

Examining Caregiver Experiences on Telehealth Evaluation of Development of Infants (TEDI) Study

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INTRODUCTION

- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neurodevelopmental disability that may cause difficulties with social, emotional, and communication skills (CDC)
- The average age of ASD diagnosis in the United States is 4 years old despite progress in early evaluation (Juárez et al., 2018)
- Increasing access to early diagnostic services for accurate identification and treatment of ASD in children is crucial (Juárez et al., 2018)
- Systematic evaluation of the potential for telehealth for early identification of ASD is still in need

OBJECTIVE

To gain an understanding of caregiver opinions on what worked, what didn't work, and what needs are still unmet for further improvement in the TEDI study

METHODS

- Participants:** 32 caregivers (N = 33 for demographics)
- All open-ended text responses from the TEDI-adapted Telehealth Usability Questionnaire were coded
- Coding was reliability tested
- Themes were generated for three feedback categories
- Themes generated:

Likes	Dislikes	Suggestions
Representative of Usual Behavior	Less Engaged Behavior	Instructions
Clinician Interaction	Observing Child Challenges	Support
Convenience	Structure	Technology
Materials	Technology	
Structure	Time	

- Descriptive statistics were used to summarize parent demographics of those involved in the study

RESULTS

Education Level	36% Bachelors, 36% Masters, 21% Higher Degrees
Family Income	24% > \$200,000, 48% \$100,000 - \$199,999, 27% < \$99,000

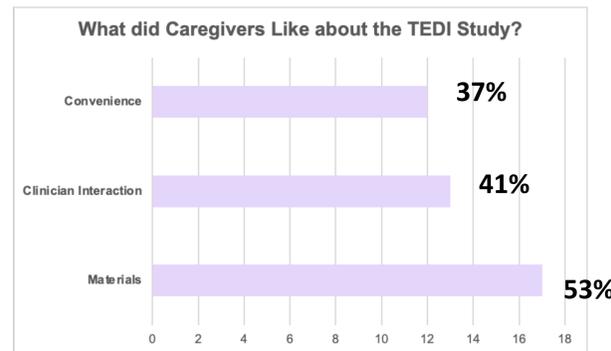


Figure 1. Responses for What Worked Well from Telehealth Usability Questionnaire (N = 32)

"I love that it's Telehealth. We wouldn't be able to participate in the study otherwise, since we don't live nearby."

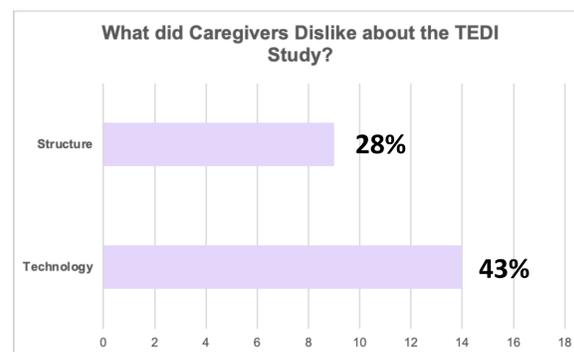


Figure 2. Responses for What Didn't Work Well from Telehealth Usability Questionnaire (N = 32)

"Sometimes following directions on how to perform a task without someone modeling was tricky."

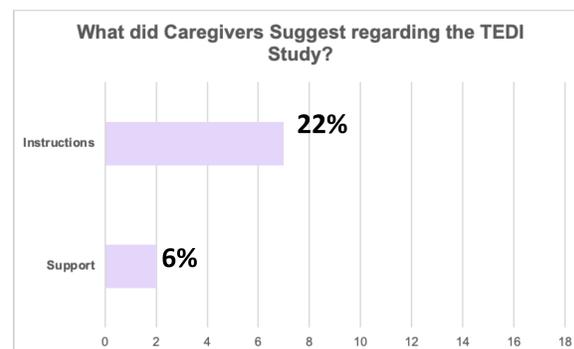


Figure 3. Responses for Suggestions from Telehealth Usability Questionnaire (N = 32)

"I think a video example or link to what the test looks like prior to the first session maybe better for us visual learners."

SUMMARY

- 31/32 Caregivers reported at least one comment falling into "likes." These were primarily related to materials (53%), clinician interaction (41%), and convenience (37%).
- 27/32 caregivers reported at least one comment falling into "dislikes." These were primarily related to technology (43%) and structure (28%).
- 13/32 caregivers reported at least one comment falling into "suggestions." These were primarily related to instructions (22%) and support (6%).

STRENGTHS & LIMITATIONS

- Strengths
 - Qualitative approach
 - Attempts to address unmet healthcare needs
 - Gain initial understanding of caregivers' opinions on what worked, what didn't work, and what needs are still unmet
- Limitations
 - Self-selective sample, not representative
 - High SES families

CONCLUSIONS

- Overall, almost all caregivers reported positive experiences with minor feedback relating to tailoring of individual needs
- TEDI seems to be a feasible approach to family access to early evaluation for children with ASD characteristics
- Future studies should examine feasibility of the TEDI by community-based providers in diverse populations

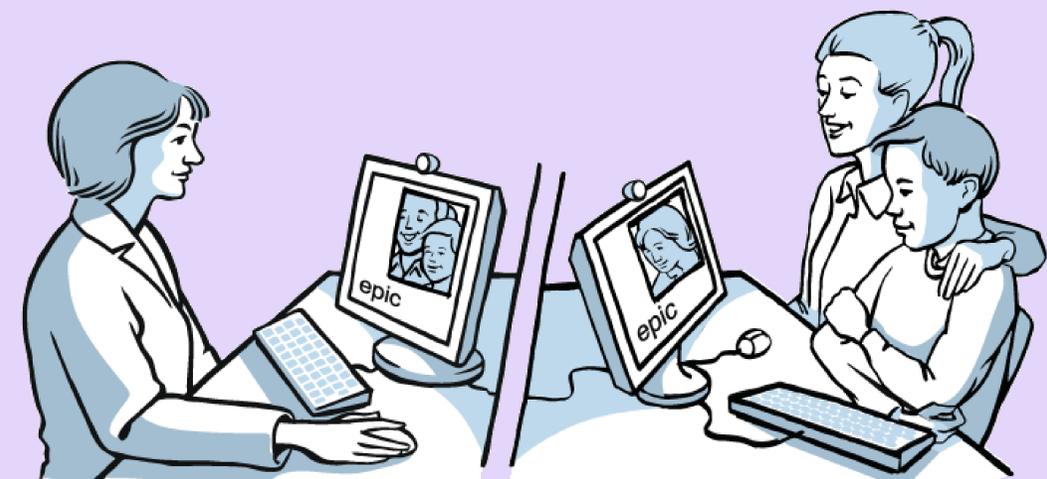
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank Dr. Meagan Talbott, Ph.D, members of the TEDI study lab, and Felipe Avila for their contributions and support throughout this project. I would also like to thank Dr. Janice Enriquez, Ph.D, and Dr. Harolyn Belcher, M.D., M.H.S., and the MCHC RISE-UP program for their mentorship and opportunity.



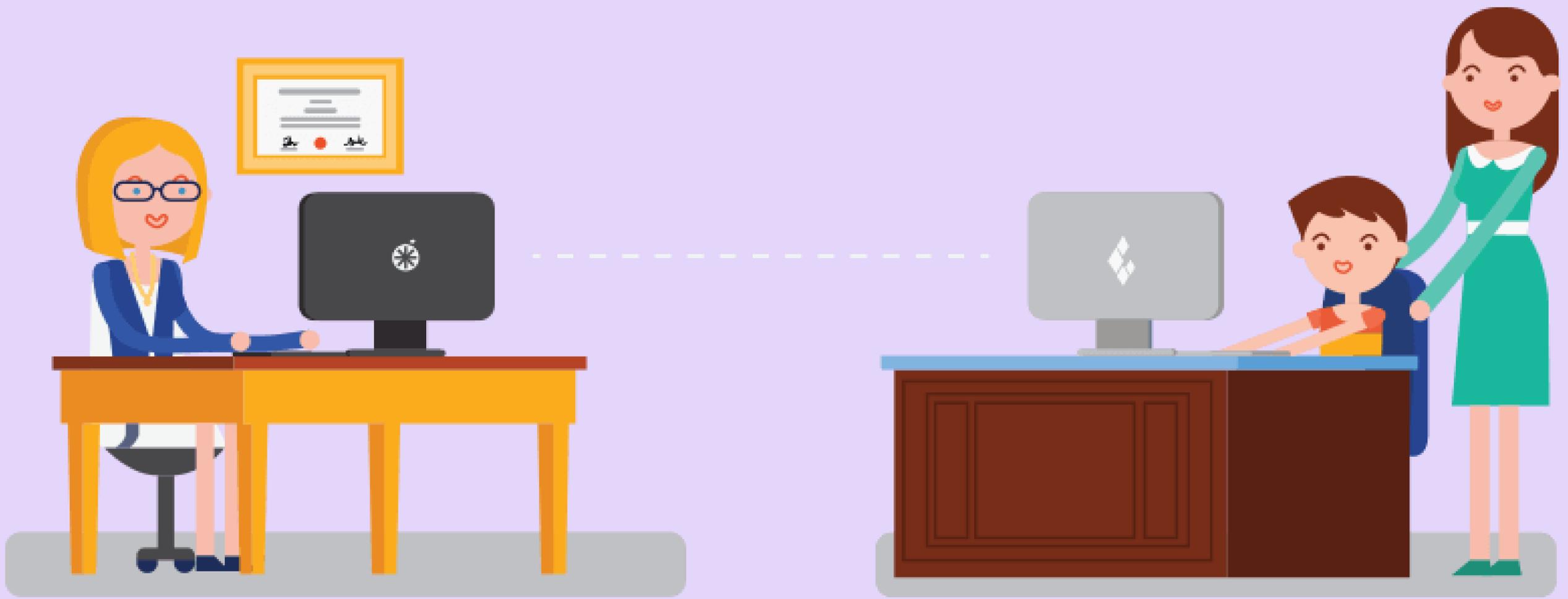
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- The average age of ASD diagnosis in the United States is 4 years old despite progress in early evaluation (Juárez et al., 2018)
- Increasing access to early diagnostic services for accurate identification and treatment of ASD in children is crucial (Juárez et al., 2018)
- Telehealth has shown to be cost-effective but systematic evaluation of the potential for telehealth for early identification of ASD is still in need



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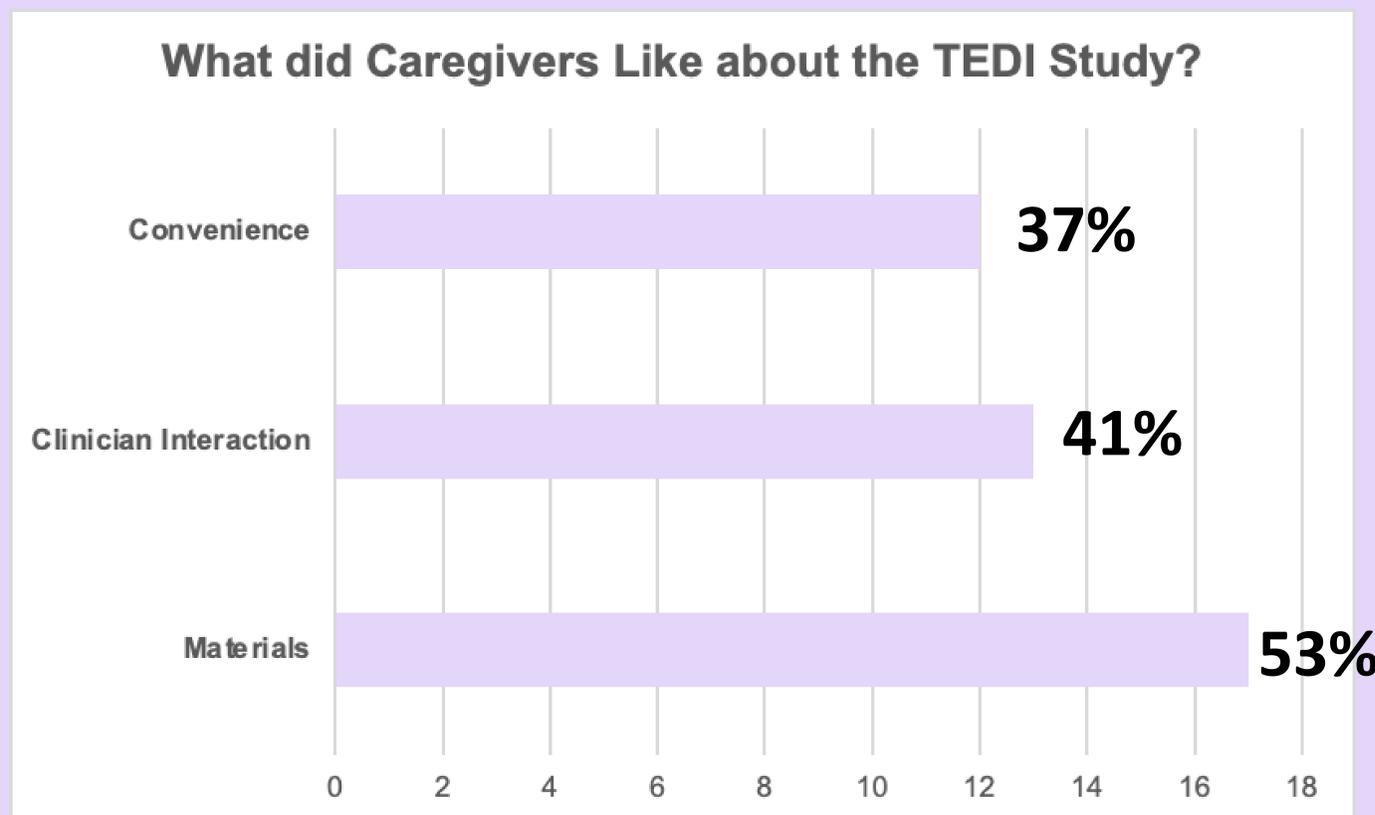
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RESULTS

Table 1: Demographic Characteristics of Caregiver Participating in TEDI Study (N = 33)

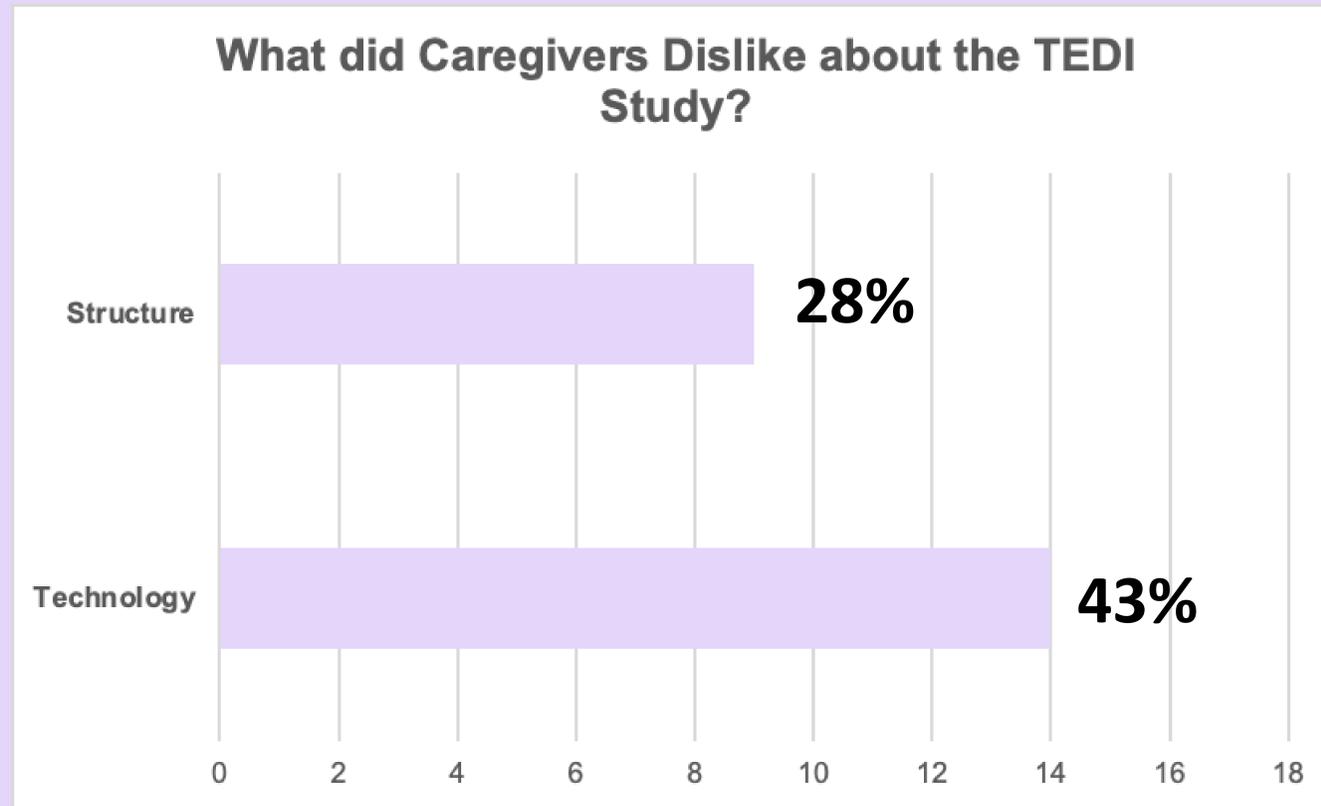
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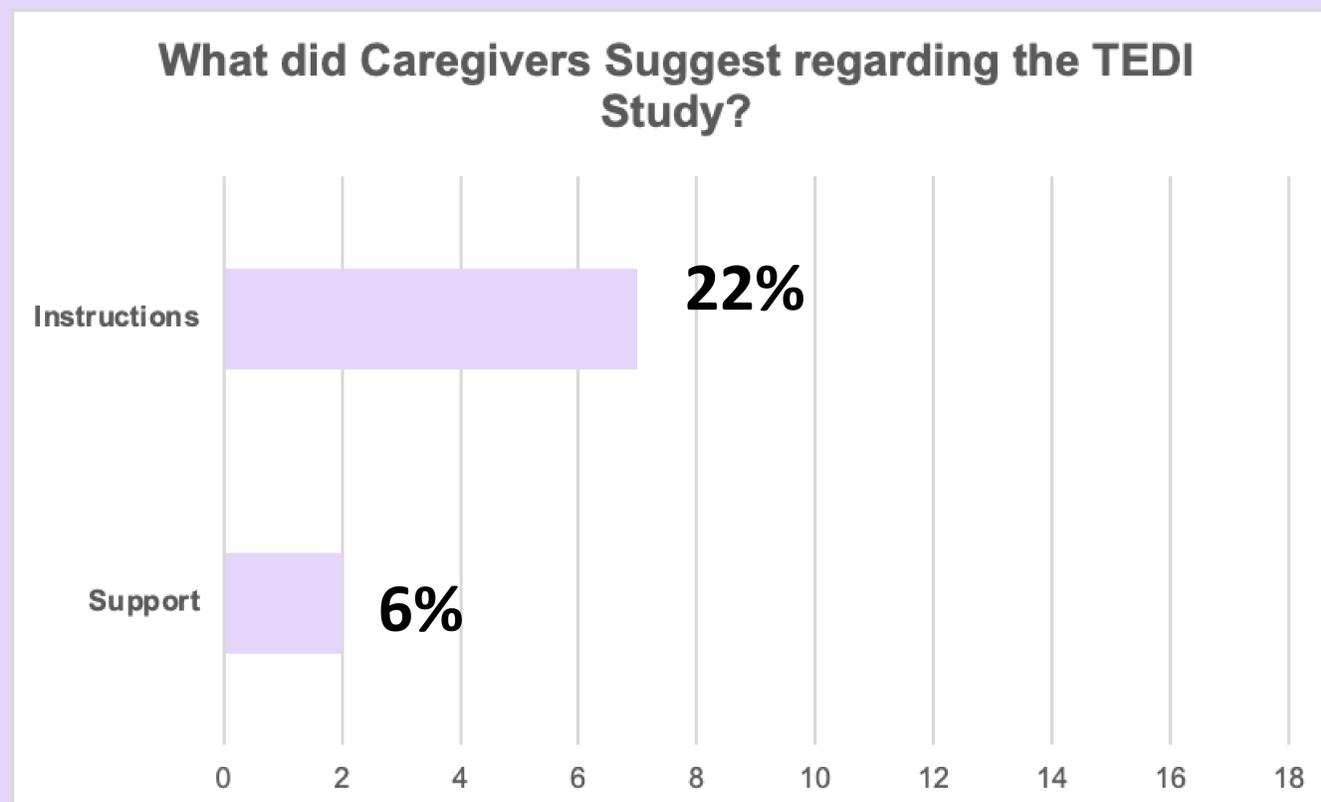
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