

eConsults support Advanced Practice Nurses in older adult care

The eConsultBASE™ service improves access to specialist care for patients, facilitating efficient and secure electronic communication between Primary Care Providers (PCPs) and specialists.


Canada's aging population will place unprecedented demands on the healthcare system. **Advanced Practice Nurses (APN)** can independently provide age-appropriate care.

On eConsult BASE™, **nurse practitioners (NP)** may initiate eConsults, and **clinical nurse specialists (CNS)** may receive them.

In 2019, a study was conducted of all eConsults with APN involvement for patients **65 years or older**.




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Of 430 eligible eConsults, **97.9% were initiated by NPs**, → and the rest by physicians.

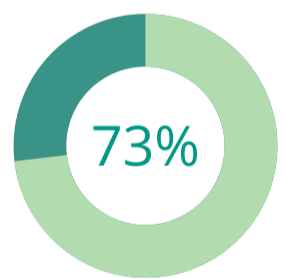
5.3% were received by a clinical nurse specialist (CNS) 

53% of eConsults were for Dermatology, Haematology, Cardiology, Gastroenterology and Endocrinology.

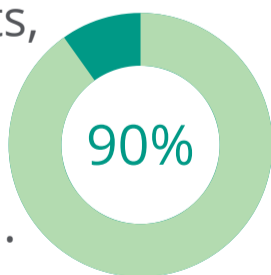


 Median specialist response interval was 0.9 days

73% of eConsults avoided a face-to-face referral after the consultation



In 90% of eConsults, APNs rated the service as helpful and/or educational.



67% of NPs received clear advice for a new/additional course of action.

67%

Through eConsult, APNs can collaborate with each other and physicians to access timely specialist-informed care for older patients.

