



Wisconsin Emergency Medical Services for Children Pediatric Comfort Kit

Erica Kane
Project Manager



EMSC

Emergency Medical
Services for Children

WISCONSIN

★ Children's Health
Alliance of Wisconsin

EMSC Program Introduction

- Authorized by U.S. Congress in 1984
- Administered by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB)
- Aim: reduce childhood death and disability caused by severe illness or injury

10 WAYS I AM DIFFERENT THAN AN ADULT

1
small
body

greater heat loss

2
tiny
veins

difficult IV access

3
bigger
tongue

obstruction

4
thinner
skin

absorb everything
like a sponge

5
smaller
airway

airway management
challenges

6
immature
bones

watch for suspicious
injuries

7
dehydrate
quickly

electrolyte imbalances

10
immature
liver

decreased glucose stores
hypoglycemia

9
faster
respiratory/
heart rate

know the ranges

8
large
head

at risk for falls



Pediatric Emergency Department Visits

- 304,000 pediatric visits annually
- Pediatrics account for 17% of total visits
- 80% of pediatric visits in community EDs
- Leading diagnoses
 - Upper respiratory infection
 - Fever, unspecified
 - Pharyngitis, unspecified
 - Croup

Pediatric Ambulance Calls

- 52,000 pediatric calls annually
- Pediatrics account for 8% of total calls
- Leading primary impressions
 - Neurological symptoms/illness
 - Superficial injury (not head)
 - Pain (non-cardiac/non-chest)
 - Behavioral/mental health

Pediatric Ambulance Calls

- Range of service levels
 - Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
 - Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
 - Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT)
 - Intermediate
 - Paramedic
 - Critical Care Paramedic

Pediatric Emergencies

- Low frequency
- High acuity
- Initial response team may be “non-transport” or have limited access to medications and procedures
- Depart to destination time varies
 - 0-5 minutes to >30 minutes

Pediatric Comfort Kits



Comfort Kit Contents

- Assortment of balls
- Book
- Bubbles
- Glitter stick
- Light up turning circle wand
- Pediatric character masks
- Shot blocker
- Stickers
- Pacifiers



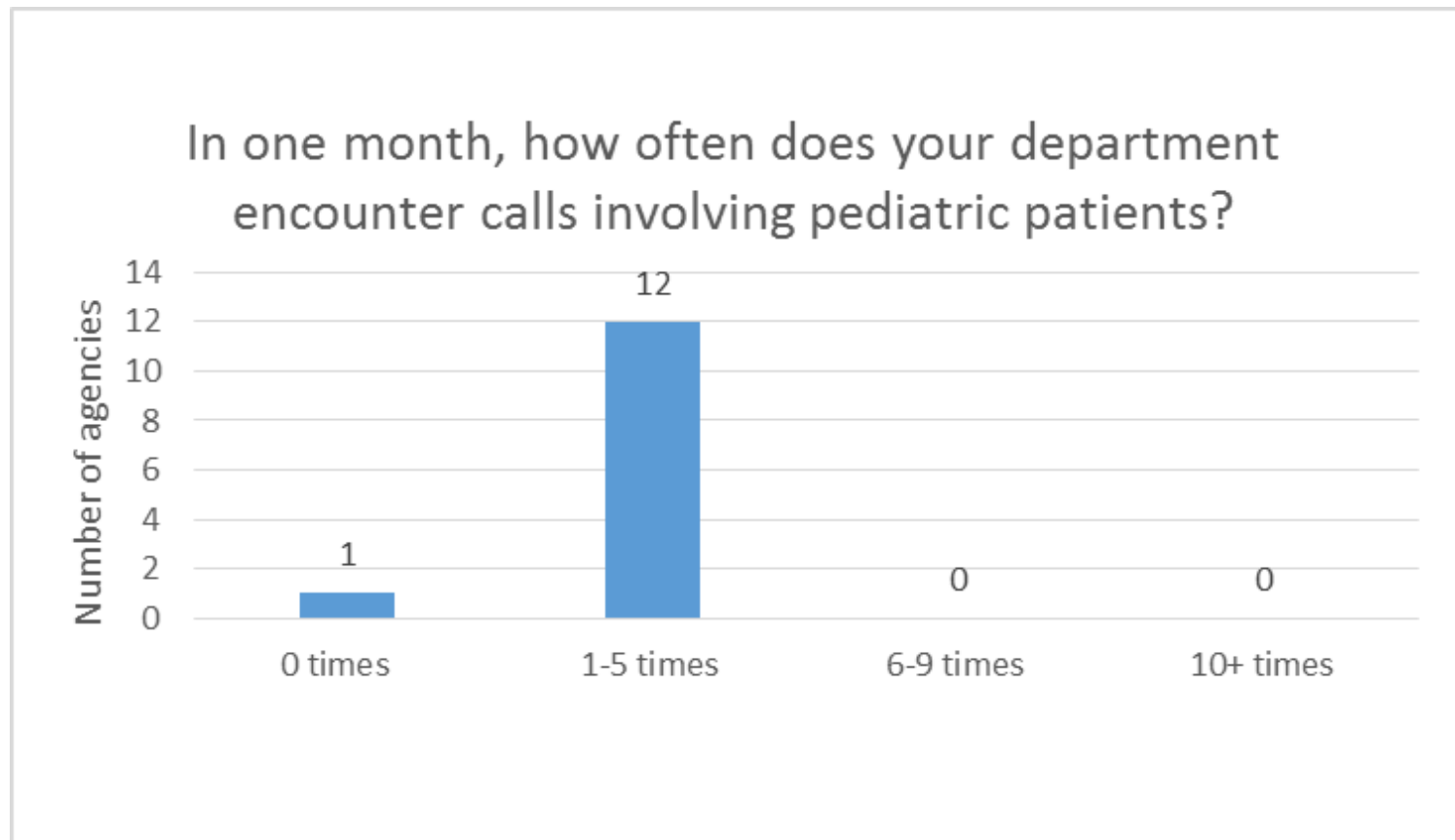
Comfort Kit Distribution

- Over 400 comfort kits distributed from 2015-present
- Offered to EMS and emergency departments
 - Conferences
 - In-person training
 - By request online

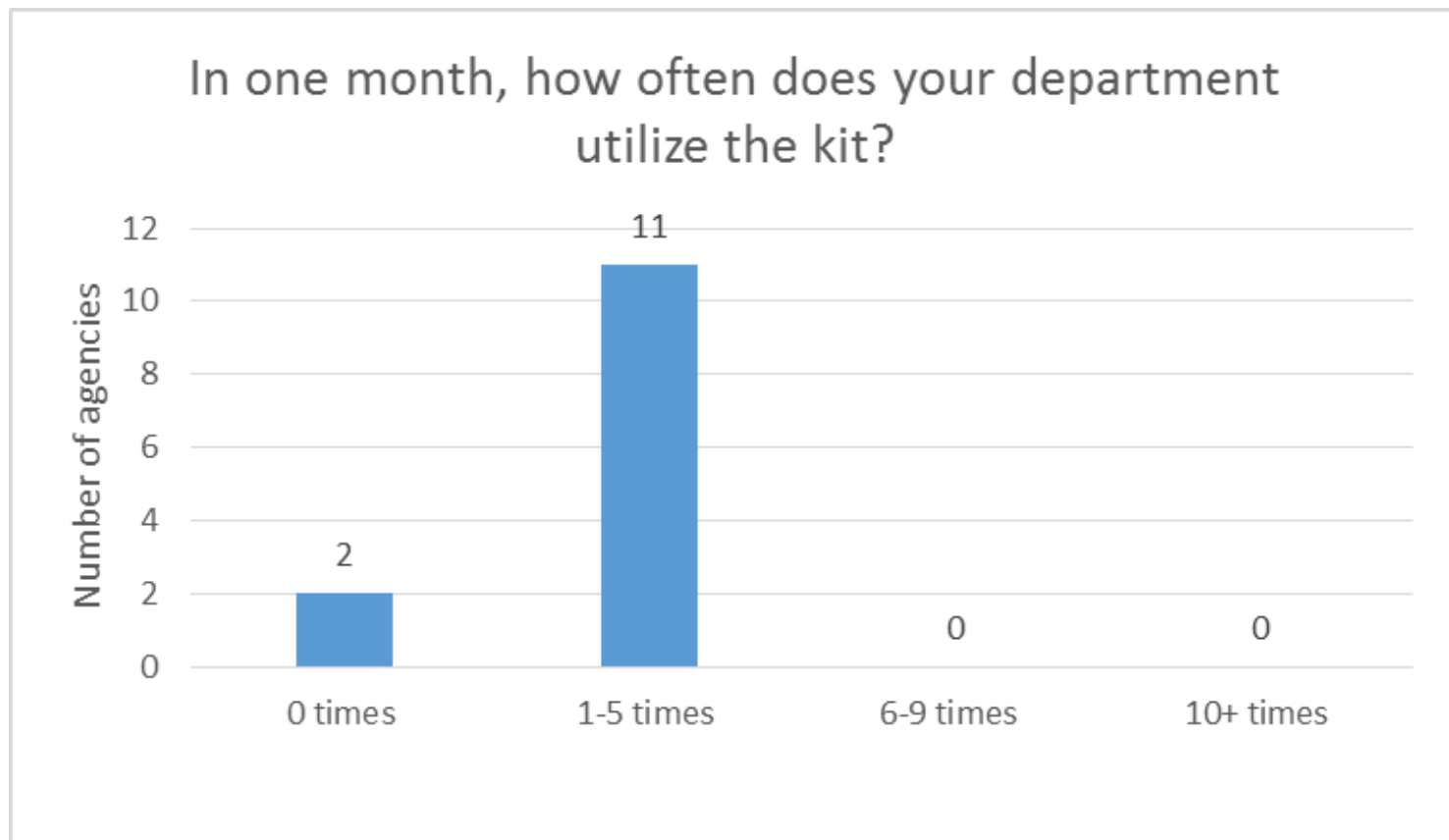
Sustainability

- Initial kit provided by WI EMSC
 - Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) funding
- 35.00 cost per kit
- Items replaced by hospitals and EMS agencies

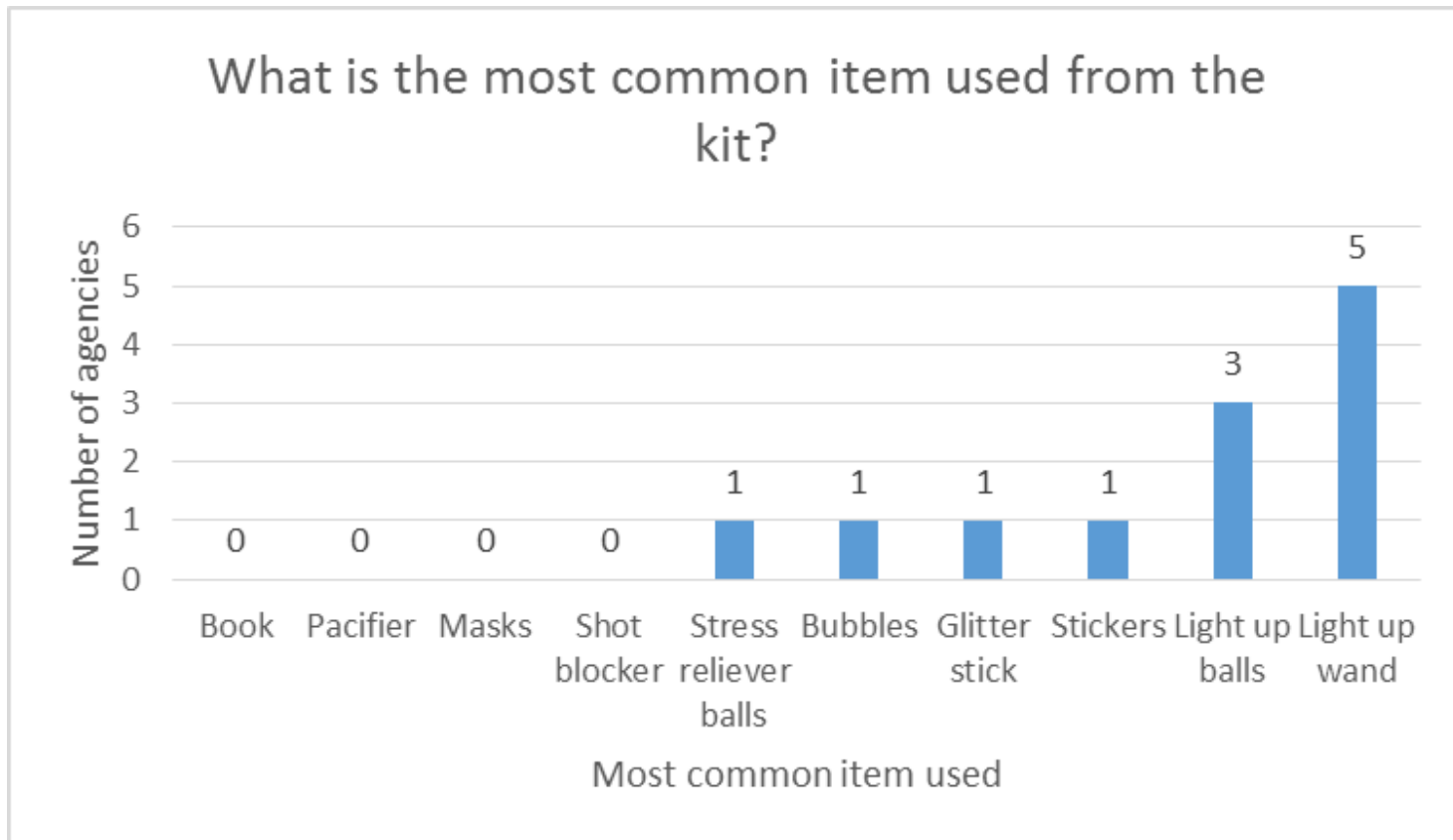
Comfort Kit Evaluation



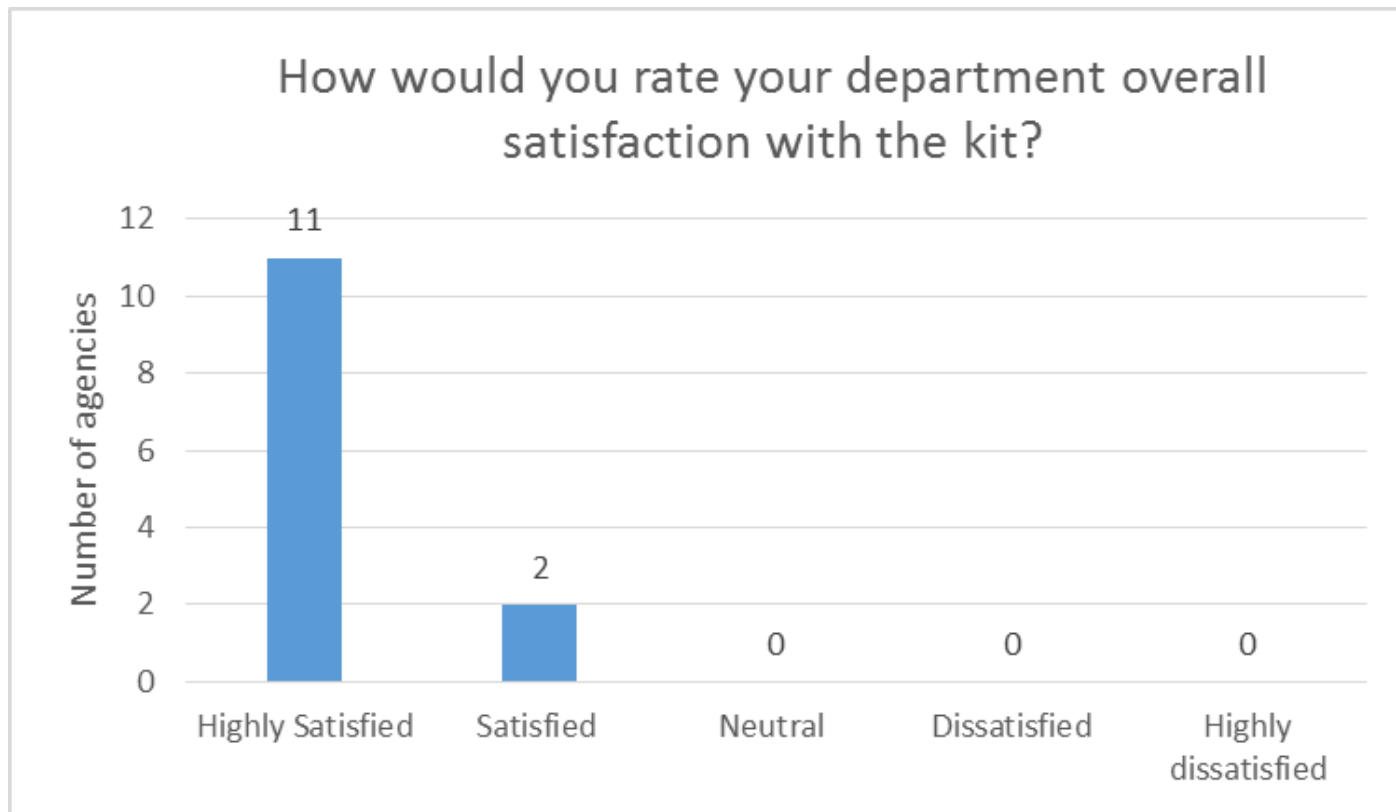
Comfort Kit Evaluation



Comfort Kit Evaluation



Comfort Kit Evaluation



Final Thoughts

- Inexpensive resource to calm and distract pediatric patients
- Valued by emergency providers
- Promotes WI EMSC program

Questions and thank you

Erica Kane
ekane@chw.org



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