

Understanding the 'Overview Section' of Care Plans for Children with Medical Complexity



PRESENTER:
Laher, Nazeefah

BACKGROUND

CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL COMPLEXITY (CMC)

- CMC are characterized by complex conditions, technology dependence, and high healthcare utilization across home, hospital, and community.
- CMC are often medically fragile and their conditions can range from congenital anomalies to neurological conditions and functional impairment.

CARE PLANS

- Comprehensive, collaborative, document for CMC to support and streamline the coordination of care.
- The overview section is free text where families can incorporate holistic aspects of the child, such as their interests, to garner a perspective of the child beyond their medical needs.

COMPLEX CARE PROGRAM AT SICKKIDS

- Aims to advance access to integrated care and coordination for CMC and provides centralized care across multiple sites.

PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES

- To analyze care plans of CMC to assess how they are currently used to understand the child as a whole, through:
 1. Thematic analysis of the overview section.
 2. Visual analysis* of the overview section.
 3. The presence of a photo in the care plan.

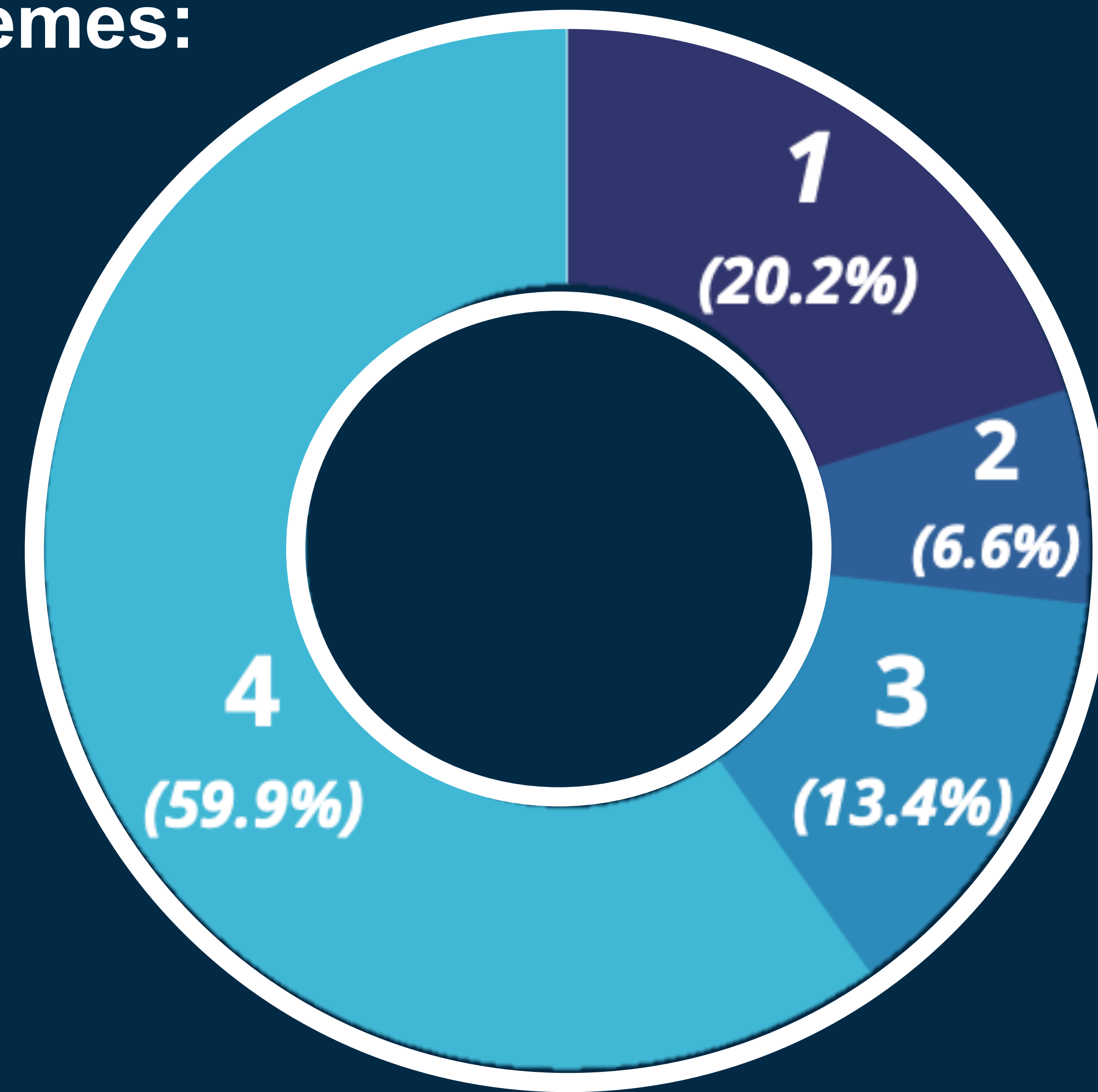
METHODS

- Retrospective review of care plans as of December 31, 2021.
- Extraction and coding of the overview section of care plans until saturation was reached.
- Thematic and visual analysis*
- Collection of demographic information (sex, age).
- Documentation of a photo in the care plan (yes/no).

*Use of expressive writing (punctuation, CAPS LOCK) to draw attention to a word or phrase in the overview section

RESULTS

Themes:



1. Child as a Whole
2. Caregiver as a Whole
3. Living Arrangements & Family Structure
4. Child's Care Needs

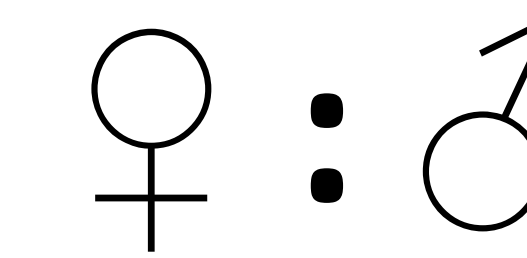
1	Child as a Whole	Child's temperament interests, dislikes, communication, development	<i>"We believe she dreams of being an opera singer and is dedicated to practicing her eye twitching high notes every evening before she goes to bed." P70</i>
2	Caregiver as a Whole	Caregiver feelings, involvement, requests	<i>"[Caregiver] can not always be at her best and likely you will see her at her worst." P222</i>
3	Living Arrangements & Family Structure	Custody, foster care, siblings, pets	<i>"[Child's] parents [Caregiver] and [Caregiver] have joint custody and are involved in all his medical decisions. Please correspond with both parents." P235</i>
4	Child's Care Needs	Who to contact, medical needs, language interpretation needs	<i>"Father speaks [language] and [language]. Please include dad using language line in decision making." P150</i>



Care plans reviewed



Age (9 mo - 18 yo)



% of care plans with a photo

TAKE HOME POINTS

1. The use of overview section is broad and multifaceted and means something different to everyone.
2. The overview section includes information that can fit elsewhere in the care plan.
3. Clear guidance is needed for the overview section to optimize its use.

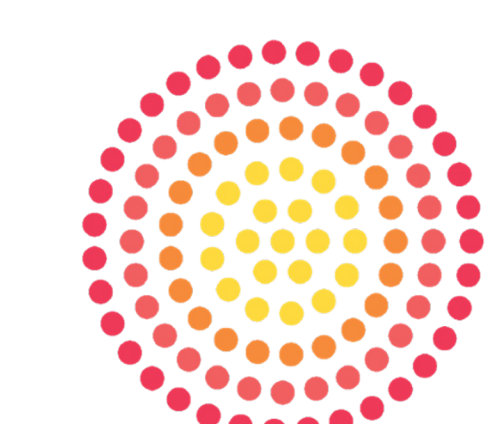
IMPORTANCE TO CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE CANADA MEMBERS

- Holistic understanding of a child beyond their medical needs.

IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE

- Optimization of the care plan.
- Understanding the needs of CMC and their family beyond medical needs.
- Utilizing the overview section to provide patient centred care.

Nazeefah Laher, Blossom Dharmaraj, Sherri Adams, & Julia Orkin



Children's Healthcare Canada

Santé des enfants Canada