

Characterizing the Role of Infectious Diseases Consultant Pharmacists and Antimicrobial Stewardship Program Pharmacists: A Survey of Canadian Tertiary Care Academic Hospitals

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Background

Infectious Diseases Consultant (IDC) Pharmacists

- Work in collaboration with an infectious diseases (ID) consult service
- Ensure antimicrobial use is safe and effective in addition to providing comprehensive care to ID consult service inpatients

Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (ASP) Pharmacists

- Ensure antimicrobials are used appropriately
- Accreditation Canada now requires an inter-disciplinary Antimicrobial Stewardship (AS) program, often including an ASP pharmacist, as a Required Organizational Practice

Overlapping Roles of IDC and ASP Pharmacists

- There is a lack of literature comparing the roles of IDC and ASP pharmacists in Canada
- IDC and ASP pharmacists have similar goals and there is potential for overlapping responsibilities

Objective

Primary

- To characterize the **clinical, educational, administrative** and **research** roles of self-identified IDC and ASP pharmacists at Canadian tertiary care academic facilities

Methods

Design: Prospective observational survey conducted by electronic questionnaire

Setting: Tertiary care academic hospitals across Canada over an eight week period (February 10 – April 7, 2015)

Inclusion Criteria: IDC or ASP pharmacists currently employed by a Canadian tertiary care academic hospital

Exclusion Criteria

- IDC or ASP pharmacist who has not yet formally begun their role
- Any pharmacist unable to complete the survey in English

Screening and Recruitment

- A list of tertiary care academic hospitals was compiled
- Each site was contacted to ask if they have an IDC or ASP pharmacist

Definitions

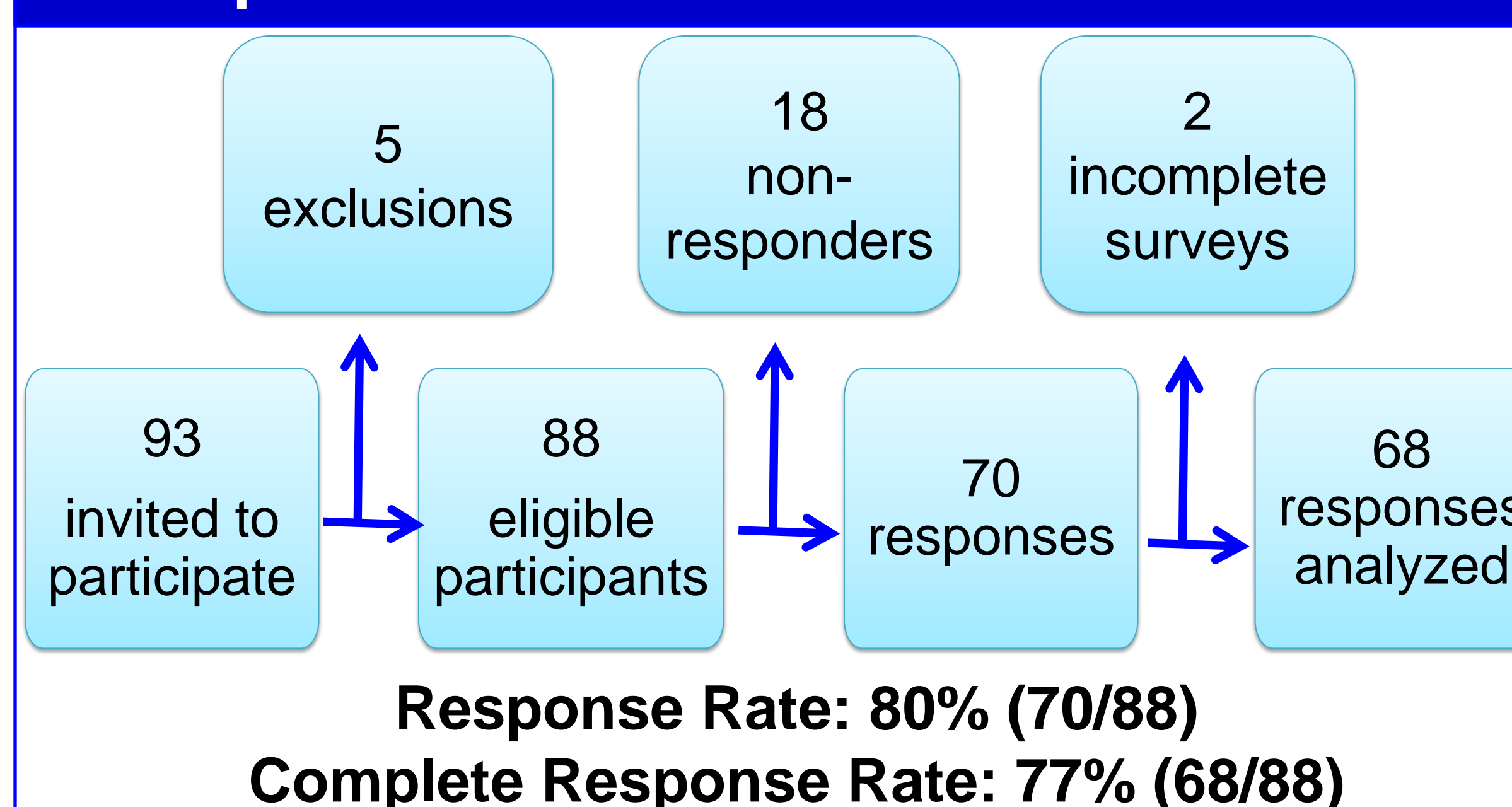
IDC Pharmacist

- A pharmacist acting in a clinical capacity with an inpatient ID consult service

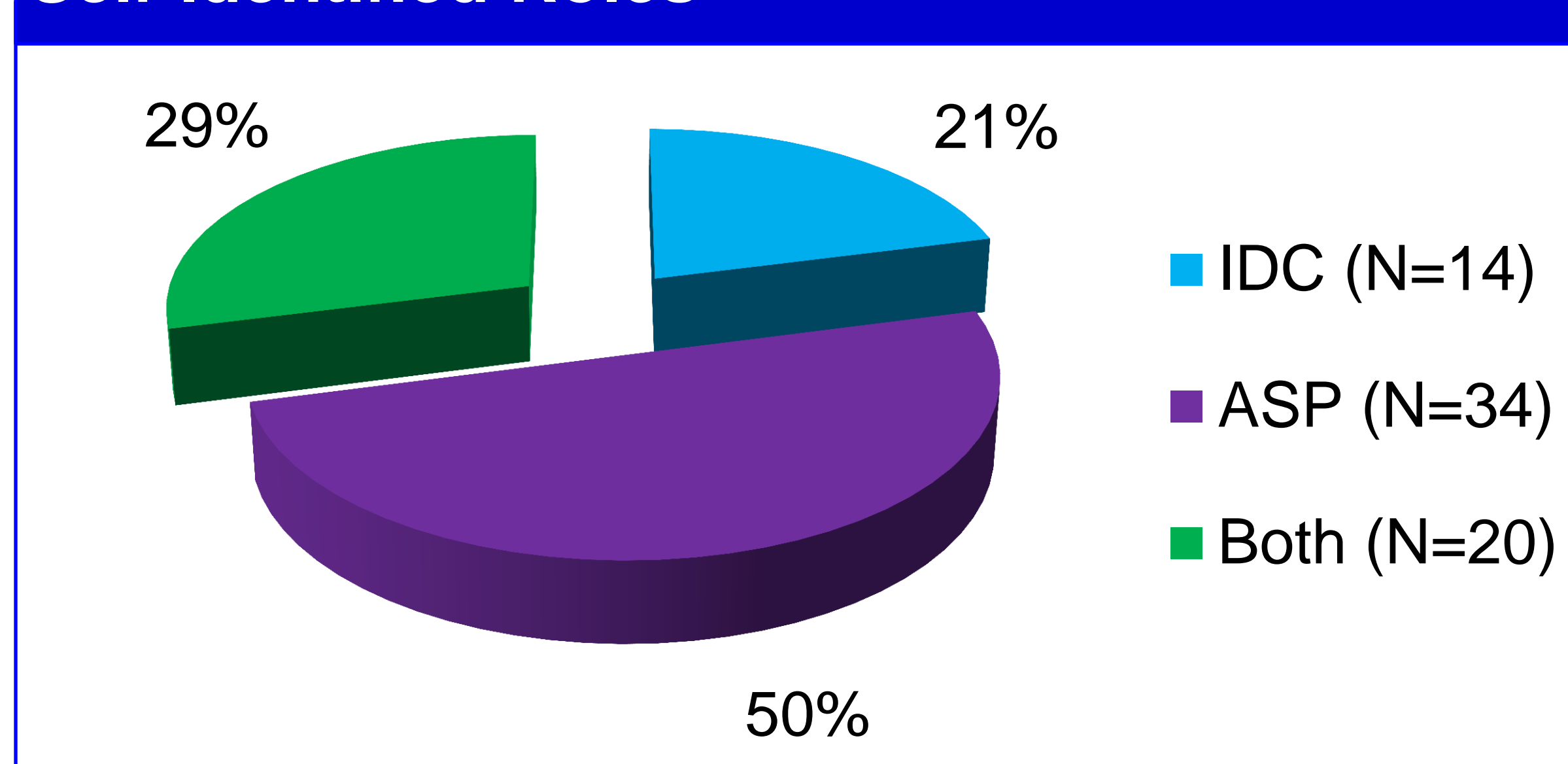
ASP Pharmacist

- A pharmacist working directly with a formally funded, institutional AS program

Participant Flow



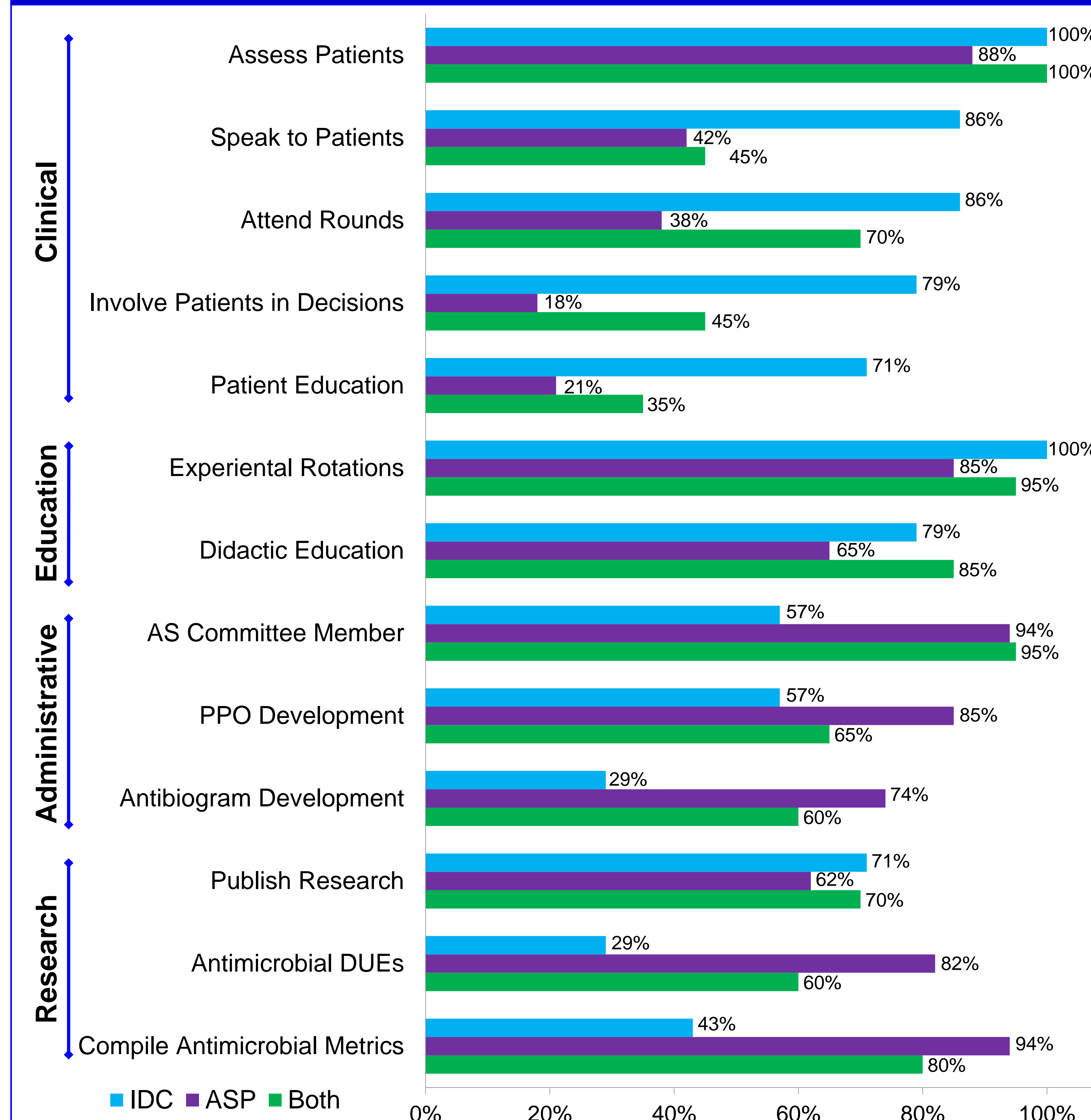
Self-Identified Roles



Baseline Characteristics

	IDC	ASP	Both
Hospital experience			
<10 years	36% (5)	56% (19)	30% (6)
≥10 years	64% (9)	44% (15)	70% (14)
Education			
Residency	57% (8)	59% (20)	60% (12)
Fellowship	14% (2)	3% (1)	10% (2)
Post- Grad PharmD	57% (8)	38% (13)	45% (9)
Masters/PhD	14% (2)	32% (11)	10% (2)
Additional ID or AS training	43% (6)	56% (19)	60% (12)

Results



Conclusion

- **IDC pharmacists** report more **clinical roles** including speaking to patients, attending rounds, involving patients in decisions, and providing patient education compared to ASP pharmacists
- All three groups of pharmacists report similar **educational roles**
- **ASP pharmacists** report more of the following **administrative and research roles** compared to IDC pharmacists: antibiogram and pre-printed order (PPO) development, antimicrobial metric collection, and drug use evaluations (DUEs)
- Individuals that are **both** an IDC and ASP pharmacist report less of the unique activities identified for IDC and ASP pharmacists
- Results of this survey may aid Canadian pharmacy leaders creating policies pertaining to and developing resources for IDC and ASP pharmacists

