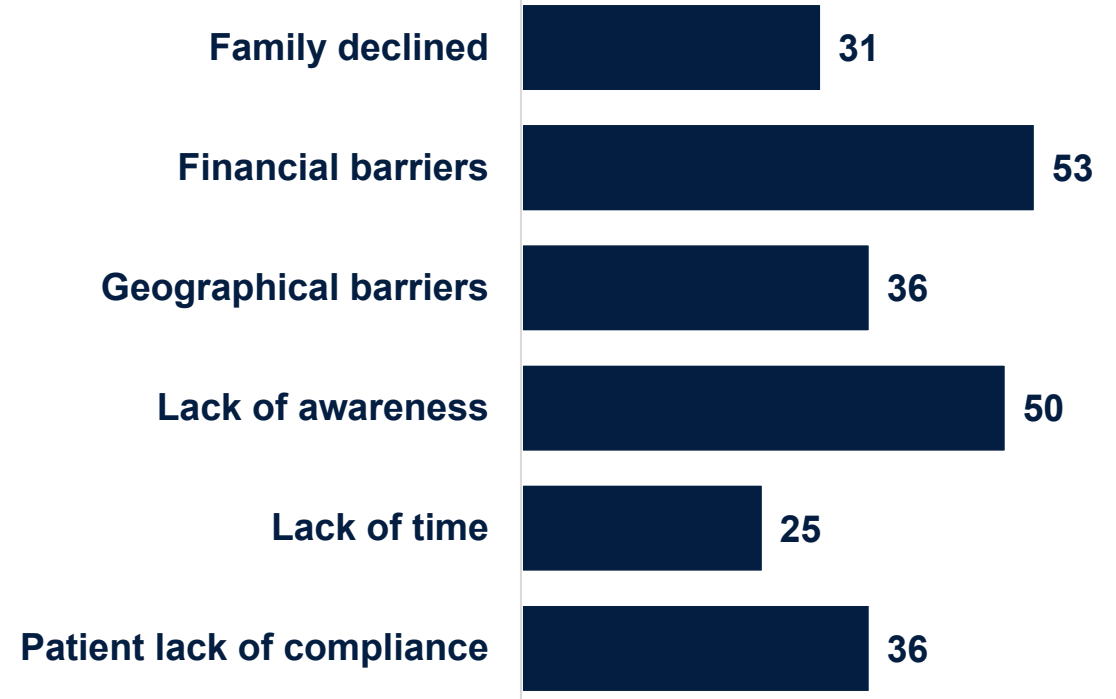
Support Services ADRD Patients Were Referred to

Number



Barriers to Accessing Support Services for ADRD Patients

Number

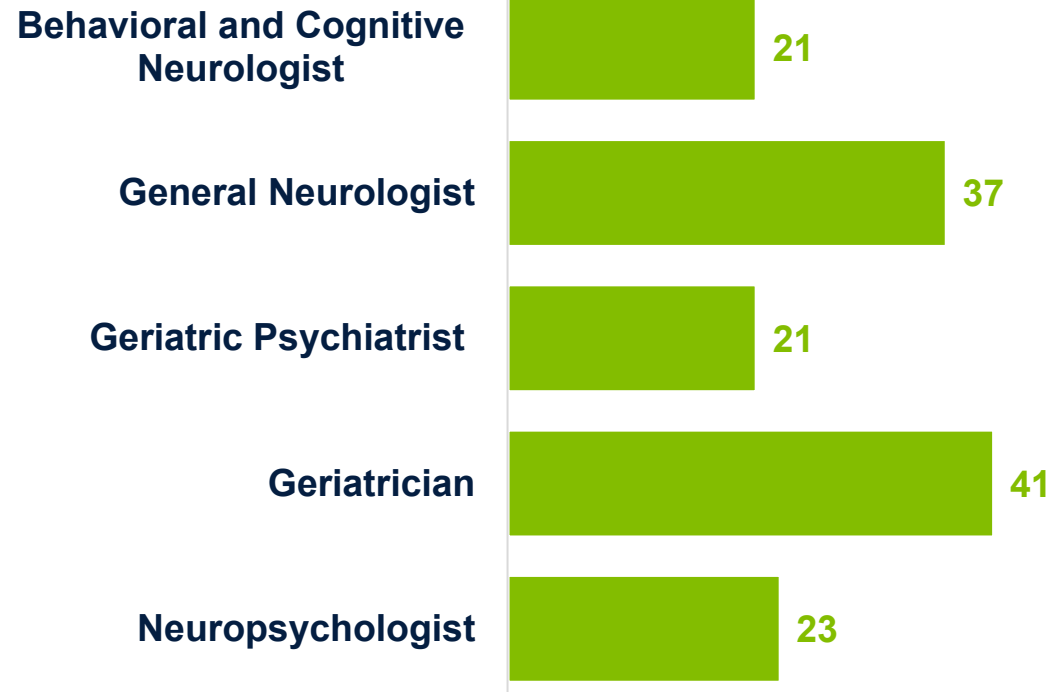


Diagnosis and Treatment of ADRD



Type of Specialists ADRD Patients Were Referred to

Number



- Resident physicians were the most likely to refer patients to a specialist
- Those working in the VA and the private sector were most likely to refer patients to a specialist

Survey Results

Current Views on ADRD Diagnosis and Treatment

Current Views - Evaluation and Diagnosis



- 95.6% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the initial evaluation and diagnosis of symptoms in patients was important
- 82.3% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that having training on the early detection and diagnosis of ADRD for PCPs was important

Current Views - After Diagnosis

- 70.5% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that being involved in decision-making about medical services after referrals was important
 - 20.6% only found this moderately important
 - 8.9% found this less - not important
- 94.1% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that having advance care planning conversations with patients/family members/caregivers was important
- 88.2% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that monitoring patients' ongoing care progress and management after diagnosis was important

Survey Results

Barriers

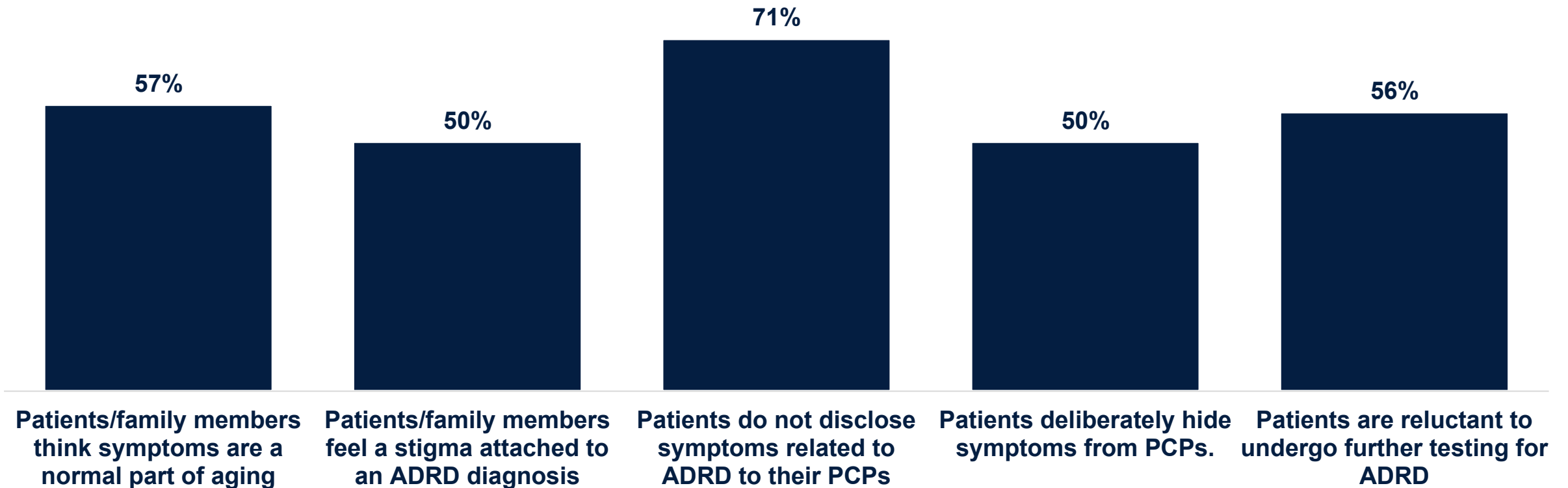
Reason for Late Diagnosis

Among all respondents:

1. Lack of testing available
 2. Lack of time
 3. Lack of knowledge regarding support services
 4. Difficulties in disclosing the diagnosis
 5. Racial and cultural barriers
- Attending physicians cited a lack of testing availability, followed by a lack of time, as the leading cause
 - Nurse practitioners cited knowledge regarding support services, followed by difficulties in disclosing the diagnosis, as the leading cause

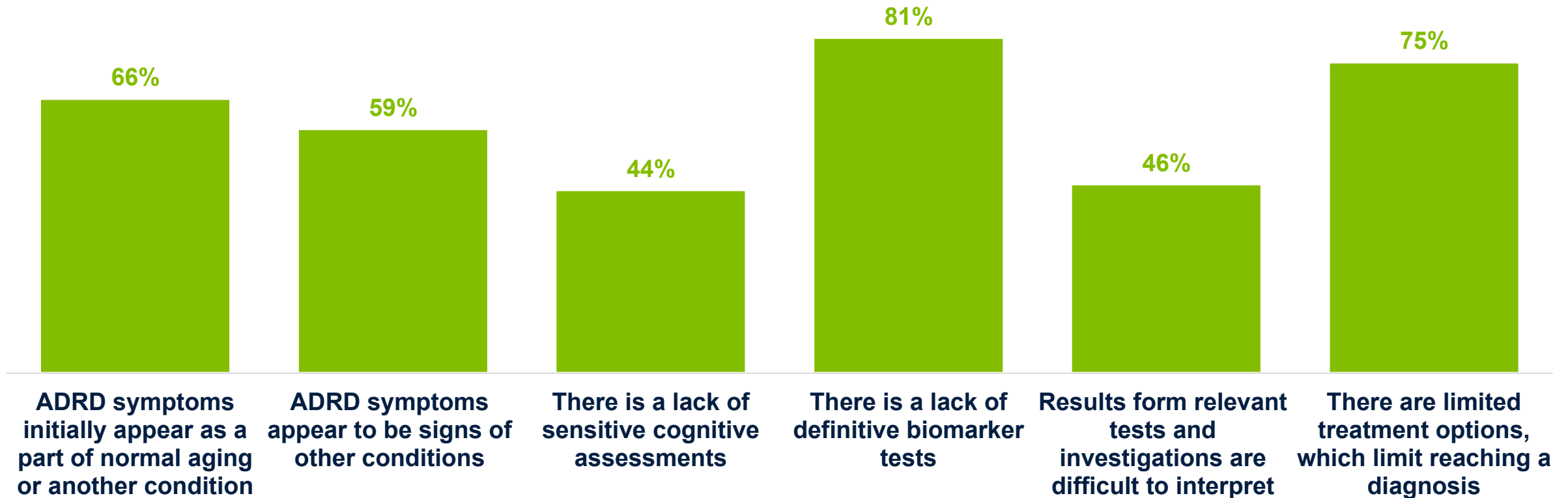
Patient Related Barriers

Percent of PCPs Who Agreed or Strongly Agreed
Percent



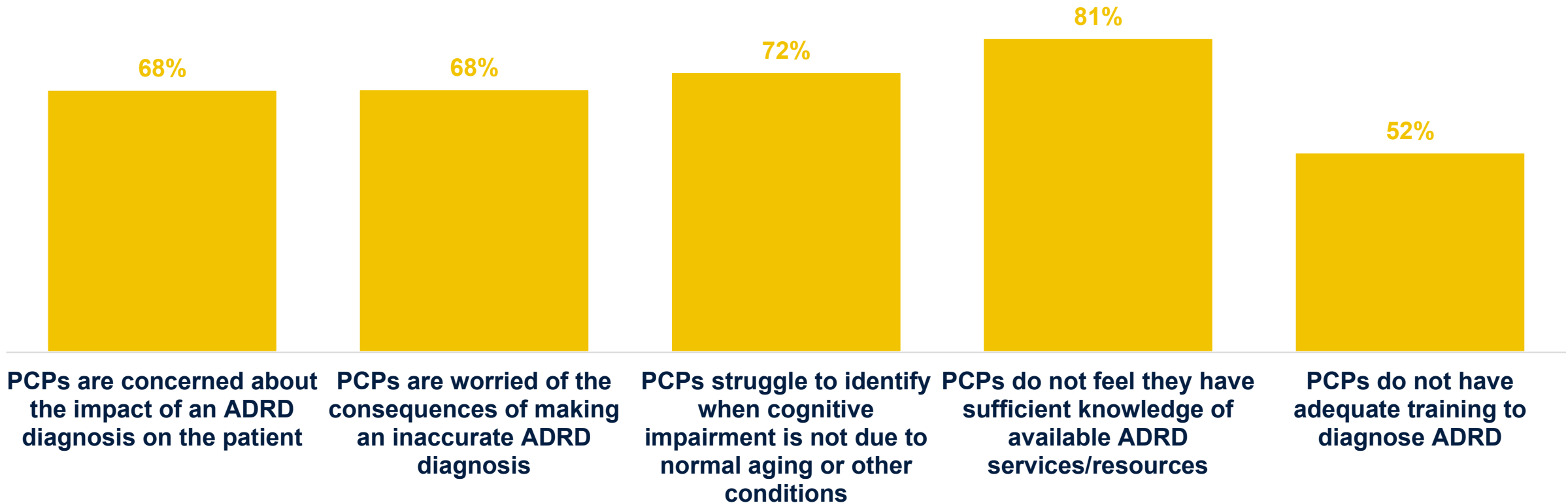
Clinical Related Barriers

Percent of PCPs Who Agreed or Strongly Agreed
Percent



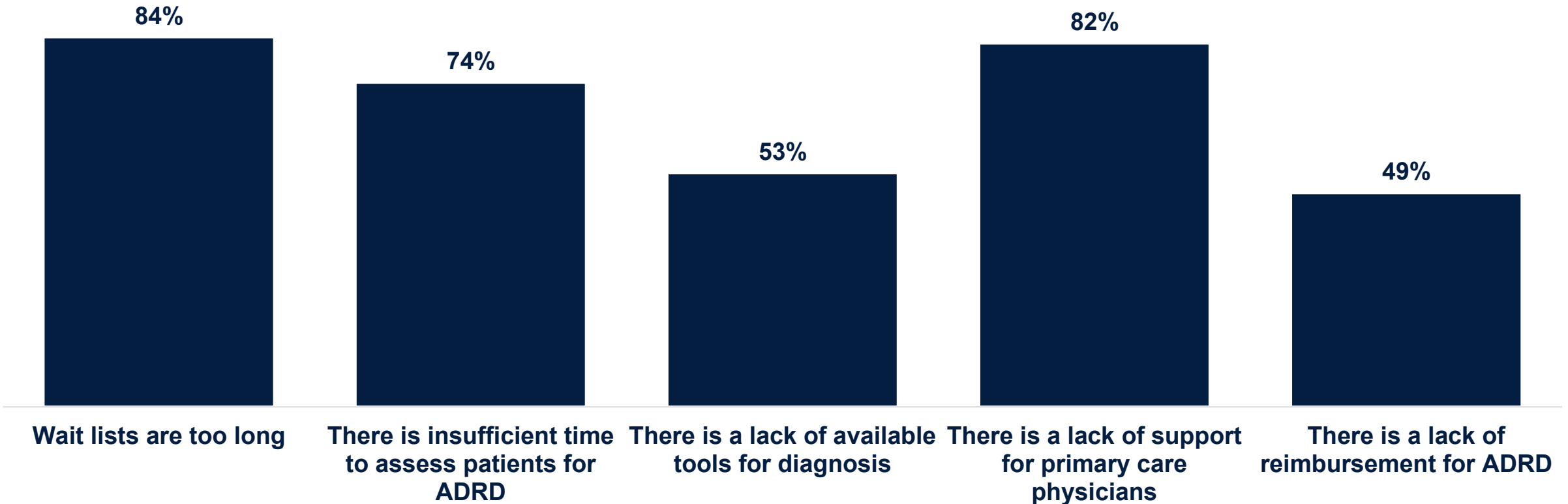
PCP Related Barriers

Percent of PCPs Who Agreed or Strongly Agreed
Percent



Setting Related Barriers

Percent of PCPs Who Agreed or Strongly Agreed
Percent



Survey Results

Training

Future Trainings - Topics

Topics with the most interest:

- Early detection, diagnosis, and screening procedures
 - 91.2% of respondents are very or extremely interested
- Caregiver support and resources
 - 91.2% of respondents are very or extremely interested
- Developing community partnerships
 - 75.0% of respondents are very or extremely interested

Future Trainings - Types

- Offer Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits
 - Hospital/health system, FQHC, VA & private sector
- Virtual trainings/presentations
 - Hospital/health system, FQHC, VA & community health centers
- In-person trainings/presentations
 - Hospital/health system, FQHC & VA
- Host conferences on ADRD early detection and diagnosis topics
 - Hospital/health system & VA
- PCP training platform created to house training and resources
 - Hospital/health system, FQHC & VA
- Hold trainings/presentations at local community or senior centers
 - Private sector