



## Needs

First, no formal education exists to train the Physician Assistant (PA) entering Pediatric Emergency Medicine within the Children's National Health System (CNHS). Second, a PA is needed in leadership. Third, there is a need for the PA to practice independently, providing care in a Level One Trauma Center for over 120,000 pediatric patients per year.

## Purpose

The purpose of the curriculum is to create a PA capable of independent practice. This is accomplished in three ways. First, a structured learning platform is created, focusing on Pediatric Emergency Medicine (PEM) topics. Second, the PA and physician enter into a collaborative relationship for one year, allowing the PA to develop and practice evidenced-based medicine under supervision, promoting team-based care. Third, begin to objectively track competence in applying evidenced-based medicine concepts, procedures and physical exam skills.

## Objectives

1. Develop and implement a 12 month curriculum of PEM exclusive topics.
2. Successfully train the PA capable of independent practice.
3. Practice team-based care.
4. Provide transparent feedback, guiding professional development.
5. Determine competency associated with PA independent practice in a pediatric emergency setting.

## Description of Curriculum

The curriculum is created on the foundation of PA and physician collaboration. The PA advances through a 12-month program, developing into a clinically-competent Pediatric Emergency Medicine PA capable of seeing the low acuity patient independently.

NAME	TIME	COMPONENTS
Pre-employment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductory online modules</li> <li>• Review of suturing technique</li> </ul>
Orientee	0-2mo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PALS completion</li> <li>• Weekly submission PEM online education modules/</li> <li>• Initiation team based care with physicians</li> <li>• Shadow shift mentoring with PA and daily feedback</li> <li>• Completion of physical exam and procedural skills check off</li> <li>• Participation in wound care workshop</li> <li>• Chart review with Lead PA</li> </ul>
Provisional	2-12mo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly PEM online CME submission with discussion</li> <li>• Team-based care for each patient</li> <li>• Ongoing team based care</li> <li>• Quarterly Journal Club article summation</li> <li>• Quarterly chart review</li> <li>• Oral case presentation</li> <li>• 3, 6, 12 month competency review</li> <li>• Transition to Junior PA capable of independent practice</li> </ul>








## Assessment

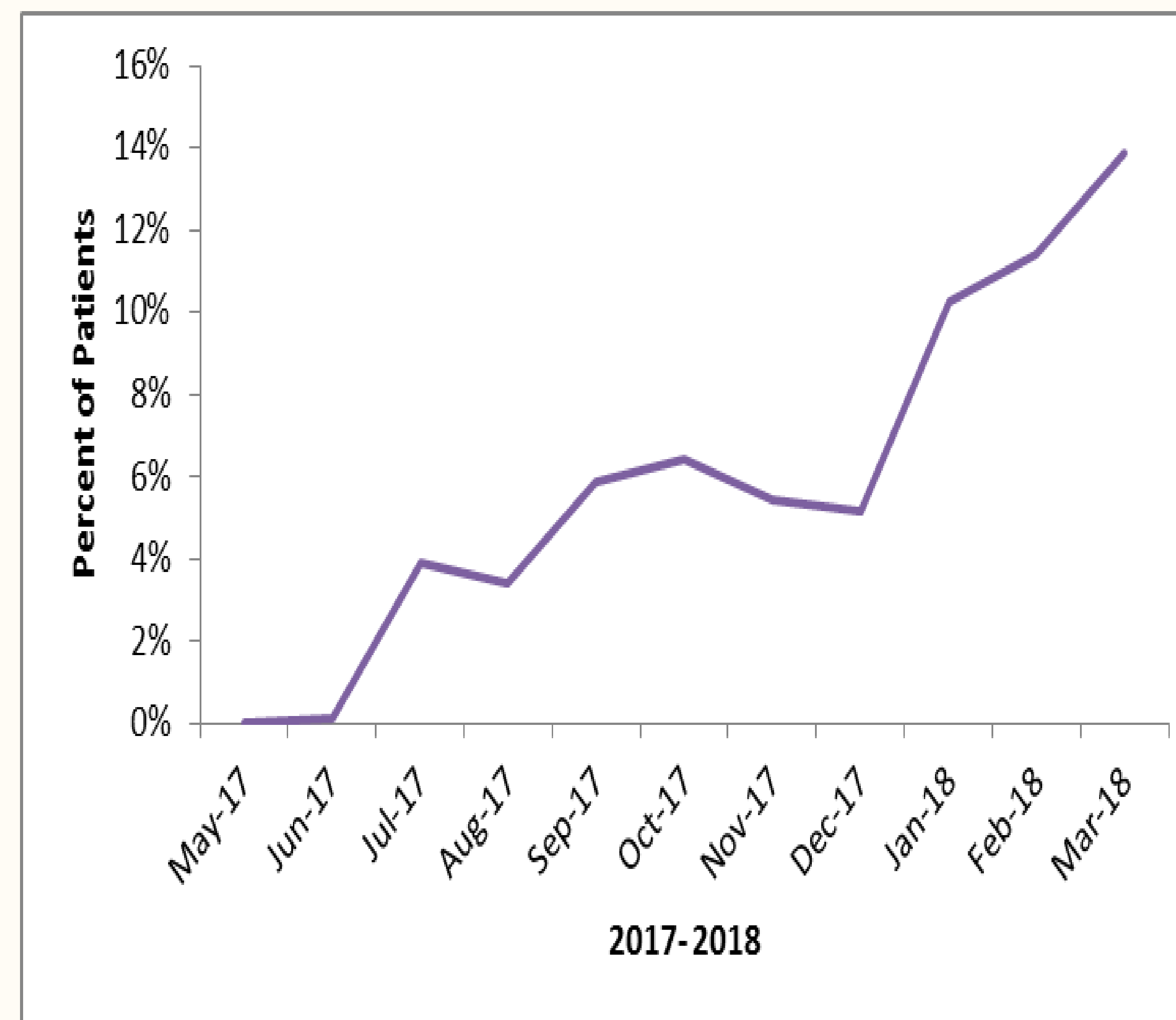


Figure 1: Low acuity patients treated independently by PAs

## Results

Eight PA's have successfully completed the curriculum, seeing 14% of the low acuity patient population after 6 months of implementation. There is departmental acceptance of the curriculum and independent practice. There are plans to continue growing the PA program.

## Future Needs

1. CNHS is developing guidelines for PA independent practice encompassing the medium acuity patient.
2. CNHS is developing a PEM specific curriculum designed for the PA beyond one year.