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Background

- Bedside ultrasound is a tool being increasingly used for the past ten years among clinicians.
- Technological advancements of ultrasound systems have made them smaller and more portable with increased image resolution, making bedside ultrasound an available, affordable tool in the clinical setting. [1]
- However, acceptance of this technology has been slow. [2]
- Multiple studies have indicated that bedside ultrasound assessments can be successfully used for patient benefit, even if clinician training has been limited. [3-5]

Objective

- The objective of this study was to identify patient characteristics to date after ultrasound was incorporated into the Emergency Department assessment process.

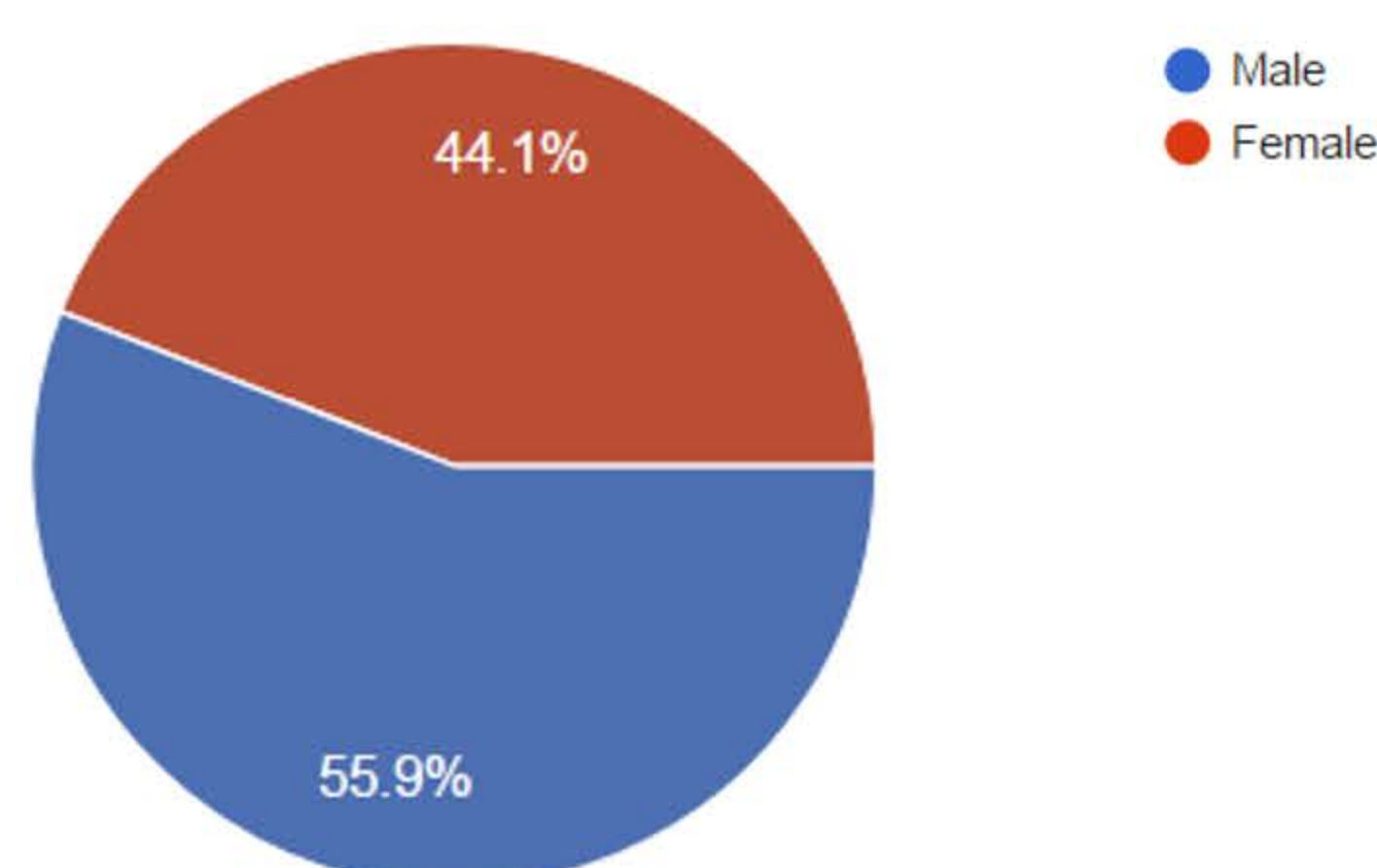
Methods

- This is a mixed-methods study investigating the use of point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) in the Emergency Department.
- All patients who have POCUS performed in the Emergency Department of Selayang Hospital are prospectively entered into a database utilised for the study.
- Data is entered online through a customised data-collection form directly by the provider who completed the POCUS exam.
- In addition to collecting quantitative data, medical providers are requested to complete a qualitative survey after each patient encounter which investigates the qualitative aspects of this study.

Results

- To date, 429 patient encounters have been recorded in the patient database for the study.
- Outlined are the patient characteristics of participants enrolled in the study to date.

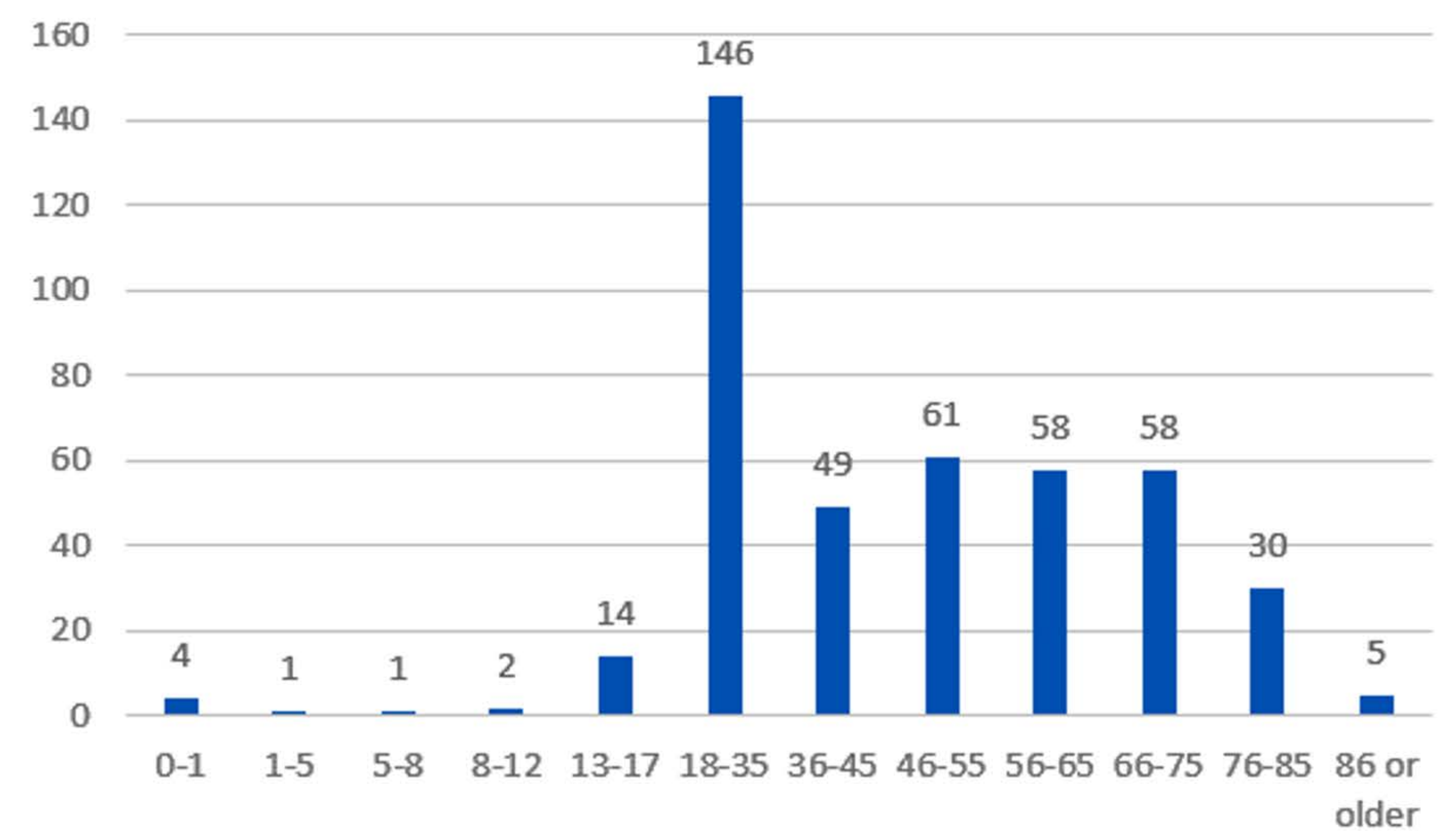
Patient gender



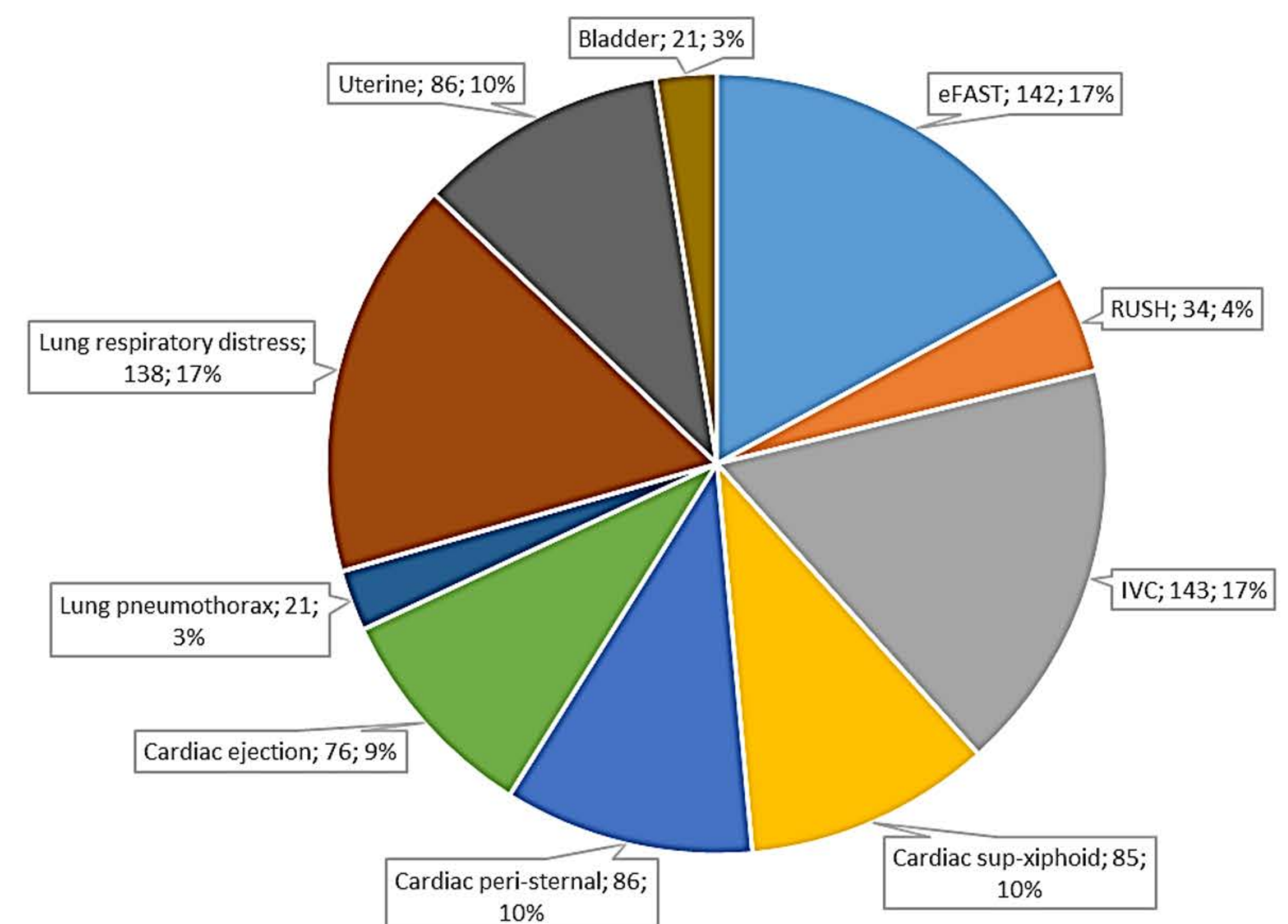
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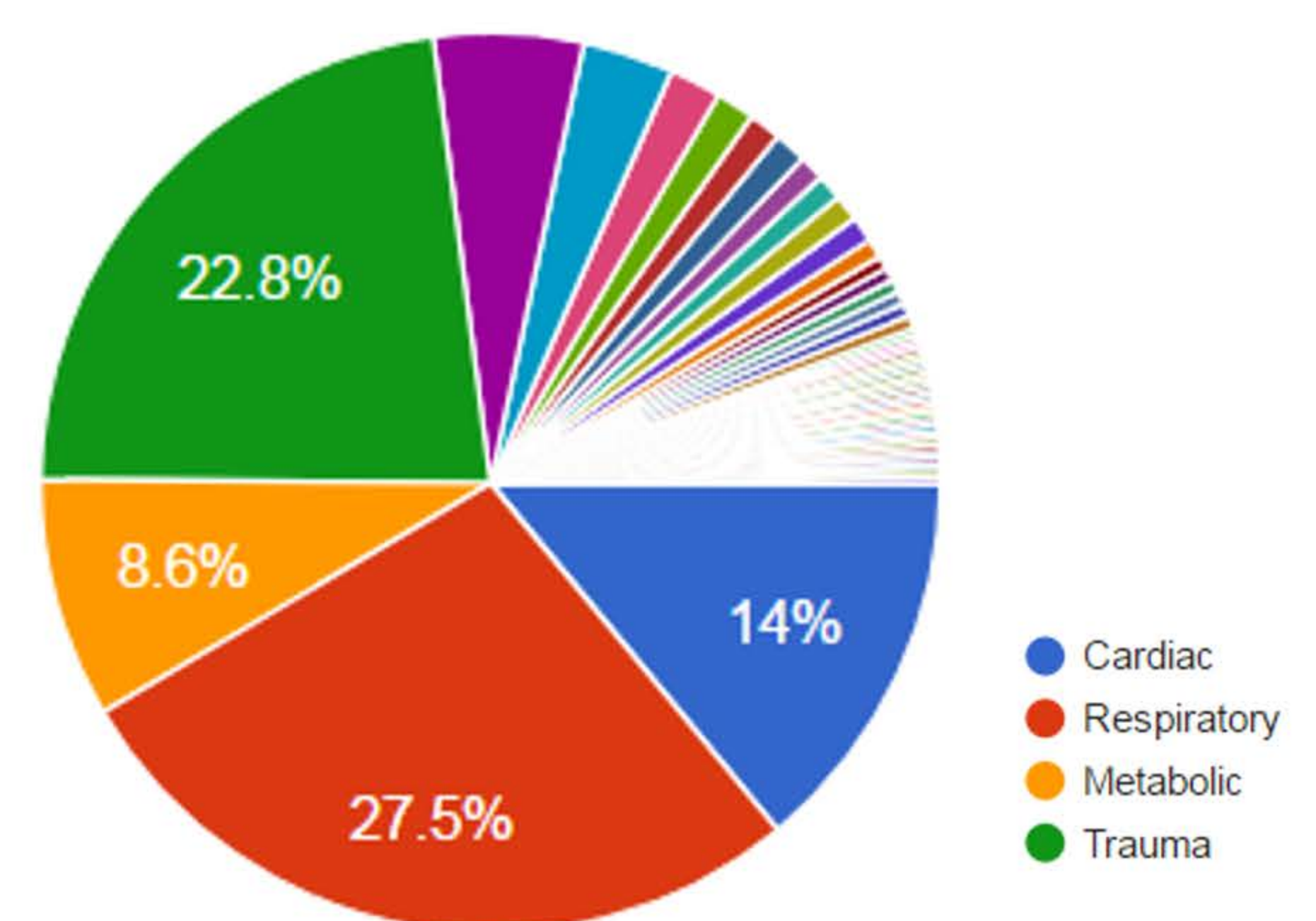
Patient age (years)



Emergency ultrasound exam performed



Type of patient presentation



Additional results

- Mean patient assessment time, including ultrasound exam was 10 minutes (SD ±4.49; range 2-28 mins)
- Ultrasound was used once (48.5%) or twice (42.4%) in the majority of these examinations
- Further analysis of accuracy of initial diagnosis (aided by ultrasound), and final discharge diagnosis is planned.

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- For further information email mchristie@resuscitationgroup.com