

# AzCEP SEED Research Grant

*Improving Refugee Health in the Emergency Department setting*

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AzCEP Annual Retreat

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# Outline

- Background
- AzCEP SEED Grant 2021
- Refugee Follow Up
- Stakeholders
- Trauma Informed Pelvic Examinations

Young refugee women wait for a train at train station in Tovarnik, Croatia.

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# ASYLUM-SEEKER:

AN INDIVIDUAL SEEKING INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION WHOSE CLAIM HAS NOT YET BEEN FINALLY DECIDED ON. NOT EVERY ASYLUM-SEEKER WILL ULTIMATELY BE RECOGNIZED AS A REFUGEE, BUT EVERY REFUGEE WAS INITIALLY AN ASYLUM-SEEKER.

# REFUGEE:

A PERSON LEGALLY RECOGNIZED AS FLEEING THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN WHO IS UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO RETURN BECAUSE OF A WELL-FOUNDED FEAR OF PERSECUTION.

**INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSON (IDP)** : similar to refugees, but remain within their own country

**STATELESS PERSON:** not recognized by their home country

**ECONOMIC MIGRANT:** voluntarily leaves their home country to live in another country with ostensibly better working or living conditions.





# GLOBAL TRENDS

## FORCED DISPLACEMENT IN 2022



# Trends at a Glance

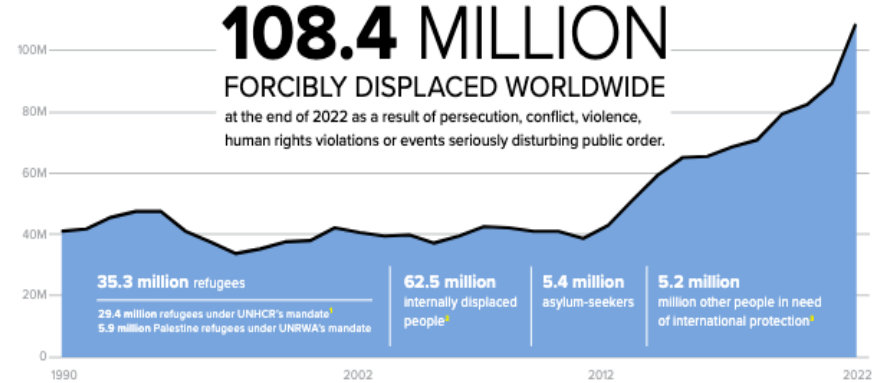
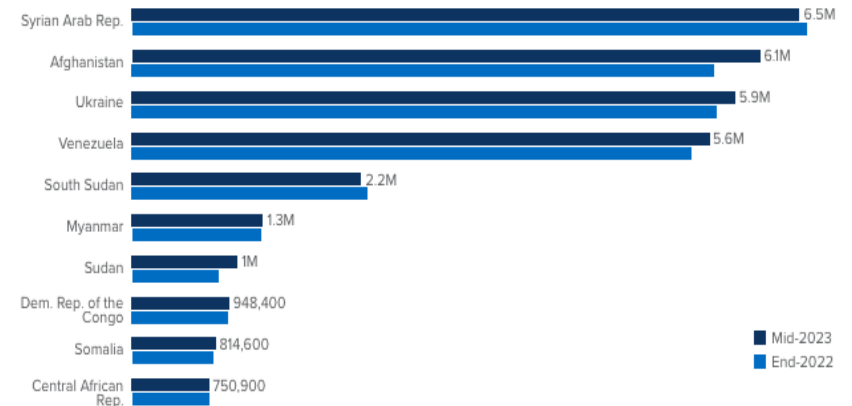


Figure 4 | Refugees, people in refugee-like situations and other people in need of international protection by country of origin | mid-2023





COUNTRY	TOTAL	2024	2023	Ivory Coast	Jordan
Afghanistan	6,265	541	259		11
Albania	51				37
Algeria	15				197
Angola	206				1
Armenia	7				683
Azerbaijan	35				9
Bangladesh	1				3
Belarus	31				499
Belize	3				3
Benadir	35				12
Benin	1				20
Bhutan	3,009				2
Bosnia	6,803				2
Botswana	8				2
Brazil	5		3		10
Bulgaria	195				5
Burkina Faso	6	1			2
Burma	5,512	259	284		31
Burundi	1,412	49	25		2
Cambodia	1,484	1	1		1
Cameroon	90	4			4
C. African Rep.	305	12	39		1,034
Chad	47	1			5
Chile	7	1	4		8
China	61				14
Colombia	299	16	34		31
Croatia	484				14
Cuba	15,547	2,361	2,742		31
Czechoslovakia	46				123
Democratic Republic of the Congo	8,871	933	1,200		117
Djibouti	1				23
Ecuador	1		1		163
Egypt	97				20
El Salvador	54	19	31		3
Equatorial Guinea	36				98
Eritrea	1,391	31	36		3
Estonia	2				3
Ethiopia	1,652	5	10		3
Gabon	2				3
Gambia	8	2			239
Georgia	4				7,647
Ghana	5				18
Guatemala	164	48	50		108
Guinea	16	5			1,864
Haiti	683	204	234		10
Honduras	70	13	8		2,770
Hungary	83				2,127
India	10				37
Indonesia	10				49
Iran	2,061	4	26		345
Iraq	12,538	32	67		65
Italy	2				6
Ivory Coast	30				3
Jordan	11				8
Kazakhstan	37				159
Kenya	197	7			11
Kiribati	1	1			18
Kosovo (Yugoslavia)	683				46
Kuwait	9				790
Kyrgyzstan	3				261
					2
					138
					10,591
					23
					8
					24
					1
					52
					1
					476
					246
					104,573
					5,216
					6,022

# Common health challenges of refugees and asylum seekers

## Poorly controlled chronic conditions

Hypertension, diabetes, epilepsy, badly healed injuries, out of medication



## Mental health and specialist support

Depression, isolation, PTSD, torture, FGM, sexual and gender-based violence



## Maternity care

Late presentation, FGM complications, trauma, poverty, malnutrition, holistic support



## Language translation needs

Do you need an interpreter?

What language/dialect?

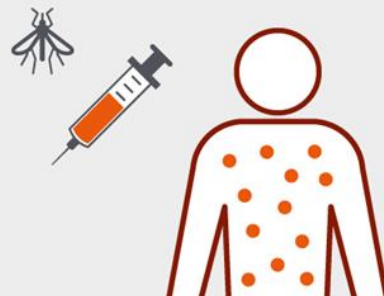
What gender?

Any cultural needs?



## Untreated communicable diseases

TB, HIV/STIs, parasitic infections, missing vaccines





# 2021 AzCEP SEED Research Grant Objectives

*Dr. Katrina Lettang, MD*

*Dr. Ellen Dowling, MD*

*Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Megan McElhinney, MD*

1. Evaluate Women's Health Refugee Clinic Referral System
2. Strengthen Collaboration with RH Stakeholders
3. Identify Areas for Improvement



1200 charts

14

🏠 New Discharge Orders  
🚑 Amb Referral To Women's Refugee Clinic  
Routine, Internal Referral

100%



# REFUGEE HEALTH REFERRALS in Epic

Px Code	Name
REF140	Amb Referral To Adult Refugee / CHN Follow Up (aka REFUGEE)
REF139	Amb Referral To Pediatric Refugee / CHN Follow Up (aka REFUGEE)
REF127	Amb Referral To Women's Refugee / CHN Clinic (aka REFUGEE)

- **AMB Referral to Adult Refugee/CHN Follow-up (REF140):**  
For adult refugee patients with **primary care** related needs
- **AMB Referral to Pediatric Refugee/CHN Follow-up (REF139):**  
For pediatric refugee patients with **primary care** related needs
- **AMB Referral to Women's Refugee/CHN Clinic (REF127):**  
For refugee patients that are women with **obstetric or gynecologic** related issues

***If a female patient has a non-OB/GYN related issue,  
please send to primary care (REF140) rather than Women's Health clinic!***

# Women's Refugee Services



**Dr. Alicia Willey & Jeanne F. Nizigiyimana**



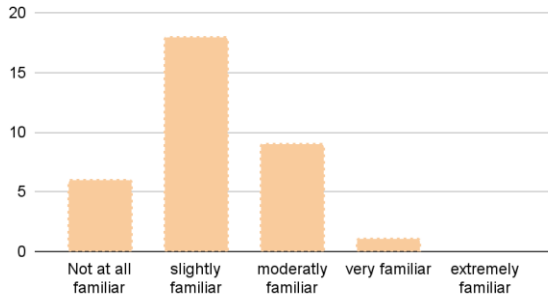
# Trauma-Informed Pelvic Examinations: A Workshop for Emergency Medicine Learners.

Creighton University Emergency Medicine Phoenix Program/Valleywise  
Health Medical Center  
Phoenix Arizona  
Dr. Ellen Dowling, Dr. Alicia Willey, Dr. Ibis Rojas, Dr. Amrita Vempati

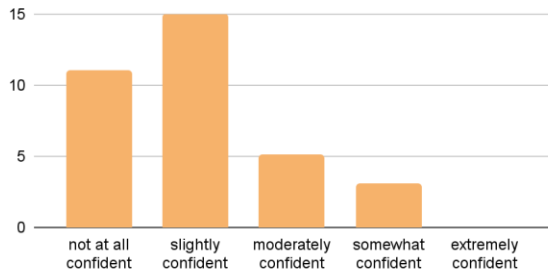




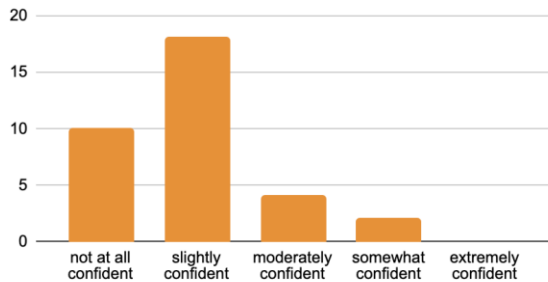
How familiar are you with trauma informed care?



How confident do you feel utilizing trauma-informed care in your practice currently?



How confident do you feel using maneuvers during the physical exam that may help patients who have experienced trauma feel more comfortable and safe?



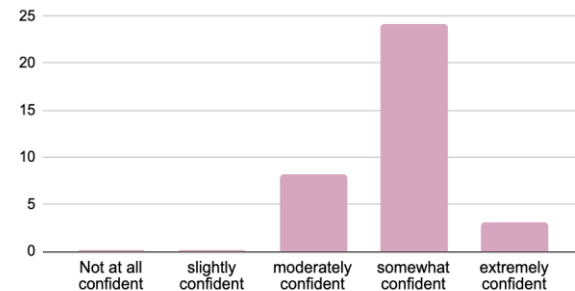
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88.5%

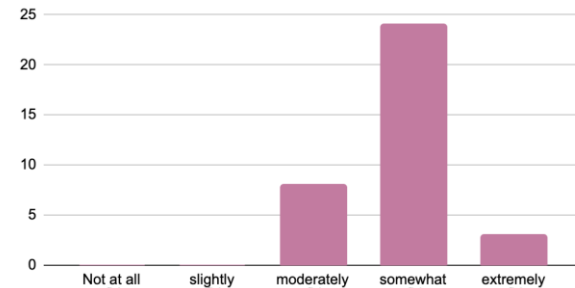
76.5%

94.3%

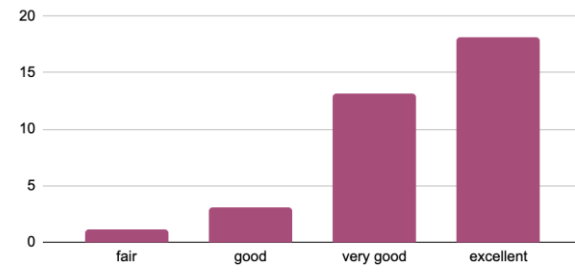
How confident do you feel using maneuvers during the physical exam that may help patients who have experienced trauma feel more comfortable and safe?



How confident do you feel using language during the physical exam that may help patients who have experienced trauma feel more comfortable and safe?



Effectiveness of the presentation in teaching trauma-informed language and maneuvers during the physical exam





# Future Directions