(p = 0.0001), respectively. Secondary objective: Among patients with stable NEWS score, 53% were admitted to hospital among patients with medium NEWS score, 9% of patients were admitted to the critical care (p = 0.0003) Conclusion: Patient orientation after ED triage using CTAS vs the NEWS is significantly different. The NEWS alone does not seem to be able to detect patients who will require admission to critical care. Future studies exploring an aggregate scoring system combining the NEWS and CTAS could be performed to determine if sepsis recognition and patient orientation can be improved

**Keywords:** Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale, National Early Warning Score (NEWS), sepsis detection

### P095

**Preparing emergency patients and providers study: Clinician and patient satisfaction with communication tool**

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**Introduction:** Effective communication to develop a shared understanding of patient/caregiver (P/C) expectations is critical during emergency department (ED) encounters. However, there is limited research examining the use of communication tools of P/C expectations to improve communication in the ED. The objective of this study was to examine satisfaction with a patient expectations questionnaire, known as the PrEPP tool, and its impact on communication and management of patients in the ED. **Methods:** The PrEPP tool collected P/C expectations over 3 phases of the study. In phase 1, the PrEPP tool was distributed to all P/Cs (CTAS score of 2 to 5) in four EDs in Nova Scotia. In phase 2 the PrEPP tool was refined to a 5-item questionnaire. In phase 3 the PrEPP tool was re-implemented over a six-month period. Follow-up surveys were distributed to P/Cs via email (phase 1, 3) and HCPs on iPads in the ED (phase 3) to determine the impact of the tool on communication and management of patients. Entries were compiled on a REDCap database and descriptive statistics were used to analyze responses related to satisfaction. The PrEPP tool collected P/C expectations over 3 phases of the study. In phase 1, the PrEPP tool was distributed to all P/Cs (CTAS score of 2 to 5) in four EDs in Nova Scotia. In phase 2 the PrEPP tool was refined to a 5-item questionnaire. In phase 3 the PrEPP tool was re-implemented over a six-month period. Follow-up surveys were distributed to P/Cs via email (phase 1, 3) and HCPs on iPads in the ED (phase 3) to determine the impact of the tool on communication and management of patients. Entries were compiled on a REDCap database and descriptive statistics were used to analyze responses related to satisfaction. **Results:** In Phase 1, 11418 PrEPP tools and 147 surveys (29% response rate) were collected from January-June 2016. The majority of P/Cs found the PrEPP questionnaire easy to complete (95.9%) and felt HCPs met their expectations (87.1%). In Phase 3, 951 P/C (31.1% response rate) and 128 HCP surveys were collected. Of P/C respondents 45.9% felt PrEPP helped to communicate expectations, while 49.7% said that they would like to use it on future ED visits. The majority of P/C respondents (75.4%) indicated their expectations were met during their visit to the ED. Of those whose expectations were not met, 69% felt their expectations were not discussed. The majority of HCP respondents (90.4%) indicated they used the PrEPP tool at least sometimes. Also, 78.4% said it influenced patient communication and 42% indicated the tool influenced management of patients at least sometimes.

**Conclusion:** Obtaining expectations early in the patient encounter may provide opportunities for improved communication in the ED. P/Cs found the PrEPP tool easy to use to communicate their expectations and HCPs felt it influenced communication and management of patients in the ED. Further qualitative thematic analysis is needed to explore how the PrEPP tool impacted ED visits.

**Keywords:** communication, emergency department, patient expectations

### P096

**Prospective pilot implementation of a clinical decision aid for acute aortic syndrome**

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**Introduction:** The RAPID RIP clinical decision aid was developed to identify patients at high-risk for acute aortic syndrome (AAS) who require investigations. It stratifies patients into low (no further testing) intermediate (D-dimer if no alternative diagnosis) and High risk (Computed tomography (CT) aorta). Our objectives were to assess its impact on: a) Documentation of high risk features/pre test probability for AAS b) D-dimers ordered c) CT ordered and d) Emergency department length of stay. **Methods:** We conducted a prospective pilot before/after study at a single tertiary-care emergency department between August and September 2018. Consecutive alert adults with chest, abdominal, flank, back pain or stroke like symptoms were included. Patients with pain >14 days or secondary to trauma were excluded. **Results:** We enrolled 1,340 patients, 656 before and 684 after implementation, including 0 AAS. Documentation of pre test probability assessment increased (0% to 3%, p < 0.009) after implementation. The proportion who had D-dimer performed increased (5.8% to 9.2% (p < 0.2), while the number of CT to rule out AAS remained stable (0.59% versus 0.58%; p = 0.60). The mean length of ED stay was stable (2.31+/− 2.0 to 2.28+/− 1.5 hours; p = 0.45) and slightly decreased in those with pre test probability documented (2.1+/− 1.4 p < 0.09). The specificity of the decision aid for CT was 100% (95%CI 71.5–100%). If it were applied to all patients with high-risk clinical features of AAS the specificity would be 92.6% (95%CI 90.1-94.6%). **Conclusion:** Implementation of the RAPID RIP increased documentation of important high-risk features for AAS. The RAPID RIP strategy increased use of D-dimer without increasing the number of CT and had a trend towards decreased length of stay.

**Keywords:** acute aortic syndrome, clinical decision aid

### P097

**The characteristics and effectiveness of interventions targeting chronic pain patients in the emergency department: A systematic review and meta-analysis**

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**Introduction:** Patients with chronic non-cancer pain (CNCP) and opioid-use disorders make up a category of patients who present a challenge to emergency department (ED) providers and healthcare administrators. Their conditions predispose them to frequent ED utilization. This problem has been compounded by a worsening opioid epidemic that has rendered clinicians apprehensive about how they approach pain care. A systematic review has not yet been
performed to inform the management of CNCP patients in the ED. As such, the purpose of this project was to identify and describe the effectiveness of interventions to reduce ED visits for high-utilizers with CNCP. 

**Methods:** 

Included participants were high-utilizers presenting with CNCP. All study designs were eligible for inclusion if they examined an intervention aimed at reducing ED utilization. The outcomes of interest were the number of ED visits as well as the amount and type of opioids prescribed in the ED and after discharge. We searched Medline, EMBASE, CINAHL, CENTRAL, SCOPUS, Web of Science, and the grey literature from inception to June 16, 2018. Two independent investigators assessed articles for inclusion following PRISMA guidelines. Risk of bias will be assessed using the Cochrane ROBINS-I and RoB 2 tools for non-randomized and randomized trials, respectively. 

**Results:** 

Following review, 14 of the 5,018 identified articles were included for analysis. These articles assessed a total of 1,670 patients from both urban and rural settings. Interventions included pain protocols or policies (n = 5), individualized care plans (n = 5), ED care coordination (n = 2), a chronic pain management pathway (n = 1), and a behavioural health intervention (n = 1). Intervention effects trended towards the reduction of both ED visits and opioid prescriptions. The meta-analysis is in progress.

**Conclusion:** Preliminary results suggest that interventions aimed at high-utilizers with CNCP can reduce ED visits and ED opioid prescription. ED opioid-restriction policies that sought to disincentivize drug-related ED visits were most successful, especially when accompanied by an electronic medical record (EMR) alert to ensure consistent application of the policy by all clinicians and administrators involved in the care of these patients. This review was limited by inconsistencies in the definition of ‘high-utilizer’ and by the lack of high-powered randomized studies.

**Keywords:** chronic pain, emergency medicine, healthcare utilization

**P098**

**Staff and patient attitudes towards influenza vaccination availability during wait times at the Queen Elizabeth II Emergency Department, Halifax, Nova Scotia (in progress)**

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**Introduction:** Influenza is a preventable infectious disease that causes a yearly burden to Canada. While an influenza vaccine is available free of charge in most provinces, uptake is below target rates. 15% of Canadians who did not get the influenza vaccine reported that they “didn’t get around to it”; this presents an opportunity to combine the task of influenza prevention with the logistical issue of another health system challenge: escalating emergency department (ED) wait times. At the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre (QEII) in Halifax, NS, average wait time is 4.6 hours. Offering the influenza vaccine during this time could increase convenient access to health services, and ultimately, improve vaccination rates.

**Methods:** 

This observational, cross-sectional design study is currently in progress. It aims to gauge public interest, health care provider (HCP) support, perceived barriers and perceived facilitators to influenza vaccine availability at the QEII ED. Data is being collected via short, anonymous, close-ended questionnaires over a 7-week period, set to end Dec 14, 2018. Client participants are a convenience sample of low-acuity (Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale score 4/5), adult clients who use the QEII ED during the study period, anticipated n = 150. Client questionnaires are completed, with the help of a research assistant, on an iPad that inputs data directly into a secure online data collection tool. The HCP group is a convenience sample of nurses, physicians and paramedics currently working in the QEII ED, anticipated n = 80. Questionnaires are available to HCPs either on paper outside the staff lounge, or online. Data is being collected via short, anonymous, close-ended questionnaires over a 7-week period, set to end Dec 14, 2018. Client participants are a convenience sample of low-acuity (Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale score 4/5), adult clients who use the QEII ED during the study period, anticipated n = 150. Client questionnaires are completed, with the help of a research assistant, on an iPad that inputs data directly into a secure online data collection tool. The HCP group is a convenience sample of nurses, physicians and paramedics currently working in the QEII ED, anticipated n = 80. Questionnaires are available to HCPs either on paper outside the staff lounge, or online. 

**Results:** 

Following completion of data collection, descriptive statistics, such as the frequency of support for ED influenza vaccination and the proportion of unvaccinated clients willing to receive the vaccine if available in the ED, will be calculated using IBM SPSS Statistics 25. This will provide meaningful data that can be used by the QEII to inform future program planning (i.e. should the influenza vaccine be made available in the ED).

**Conclusion:** 

An ED vaccination program could add value to the hours clients spend waiting to be seen, and make ED care more cohesive. It is essential that clients and ED staff are approached prior to any new initiative; this study is one way we can lay the necessary groundwork for a public health program that would utilize patient “wait time” more effectively.

**Keywords:** emergency, immunization, influenza

**P099**

**Perceptions of assessment and feedback: hawks, doves and impact on learning**

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**Introduction:** Residency training takes place in a work-place learning environment. Residents may work with several supervisors over the course of their training and each will provide feedback and assessments to them. Each supervisor may have a different approach to the delivery of their feedback and may deliver different assessments for the same quality of performance. Research question: among residents who receive regular feedback how do different styles of feedback by supervisors impact the residents’ learning? 

**Methods:** 

A qualitative methodology was used. Participants were residents from residency programs that have routine one-on-one feedback and assessment. In depth, semi-structured one-on-one interviews were conducted by the primary investigator (PI). These were then transcribed, reviewed and coded. The participants were University of Toronto and McMaster University residents. Sample size will be determined by thematic saturation and data collection is ongoing. The interview guide was updated in an iterative fashion to further explore themes generated in the initial interviews. Interview transcripts will be reviewed and coded by the PI with assistance from collaborators with qualitative methodological expertise. 

**Results:** 

Analysis of the first six participants revealed five themes. Residents described remembering feedback that generated a strong emotional response, both positive and negative; reflection on feedback as a component of using it for learning was consistent; issues with reconciling feedback received that was in conflict with previously feedback; relationship with the individual providing