



Telemedicine for Perioperative Pain Management

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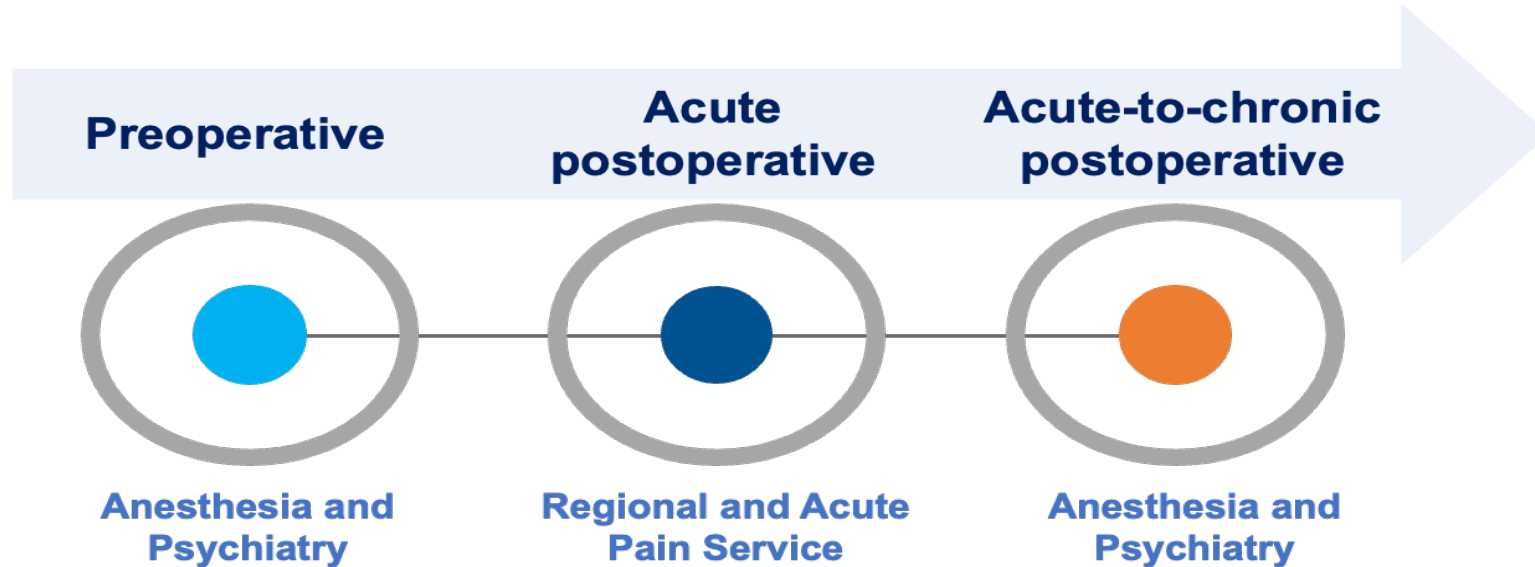
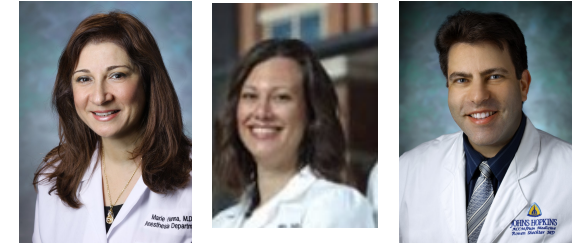
Disclosures and Learning Objectives

Traci Speed, MD, PhD has documented that she has nothing to disclose.

This presentation does not contain off-label or investigational use of drugs or products.

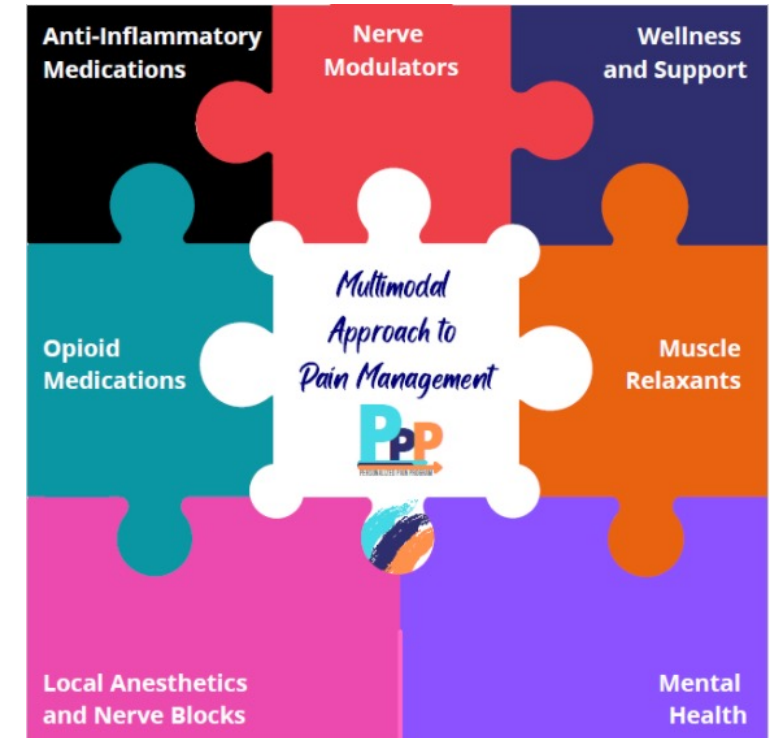
- 1) To describe a transitional pain services transition to telemedicine
- 2) To summarize clinical outcomes and patient perspectives of telemedicine-delivered perioperative pain care
- 3) To discuss health disparities in telemedicine-delivered ambulatory pain medicine

Johns Hopkins Personalized Pain Program (PPP) est. 2017



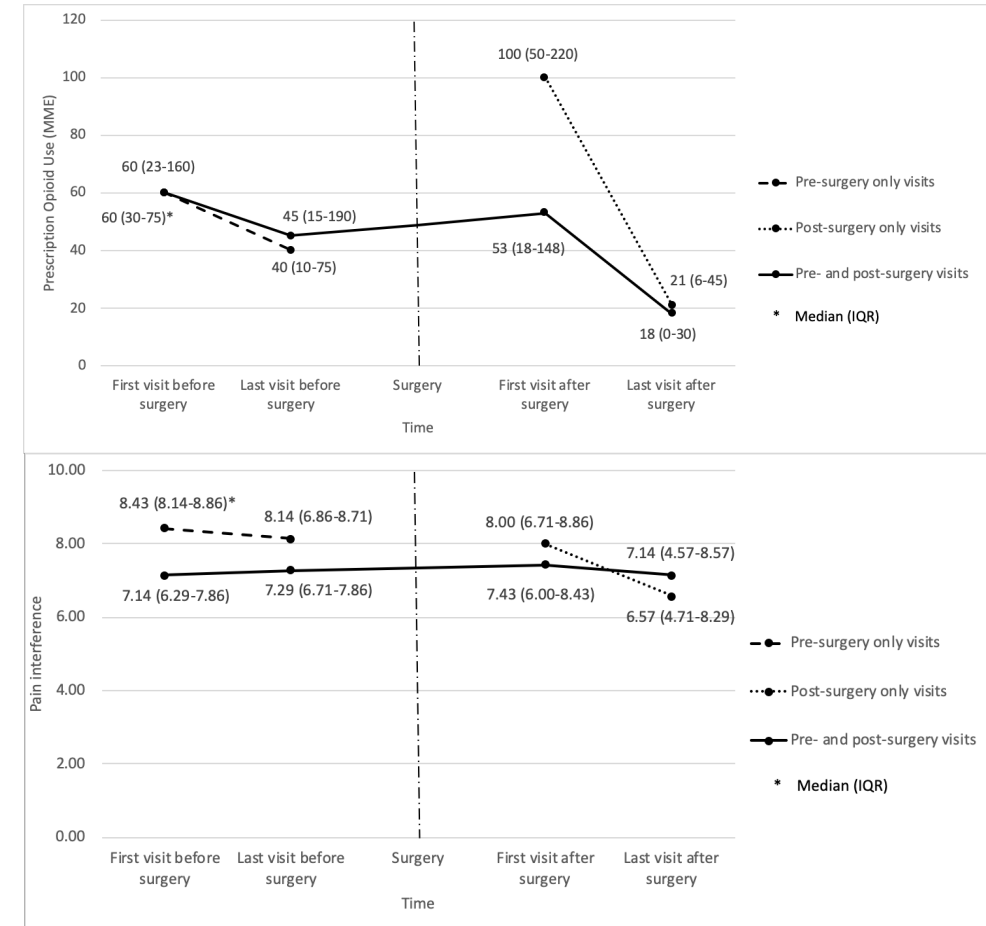
PPP provides multidisciplinary coordinated care for surgical patients who:

- Have long-term opioid use (often higher-dose)
- Have an opioid use disorder (OUD), active or in remission
- Take medications for OUD (mOUD)
- Are opioid-naïve and at risk of long-term postoperative opioid use (i.e., trauma or extensive surgical procedures)



Before the pandemic:

- **In-person** ambulatory clinic in black-majority urban city
- **Evidence of postoperative opioid and pain reduction**
- **Patient engagement and racial disparities research**
- Qualitative analyses:
 - Patients experienced **PPP access barriers**
 - cost of parking
 - commute time
 - insurance coverage
 - Patients suggested a **telehealth** option
- **Disparate outcomes** in pain severity, pain interference, patient engagement (unpublished)



(Xie, in press, JOM)

Human Factors Engineering Approach



Ambulatory | Patients **Epic TIPS & TRICKS**

Video Visits on Your Desktop/Laptop

Using Cisco Webex for MyChart Video Visits

Use this tipsheet as a guide to prepare for your video visit before your appointment and for instructions on how to join the visit on the day of your appointment. Follow all steps on pages 1-5 before your visit.

Before You Start

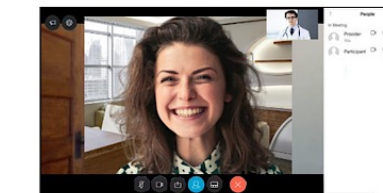
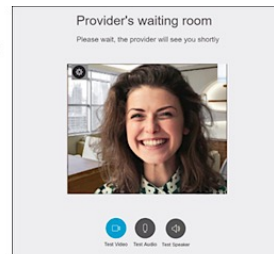
Cisco Webex does not work on Internet Explorer. It is compatible with most all other browsers. Google Chrome is recommended. [Click here to download Google Chrome.](#) [Click here to learn how to change your default browser.](#)

Browser not supported :(

Please use one of the following latest browser:

1. Chrome
2. Firefox
3. Safari

4. You will now be brought to the waiting room for your video visit (right).
- You will receive a message, "Please wait, the provider will see you shortly."
 - You do not need to test your video and audio if you did previously.



Johns Hopkins University
School of Medicine website

| Work system elements | | Adaptation |
|------------------------|--------------|--|
| People | Clinicians | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authorized to electronically prescribe controlled substances |
| | Coordinator | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trained in establishing telemedicine platform with patients |
| | Patients | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receiving instructions on how to install and launch telemedicine platform through email prior to health visit |
| Tasks | Before visit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinator obtains patient consent to telemedicine visit Coordinator reschedules in-person visit to telemedicine visit Coordinator confirms patient access to telemedicine platform Coordinator emails surveys to patients |
| | During visit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinician confirms patient identity and contact information (to call patient in case of technology failure) Clinician obtains medical history and completes modified physical exam Clinician electronically prescribes medications (including controlled substances) |
| | After visit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient receives summary in electronic medical record Coordinator schedules follow-up visit and serves as liaison if the patient has follow-up questions |
| Tools and technologies | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Non-)HIPAA compliant platform for telemedicine visit Access to PDMP Access to EMRs |
| Physical environment | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient and clinician not required to go to the clinic |
| Organization | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance on using (non-)HIPAA compliant platforms Guidance on scheduling appointments for out-of-state patients |



Has telemedicine impacted
outpatient perioperative
pain care?

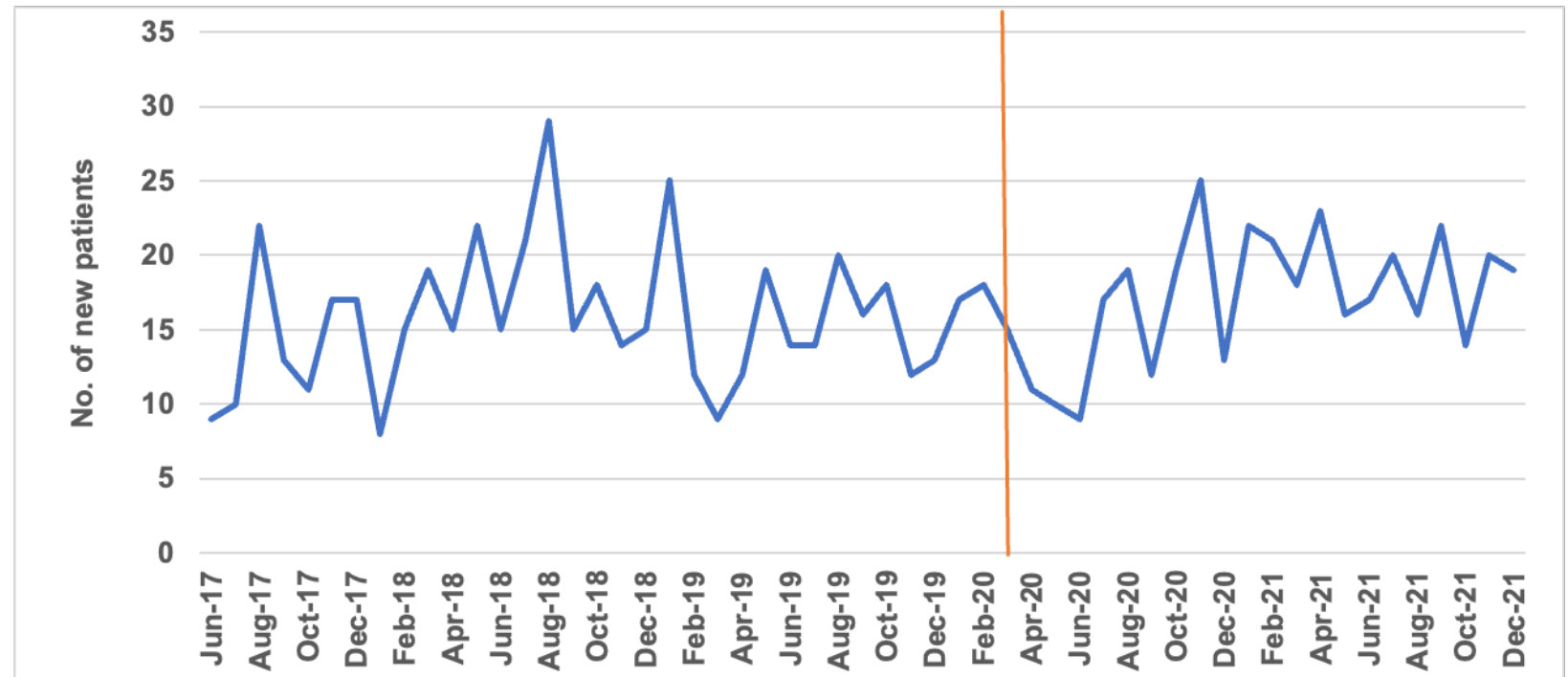
June 2017–December 2021

| | First visit before COVID | | First visit after COVID | | P value |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------|-------------------------|------|---------|
| No. of PPP visits | n = 583 | % | n = 380 | % | |
| Only 1 PPP visit | 223 | 38.3 | 111 | 29.2 | 0.004 |
| Two or more PPP visits | 360 | 61.8 | 269 | 70.8 | |

*From chi-square test

PPP visits before and during the COVID-19 pandemic

March 2020

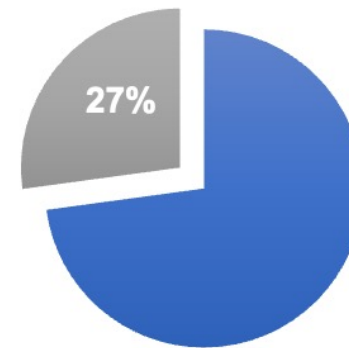


same number of new patient visits since converting to telemedicine, $p=.164$

| | in-person only (pre-covid) | | in-person and telemedicine | | telemedicine (during covid) | | P value* |
|---|-------------------------------|------|-------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------|----------|
| | n | % | n | % | n | % | |
| Age (year) | | | | | | | |
| 18-29 | 45 | 15.5 | 20 | 29.0 | 35 | 13.0 | 0.121 |
| 30-39 | 68 | 23.4 | 13 | 18.8 | 58 | 21.6 | |
| 40-49 | 59 | 20.3 | 16 | 23.2 | 62 | 23.1 | |
| 50-59 | 65 | 22.3 | 12 | 17.4 | 61 | 22.7 | |
| 60+ | 54 | 18.6 | 8 | 11.6 | 53 | 19.7 | |
| Gender | | | | | | | |
| Female | 156 | 53.6 | 35 | 50.7 | 154 | 57.3 | 0.527 |
| Race | | | | | | | |
| Caucasian | 171 | 58.8 | 36 | 52.2 | 182 | 67.7 | 0.065 |
| African American | 102 | 35.1 | 28 | 40.6 | 70 | 26.0 | |
| Other | 18 | 6.2 | 5 | 7.3 | 17 | 6.3 | |
| Marital status | | | | | | | |
| Single | 122 | 41.9 | 40 | 58.0 | 105 | 39.0 | 0.014 |
| Married | 120 | 41.9 | 20 | 58.0 | 120 | 44.6 | |
| Separated/Divorce/Widowed | 43 | 14.8 | 7 | 10.1 | 44 | 16.4 | |
| Other | 6 | 2.1 | 2 | 2.9 | 0 | 0.0 | |
| Education | | | | | | | |
| High school or lower | 125 | 43.0 | 39 | 56.5 | 111 | 41.3 | 0.194 |
| College | 55 | 18.9 | 13 | 18.8 | 54 | 20.1 | |
| Professional or doctorate | 30 | 10.3 | 7 | 10.1 | 37 | 13.8 | |
| Not reported | 81 | 27.8 | 10 | 14.5 | 67 | 24.9 | |
| Employment status | | | | | | | |
| Employed | 81 | 27.8 | 19 | 27.5 | 101 | 37.6 | 0.058 |
| Unemployed | 123 | 42.3 | 31 | 44.9 | 85 | 31.6 | |
| Disabled | 46 | 15.8 | 10 | 14.5 | 46 | 17.1 | |
| Retired | 35 | 12.0 | 5 | 7.3 | 32 | 11.9 | |
| Other | 6 | 2.1 | 4 | 5.8 | 5 | 1.9 | |
| Insurance | | | | | | | |
| Private | 171 | 58.8 | 45 | 65.2 | 178 | 66.2 | 0.219 |
| Public | 114 | 39.2 | 21 | 30.4 | 85 | 31.6 | |
| Self-pay or uninsured | 6 | 2.1 | 3 | 4.4 | 6 | 2.2 | |
| On medication for opioid use disorder (mOUD) | | | | | | | |
| No | 32 | 11.0 | 14 | 20.3 | 36 | 13.4 | 0.117 |

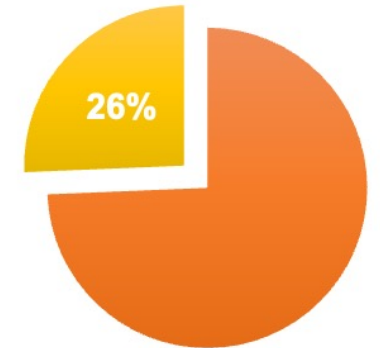
Demographic and clinical characteristics

pre-covid (in-person)
N=291



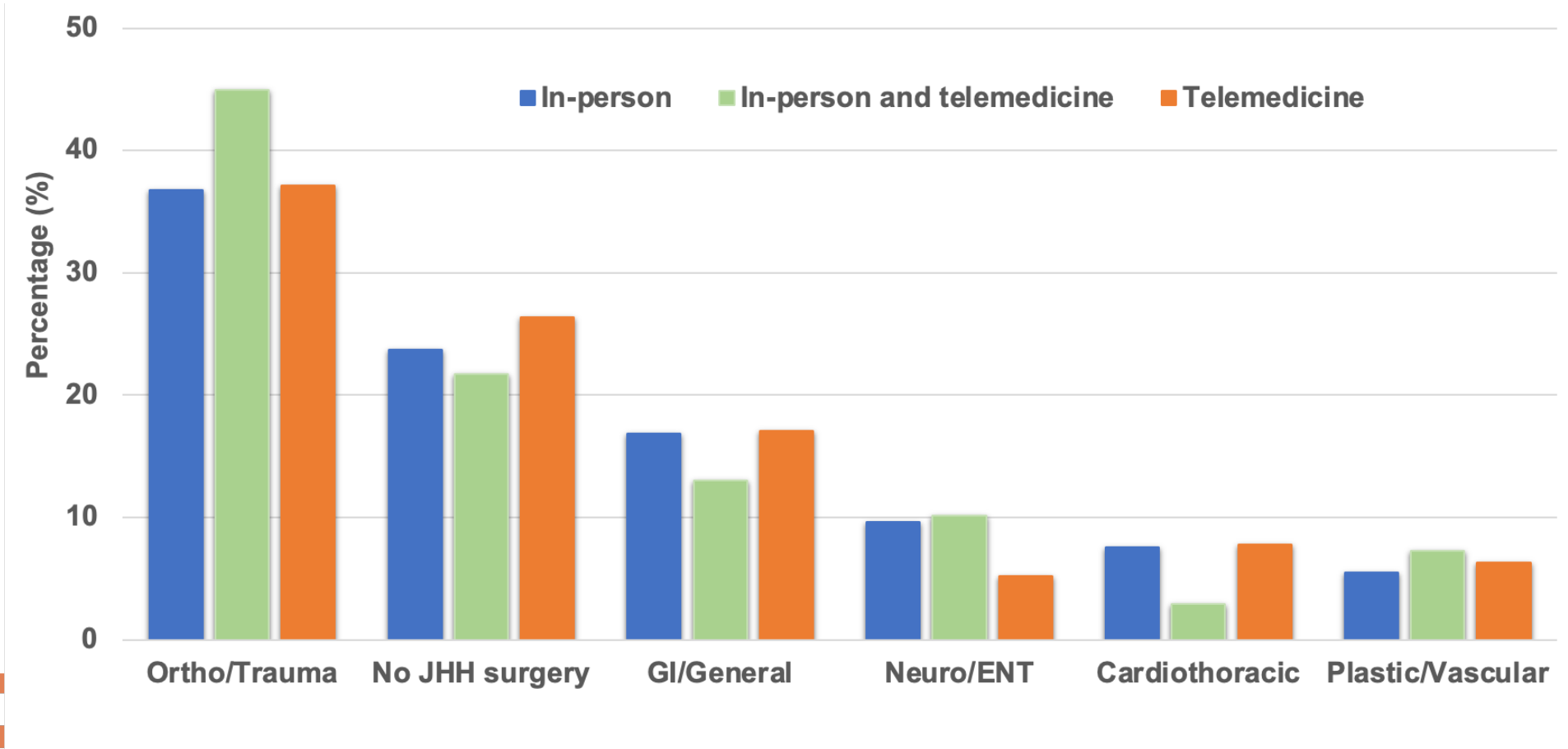
- Post-surgery only visits (%)
- Surgery after 1st PPP visit (%)

post-covid (telemedicine)
N=269

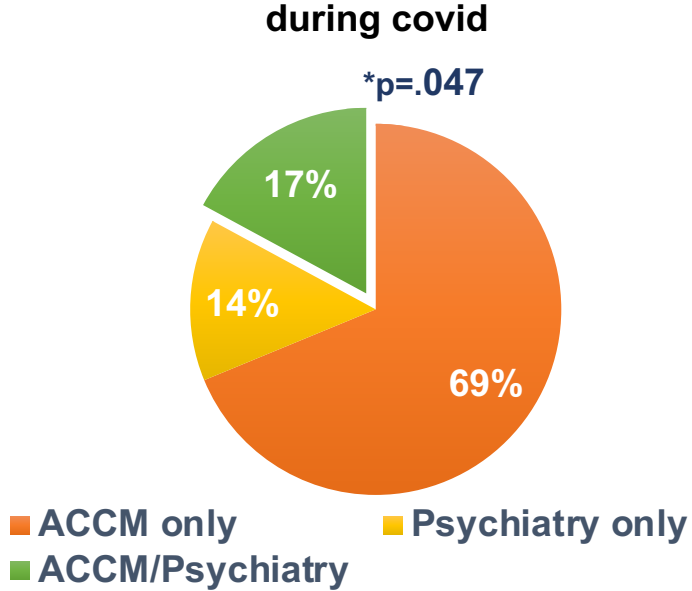
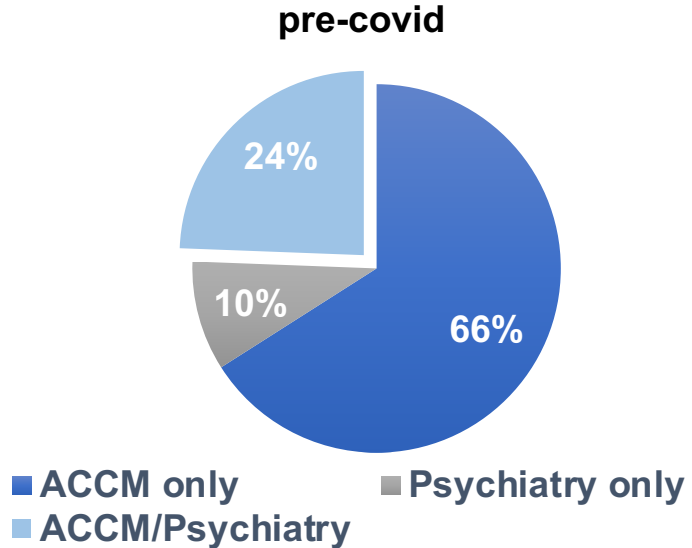
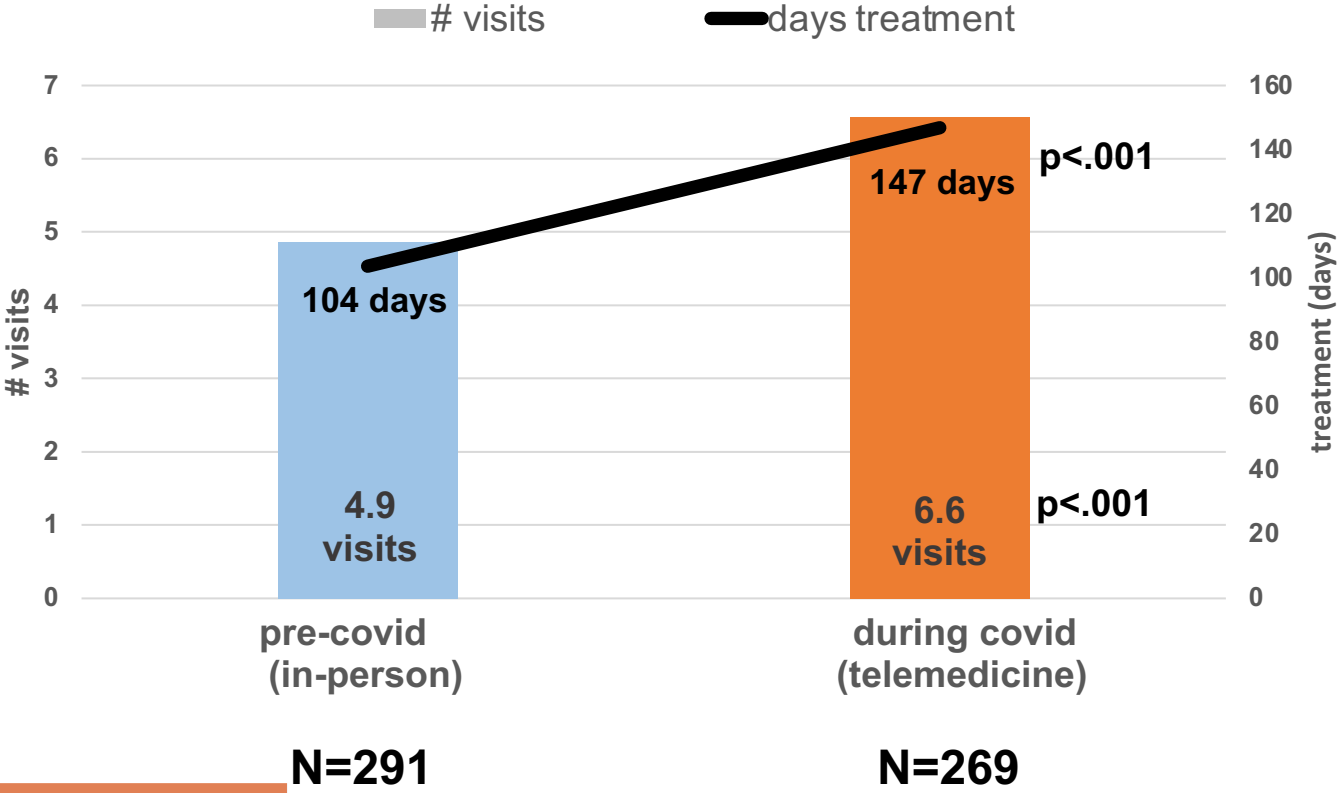


- Post-surgery only visits (%)
- Surgery after 1st PPP visit (%)

PPP treats myriad surgical patients

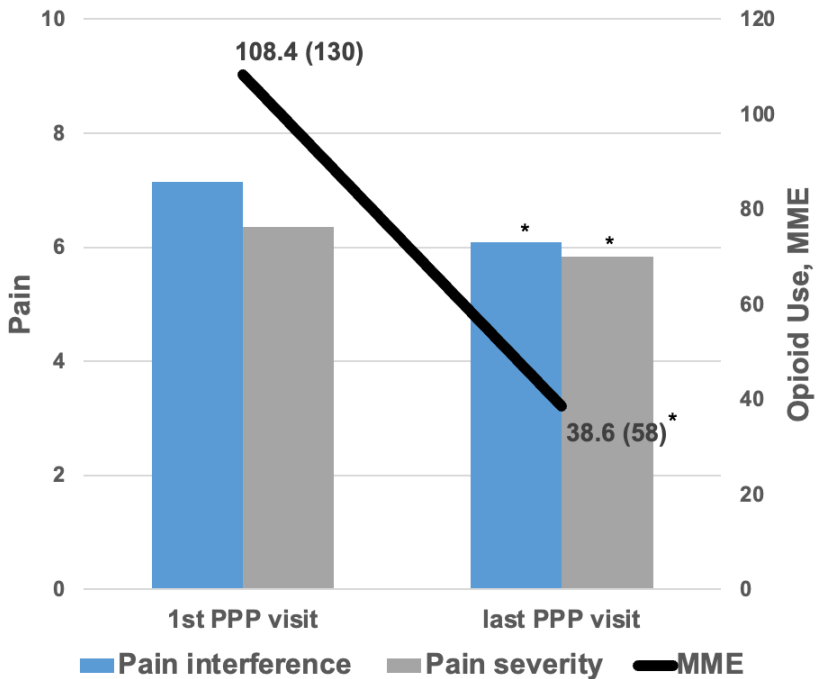


Longer PPP treatment duration during COVID

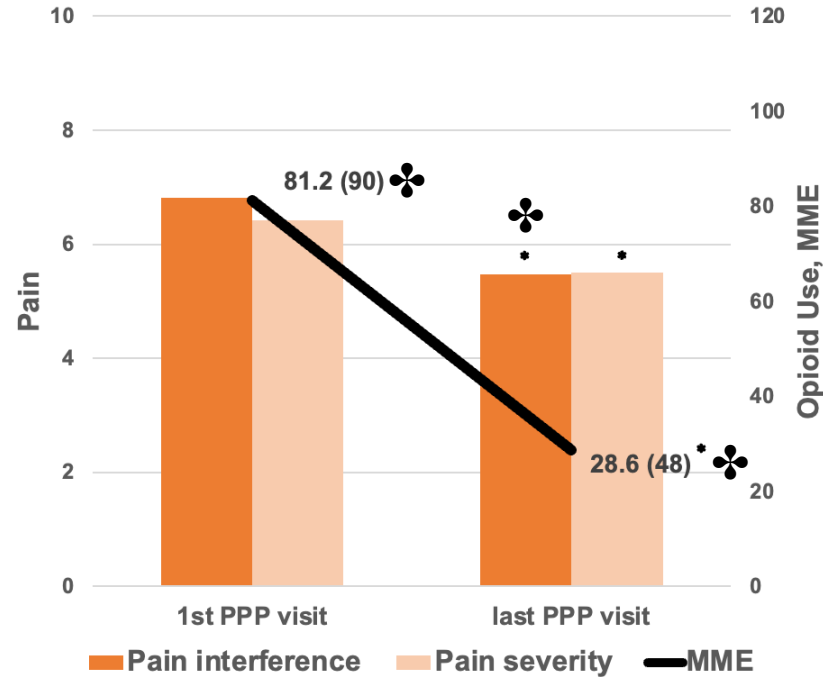


Pain, Opioid Use, and Function

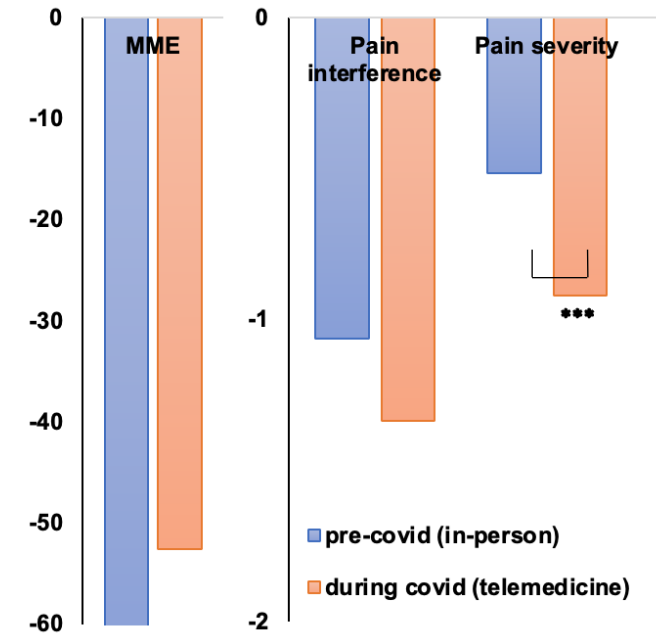
pre-covid (in-person) visits
MME: n = 272; pain: n = 242



during covid (telemedicine) visits
MME: n = 265; pain: n = 189



changes between first and last PPP visits

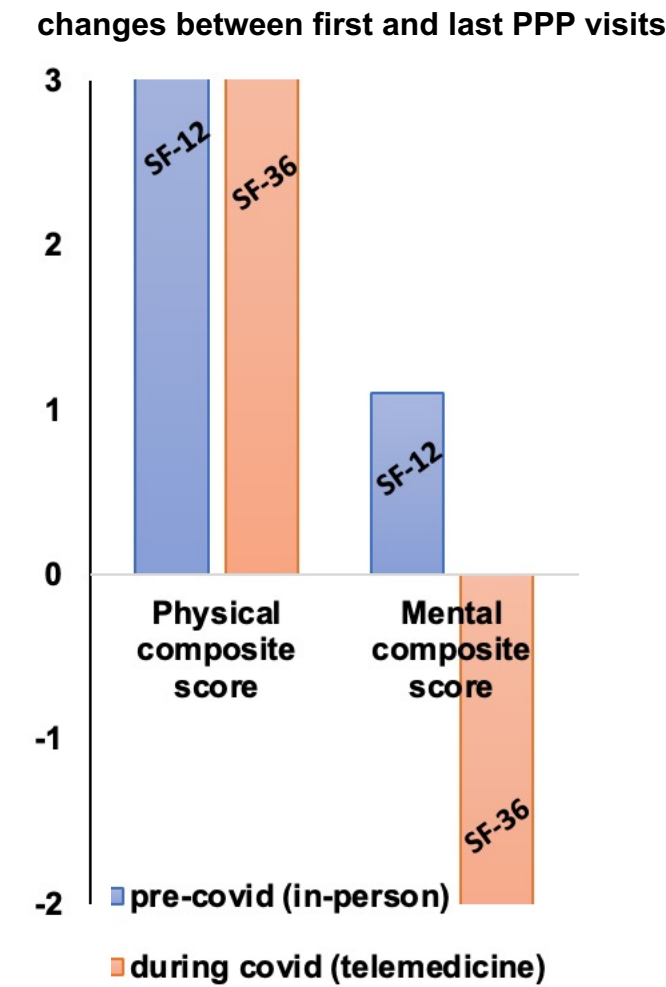
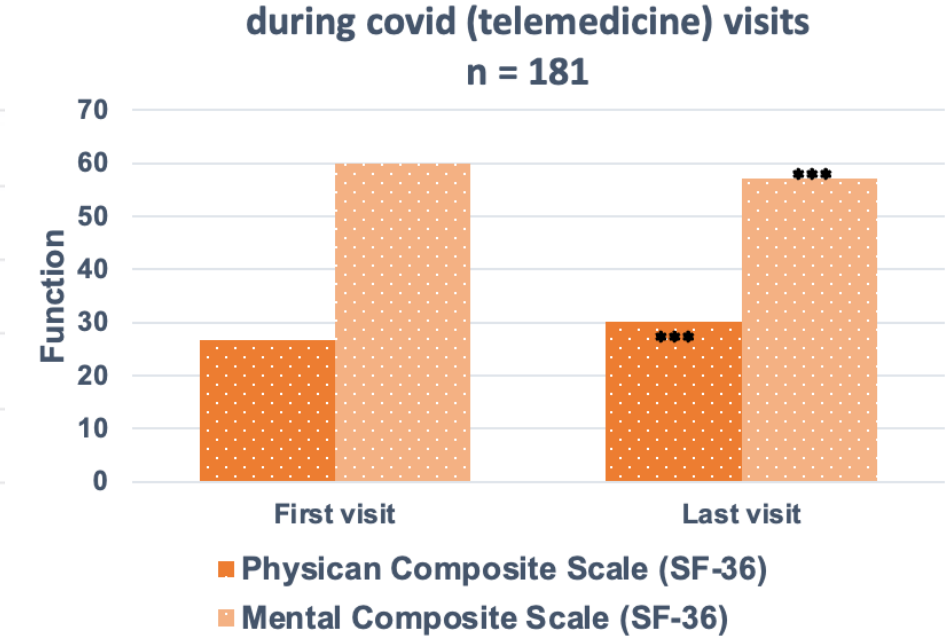
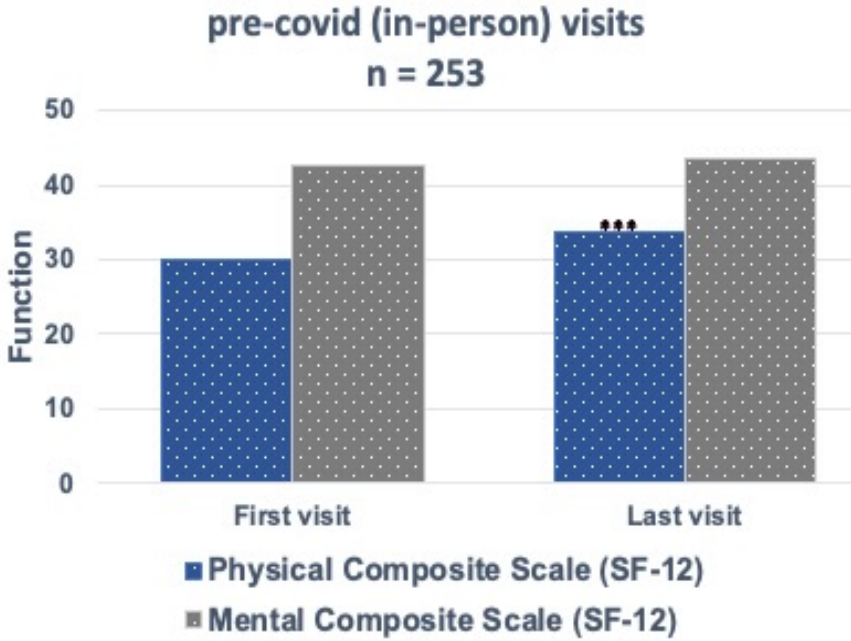


* p<.05 comparing first to last PPP visit

♣ p<.05 comparing in-person and telemedicine groups

*** p<.05 comparing changes between in-person and telemedicine groups

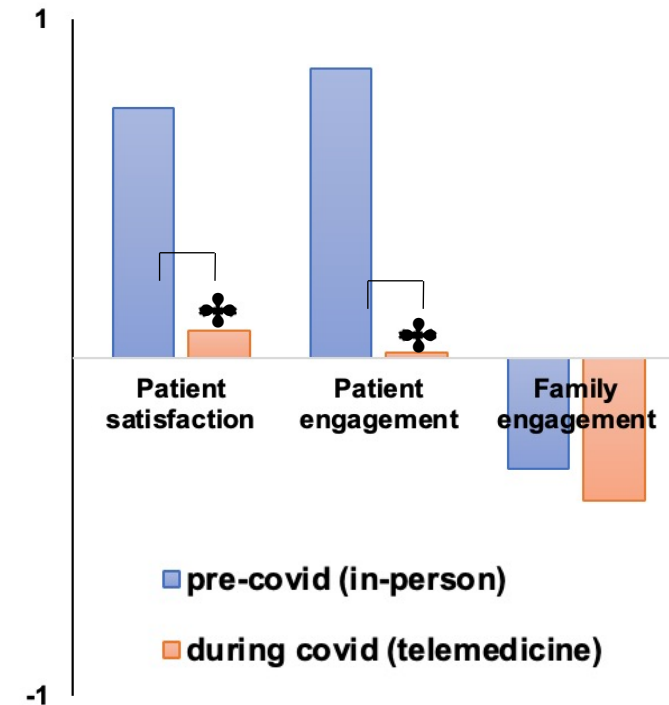
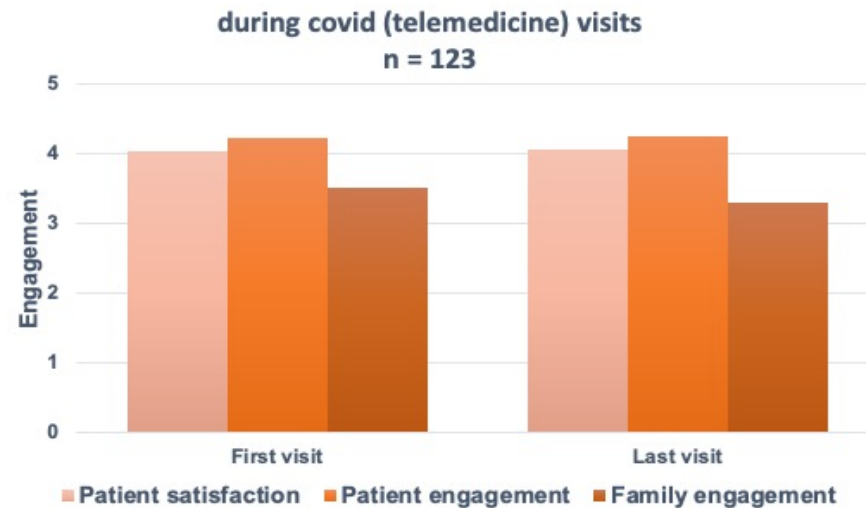
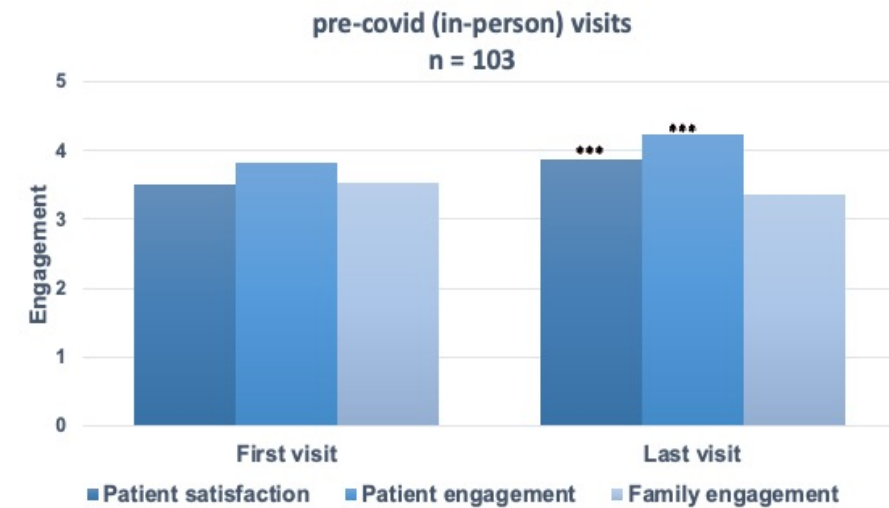
Physical and Mental Health Functioning



*** p<.005 comparing first to last PPP visit

Satisfaction and Engagement

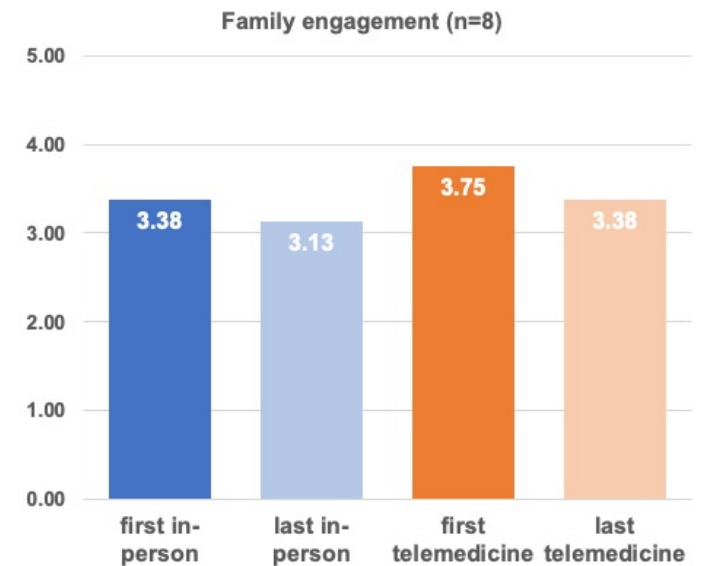
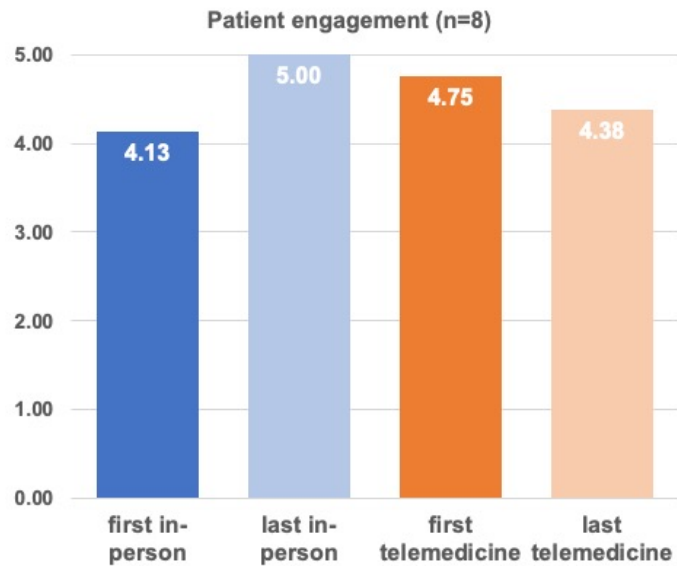
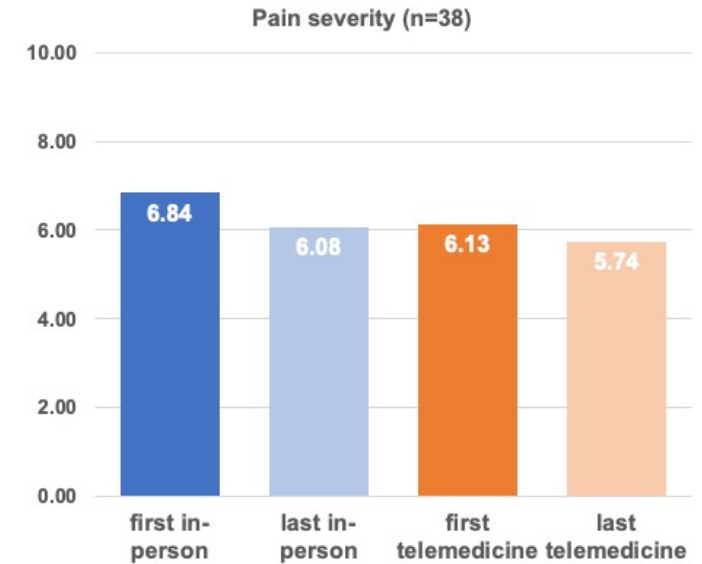
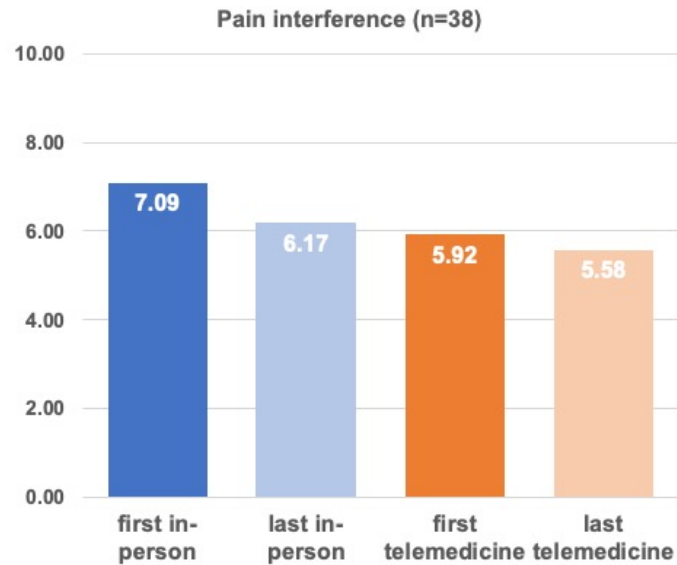
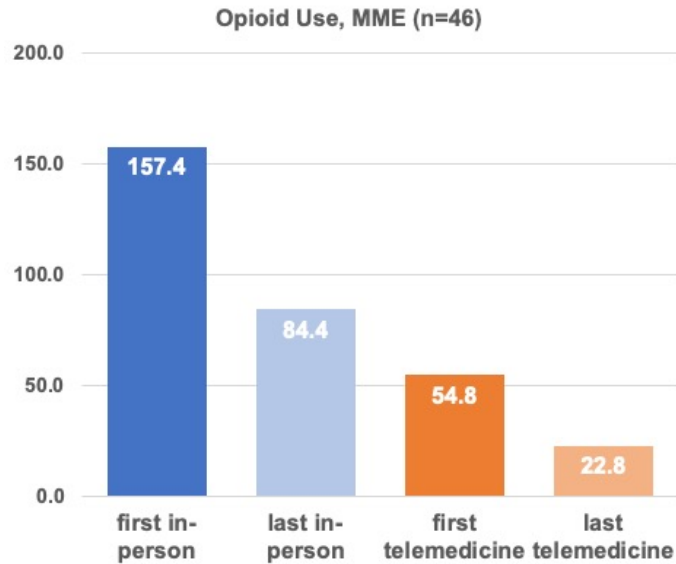
- (1) In general, how satisfied are you with the Perioperative Pain Clinic?
- (2) To what extent are you engaged in the management of your perioperative pain?
- (3) To what extent are your family members engaged in the management of your perioperative pain?



*** $p < .01$ comparing first to last PPP visit

* $p < .05$ comparing in-person and telemedicine groups

Patients who transitioned from in-person to telemedicine



Telemedicine not associated with changes in outcomes

| Adjusted Model | Opioid use (MME) | | | Pain severity | | | Pain interference | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-------|---------|---------------|------|---------|-------------------|------|---------|
| | Coef. | SE | P value | Coef. | SE | P value | Coef. | SE | P value |
| Telemedicine group | | | | | | | | | |
| In-person group | (ref) | | | (ref) | | | (ref) | | |
| Both group | 2.32 | 7.87 | 0.769 | -0.07 | 0.31 | 0.822 | -0.20 | 0.40 | 0.620 |
| Telemedicine group | 2.47 | 4.36 | 0.571 | -0.24 | 0.19 | 0.202 | -0.13 | 0.24 | 0.600 |
| Constant | -3.62 | 12.09 | 0.765 | 1.46 | 0.59 | 0.014 | 2.49 | 0.74 | 0.001 |

| Adjusted Model | Patient Satisfaction | | | Patient engagement | | | Family engagement | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------|---------|--------------------|-------|---------|-------------------|------|---------|
| | Coef. | SE | P value | Coef. | SE | P value | Coef. | SE | P value |
| Telemedicine group | | | | | | | | | |
| In-person group | (ref) | | | (ref) | | | (ref) | | |
| Both group | 0.318 | 0.301 | 0.292 | -0.112 | 0.221 | 0.612 | 0.26 | 0.35 | 0.457 |
| Telemedicine group | -0.116 | 0.170 | 0.495 | -0.157 | 0.125 | 0.211 | -0.07 | 0.20 | 0.742 |
| Constant | 2.983 | 0.471 | 0.000 | 2.890 | 0.375 | 0.000 | 1.37 | 0.57 | 0.017 |

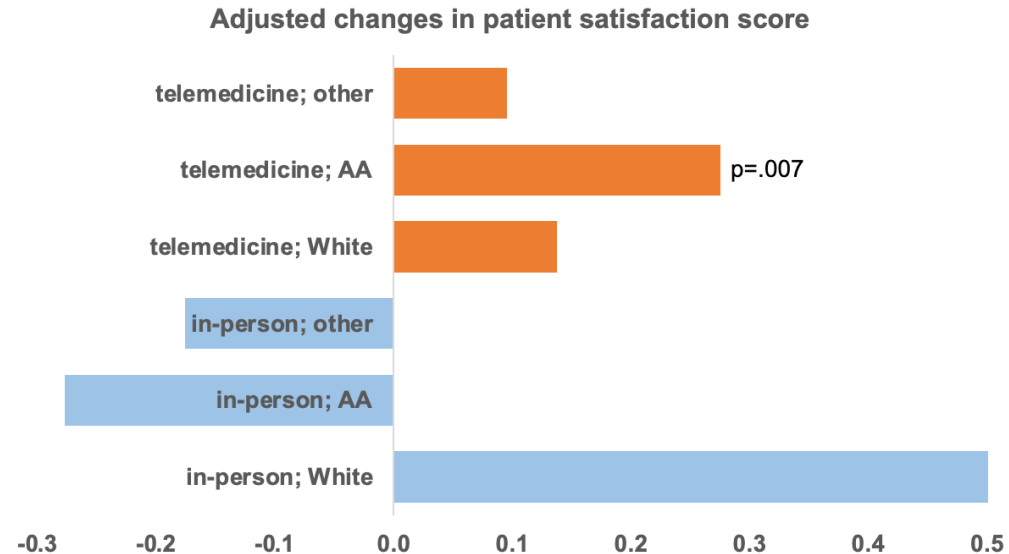
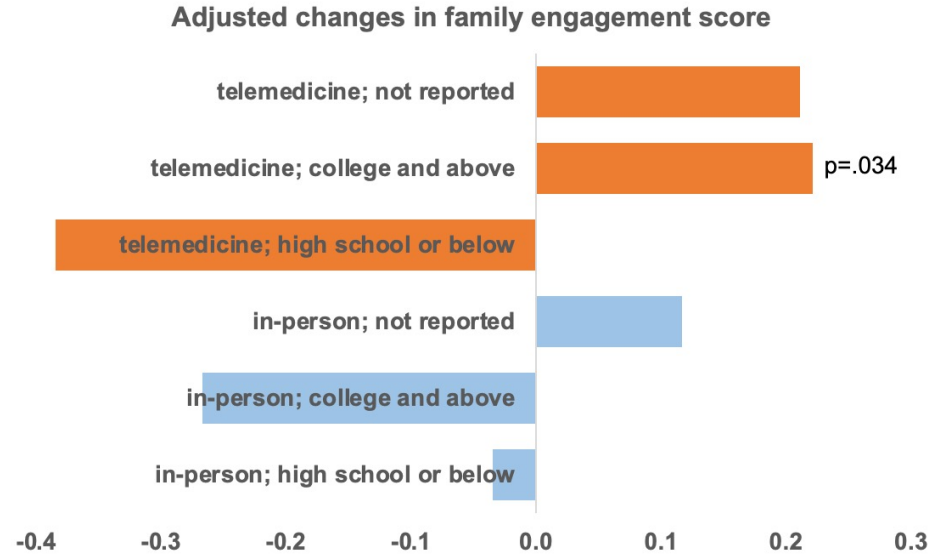
Adjusted for age, sex, education, race, timing of PPP relative to surgery, PPP treatment duration, no. surgeries while in PPP, psychiatry co-treatment, type of surgery

Telemedicine: bridging gaps
or widening disparities?



Tele-divide?

- **No significant telemedicine by race or telemedicine by education** interactions on opioid use, pain severity, or pain interference
- **Telemedicine by race** interaction on patient satisfaction
- **Telemedicine by education** interaction on family engagement



Semi-structured interviews on impact of telemedicine

| Telemedicine Helped Overcome Challenges | |
|---|---|
| Immobility due to postoperative conditions | “When I was a fresh postoperative patient, it was very hard [for me to travel]. ” |
| Lengthy travel times | “I do enjoy the tele-visit, because it keeps me from driving an hour. ” |
| Lack of access to transportation | “[Telemedicine] was good for me; I have a problem with transportation getting around.” |
| Inconvenience of parking at the hospital | “[Telemedicine] is convenient; you don’t have to pay for parking. ” |
| Apprehension of exposure to COVID-19 | “I am immune-deficient; it would've been a little scary for me to go to the hospital. ” |
| Barriers to using telemedicine | |
| Preventing patients from conveying their emotions to clinicians | “ Basic feelings don’t come across as much in the telemedicine visits.” |
| Technical difficulties with using the telemedicine platform | “We had trouble getting hooked up [on the telemedicine platform] a couple of times.” |
| Limitations in conducting physical exams | “[Clinicians] can't really identify certain things from just talking to you. They need to physically see or touch you. ” |
| Telemedicine was recommended as a routine practice | “ Offering telemedicine as a choice , even after things settle down, would improve patient experience. ” |

Contributions and Future Directions

Telemedicine:

- Maintained clinic volume
- Continued opioid tapering and postoperative pain care
- Reduced access barriers
- Increased patient satisfaction among African Americans (urban city)

Future directions

- Further research on access, delivery, and outcomes of telemedicine-delivered perioperative pain care
- Strategies to design equitable pain medicine telemedicine delivery systems
- Strategies to improve patient engagement and patient-provider relationship within telemedicine delivery systems

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