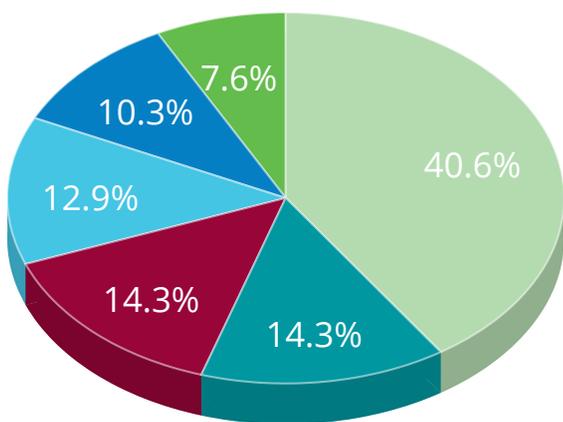


The eConsultBASE™ service improves access to specialist care for patients by facilitating electronic communication between Primary Care Providers (PCPs) and specialists

From April 2013 to January 2015, 224 eConsults were directed to infectious disease specialists

Content of questions asked by PCPs

% of eConsults



● Other*	40.6%
● Tuberculosis	14.3%
● Lyme disease	14.3%
● Parasite infections, unspecified	12.9%
● Vaccination, general	10.3%
● Skin and soft tissue infection	7.6%

*Topics included: Herpes viruses, osteomyelitis, and diarrhea

95% of cases took **20 minutes or less** to complete



63% of cases received a **response** within **24 hours**

The most common questions from PCPs pertained to...



39% Drug Treatment

- Indications/goals of treatment
- Choice of drug



37% Diagnosis

- Interpretation of a laboratory test
- Choice of test



22 % Management

- General management question
- Necessity of a referral

eConsults provided PCPs with advice for a new or additional course of action

55%

41%

Original course of action was confirmed

32%

Referral was originally considered but **avoided** as a result of eConsult

Case Example

Day 1

PCP asks question about a patient who screened positive for syphilis. The patient has a history of chest infections but is otherwise asymptomatic. PCP asks what testing is needed and how the case should be managed.

Day 1

Specialist proposes testing for other sexually transmitted infections. For management, the specialist provides an outline of treatment, noting that if the PCP is uncomfortable providing it, they should refer the patient to infectious disease or a sexual health centre. The specialist also advises the PCP to contact public health and notify the patient they have done this.

Day 2

PCP accepts the advice and closes the case.

