

**UC Davis**  
**Pediatrics**

**Title**

Psychosocial Support for Pediatric Victims of Gun Violence

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**Data Availability**

The data associated with this publication are not available for this reason: NA



## Introduction

- Psychosocial support is an important piece of the recovery for pediatric gunshot victims.
- We wanted to see how many of our pediatric patients who are victims of gun violence have had psychosocial issues and how many received psychosocial support.



Figure 1: diagram illustrating the different support offered

## Design/Sample

- This is retrospective chart review of patients 18 years and younger who presented to the tertiary level one pediatric trauma center with a gunshot injury and were seen by orthopedic surgery between 2004 and January 2023.
- Outcomes included psychosocial support, new behavioral issues, anxiety, or depression.

## Results

- 102 children identified who met the inclusion criteria
- 32% never returned for follow-up.
- 83% of all patients had a social work assessment (SWA).
- A larger percentage of those with a SWA returned for care compared to those with no SWA(68% vs 65% respectively).
- Out of the patients who returned 30% had behavioral issues, anxiety, or depression documented, this number only slightly decreased if utilizing psychosocial support 28%.
- Out of those who received psychosocial support 74% returned.

### SOCIAL WORK ASSESSMENT

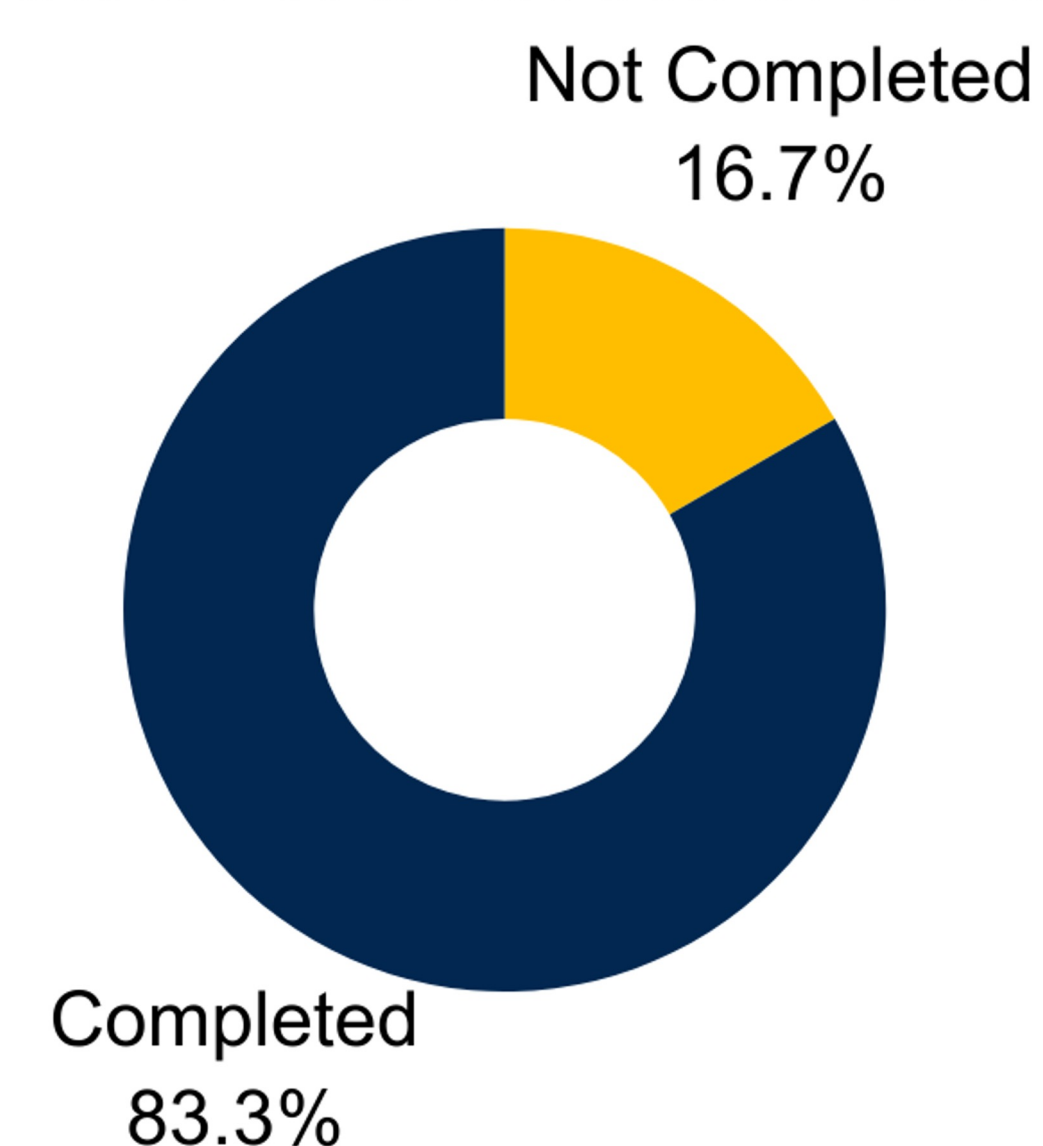


Chart 1: Social Work Assessment completion

### RETURN TO FOLLOW UP

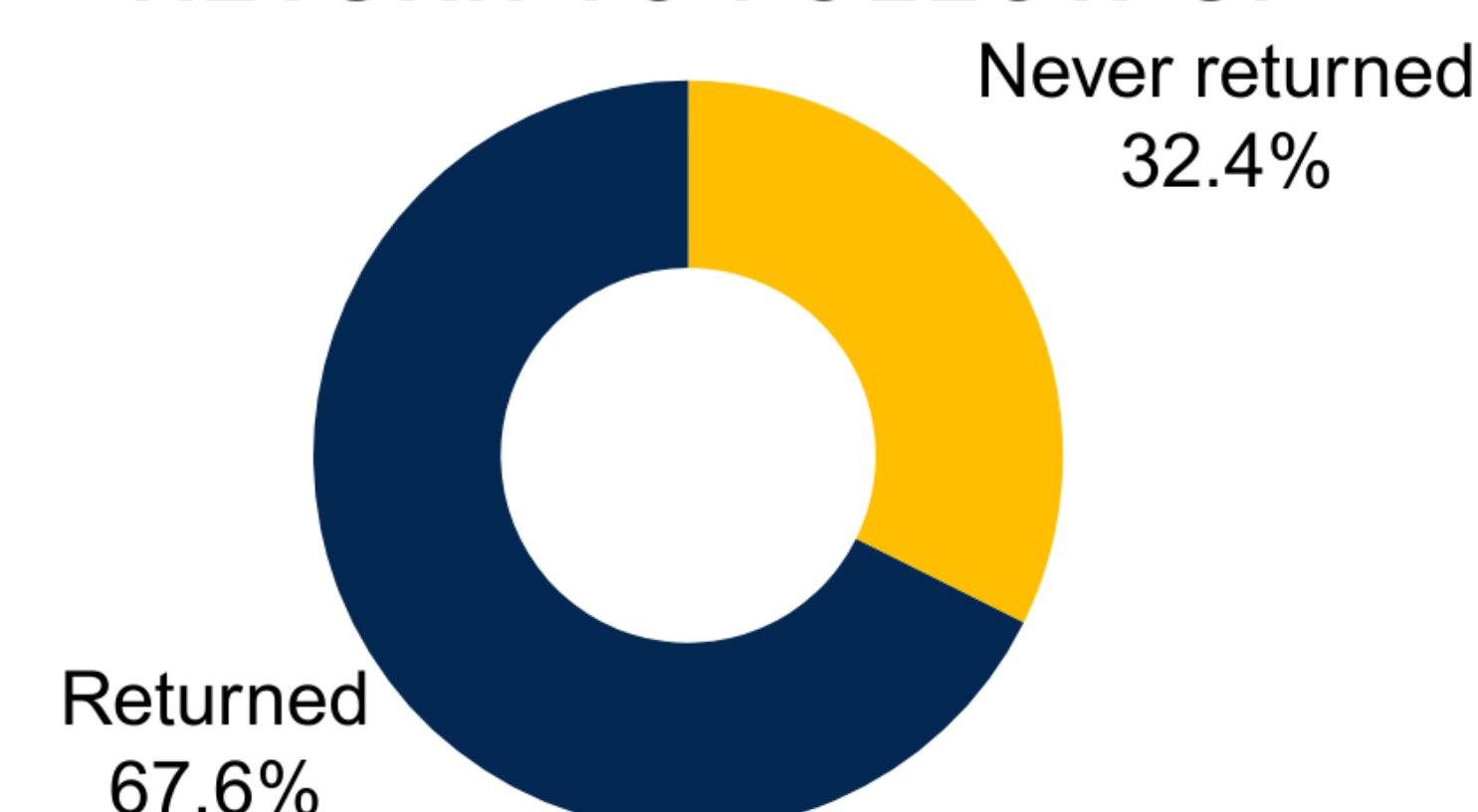


Chart 2: Follow up rate

Characteristics	Percent with Characteristic%
<b>Gender</b>	
Male	85
Female	15
<b>Race</b>	
Hispanic	34
Black	32
White	13
Mixed	12
<b>Age at injury (years)</b>	
0-5	23
6-12	18
13-16	58

Table 1: Demographics Table

## Conclusions/Further Study

- Based on the majority demographic being males of color it is important that psychosocial support options cater to this demographic.
- The difference in return rate suggests the social work assessments may be useful for helping patients return for care. Receiving psychosocial support showed decreased loss to follow up.
- Continuing to find tools that improve return rates and address psychosocial needs can improve care for these patients.

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## References

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