HOW IS OIC DIAGNOSED AND MANAGED? INSIGHTS FROM A VIRTUAL PATIENT SIMULATION

### STUDY OBJECTIVES

1. A continuing medical education activity was delivered via an online VPS-based platform that offers a learning experience mimicking actual clinical care with complete freedom of choice in clinical decision-making.
2. Physicians, including pain specialists and gastroenterologists, were presented with 2 patient cases of OIC, including electronic health records, which were designed to model the experience of actual practice (Figure 1 & 2).
3. Following VPS-based interactions with patients, physicians were asked to make decisions regarding assessments, diagnoses, and pharmacotherapies.
4. The clinical decisions were analyzed using a sophisticated decision engine, and tailored clinical guidance (CG) was provided to the physicians in an authentic, practical learning experience matching the scope of clinical practice, this type of experience can be used to support translation of knowledge into practice.

### METHODS

- **Patient Case: Diagnosis Decisions and Rationale**
  - **Question #1**: Question #2 Question #3 Question #4
  - **% Behavior Change**
  - **% Relative Change**
  - **% Pre Guidance**
  - **% Post Guidance**
  - **% Pre Guidance P-Value**
  - **% Post Guidance P-Value**

### RESULTS

- **Top rationales were**: therapy approved for OIC, greater efficacy for OIC than laxatives, and better adverse effect profile

- **Top rationales were**: patient history of significant opioid use; high bowel function index score; and lack of response to laxatives

- **Top rationales were**: therapy approved for OIC, greater efficacy for OIC than laxatives, and better adverse effect profile

### CONCLUSIONS

There were similarities at baseline in the management approaches to OIC among pain specialists and gastroenterologists participants in VPS-based education. Post-GC, significant improvements were noted in their clinical decision-making in OIC participants in diagnosis and selection of approved pharmacotherapies. Given that VPS immerses and engages the physician in an authentic, practical experience mimicking the scope of clinical practice, the levels of intervention can be used to support translation of knowledge into practice.

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### References: