# What's Your ETA for Improved PX? Best Practices from Emory Healthcare

July 23, 2024



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## Our Moderator

**Dr. Stephanie Frisch, PhD, MSN, RN, CEN, CCRN-K**Director of Nursing
Vital



### THE BERYL X Vital

## What's Your ETA for Improved PX?

Best Practices from Emory Healthcare

<><< Tuesday, July 23rd at 2 pm ET >>>>>



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Vital



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# Emory's Transformation Office Strategy

### Ambition, Outcomes, and "One Emory"

### "One Emory"

- ✓ **Goal:** Create a unified standard for seamless and accessible experiences across all care modalities and sites to ensure equitable care outcomes.
- ✓ **Approach:** Foster cross-functional collaboration focused on prioritizing the best interests of patients and the healthcare system.

### **Ambition and Outcomes**

- ✓ National Leadership: Emory positioned as a national leader in health innovation.
- ✓ Regional Excellence: Premier Academic Medical Center (AMC) in the Southeast.
- Key Achievements: Improved patient satisfaction, enhanced employee wellness, patient growth, and equitable clinical outcomes.

## **Emory's "ETA" Principles**



### **Equity**

Equity is the cornerstone of our approach. Our unwavering commitment to prioritizing the well-being of our community and making sure no one gets left behind



### **Transparency**

We uphold our **commitment to transparency**, uncovering
and leveraging data to
identify opportunities at
Emory and drive **evidence-based decision-making** 



### **Accountability**

We set measurable and observable goals and maintain an orientation toward action in order to drive accountability and execution

### Collaboration

We excel **as problem solvers, collaborating cross functionally** to translate ideas to action and raise the bar for patient experience and access among Academic Medical Centers nationally

## Our Transformation Office is focused on four key areas



### **Operational Innovation**

Improve new and existing patients' ability to access Emory's services in a timely manner.



### **Patient Experience**

Leverage digital
technology and best
clinical practice
standards to enhance
patient experience with
improved care
navigation, interactions
with providers, and
information



### **Health Equity**

Move from sick care to wellcare, drive equity in outcomes across patient groups, and enhance public health in the communities Emory serves



### **Workforce Experience**

**Enable patient and team member safety** by reducing burnout and rote work while building adaptability, resiliency, and a culture of respect

### **Business Transformation**

Further articulate Transformation Initiatives, leverage collaborative communications to **ensure leadership and organizational alignment, and establish governance processes and KPIs** 

## **Emory + Vital: Snapshot**

### 2017

### **Vital Founded**

Launched by Emory Emergency Medicine Physician Dr. Justin Schrager and Mint.com founder Aaron Patzer.

### 2020-2023

### **Emory + Vital Partnership**

Using Vital, Emory was able to keep families better informed, boost their Google ratings, and improve staff satisfaction.

### 2019

### **Pilot launched at Emory**

The first partnership out of Emory's Innovation Hub saw the deployment of Vital at four Emory hospitals: Emory University, Johns Creek, Midtown, and Saint Joseph's.

### 2024

### **Emory as a Platform Partner**

Due to the resounding success of the initial pilot, Emory signed on as Vital's first full platform partner enabling them to achieve better outcomes in the ED, inpatient setting, patient access and beyond!

## **2020: A Tipping Point for Emory Johns Creek**



Staff Burden Staff inundated with requests for updates on tests, imaging, etc. Constantly running and unable to focus on providing great care.





Survey Feedback At the end of 2019, our ER LTR was 14.3, with patients saying they felt abandoned and no one was giving them information on how long care would take.



System Goals

With our HCAHPS goals low, there was pressure to turnaround the score to improve our ER patient experience.



**Throughput** 

Our community was growing and we were facing increased ER volumes. This triggered new emphasis on measuring patient throughput.



Physician Led The founder, Dr. Schrager, was an ER physician from our sister hospital. We knew he understood challenges facing patients, providers and staff.

## **Implementation Timeline**

Jan. 8, 2020

## Initial Presentation

Vital presents platform to PT XP leaders.

Mar. 9, 2020

### **EJCH Go-Live**

Emory Johns Creek Hospital goes live with Vital. Jan. 2024

### **Launch feedback tool**

Emory Johns Creek Hospital initiates feedback tool and sees growth in improvement.

Feb. 2020

### **Initial Go-Live**

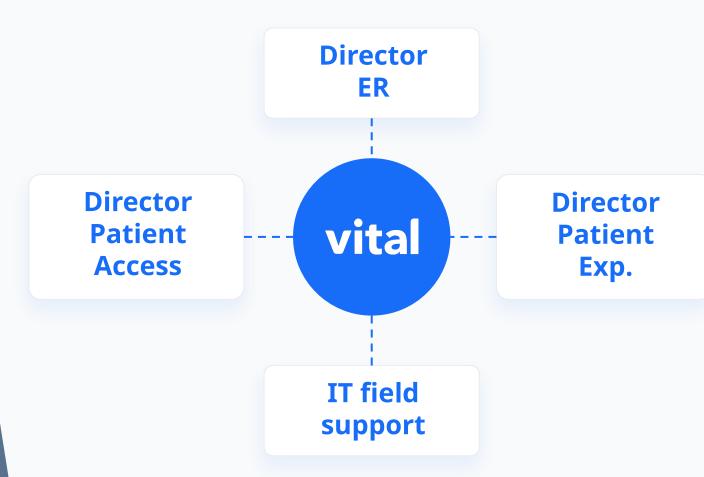
Emory University
Hospital and Emory
Midtown Hospital go
live with Vital.

Mar. 14, 2020

**Emory shuts down** to visitors



## **Implementation Team**



## BARRIERS TO IMPLEMENTATION

- Patients' fears of spam
- Clinical staff afraid it would be punitive
- Providers concerned about accuracy and expectations
- Registration staff concerned about troubleshooting and scripting
- Cumbersome WiFi network





# How do we measure success?



## THE MAGIC IS IN THE MESSAGING

vital

VITALER.COM

### Scripting | FAQ | Support

### Scripting

"This Emergency Department uses text messages to keep our patients updated on their wait times. We have the following number xxxxxxxxxxxxx listed on file for you, is that still your preferred cell phone number? After you register, you will receive a text message at the cell phone number on file within 5 minutes with a link to login on your phone."

The Text Message The Patient Will Receive Hi, welcome to Emory Johns Creek Hospital. See your own wait time and next steps by visiting https://er.emory.vitaler.com/login/SwEQII/NrQDXMA

#### FAQ

#### Patient doesn't receive a text message

- Verify the patient's cell phone number is updated and correct.
- 2. Ensure the patient has a smartphone.
- 3. The initial text may take up to 5 minutes to receive.

### Patient received the text, but the website won't load

- Advise the patient to disconnect from the wi-fi or turn the wi-fi off completely.
- OR use Emory Guest Network and accept terms\*.

"Important: If the patient is connected to Emory Guest Network but has not signed in or accepted Emory's terms, the wi-fi will appear to be connected but will NOT work.

### The patient/family claims to have input the correct information, but is unable to log in

- 1. Cross reference registration information and what patient is entering.
- 2. Remind the patient that the login information is the patient's information.

#### The patient wants their family member to log into for them

- 1. Vital will send a text to whatever cell phone number is listed in the registration system.
- 2. If the cell number is updated in the registration system, the patient/family will get a text.

#### Questions about why the wait times have changed

- Estimated wait times are based on several factors such as the number of patients being treated in the ER, room availability, and pending lab results.
- 2. Estimates are subject to change. The times are recalculated multiple times per second.

Vital Support: Email: support@vitaler.com / Phone: (800) 886-9125



## Want to know your wait times?

C

What will happen next



Wait times and updates on your mobile phone



Live updates on status of labs

If you have not yet received an invite text message, please provide the registration desk with your mobile number.

Hi John

Based on current conditions in the ED

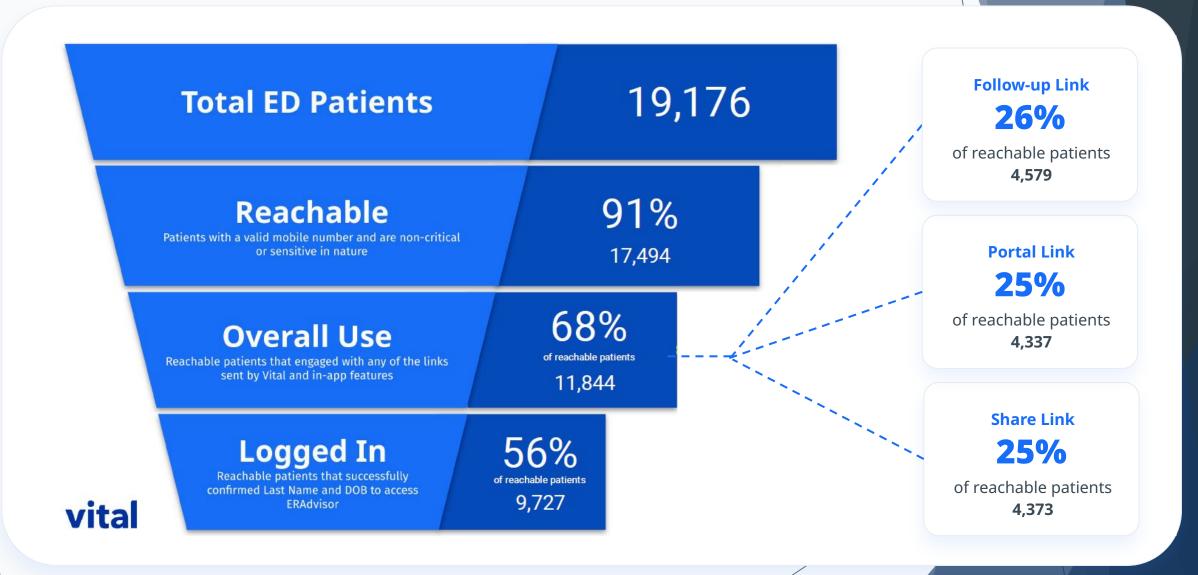
You'll get a bed in about

40min

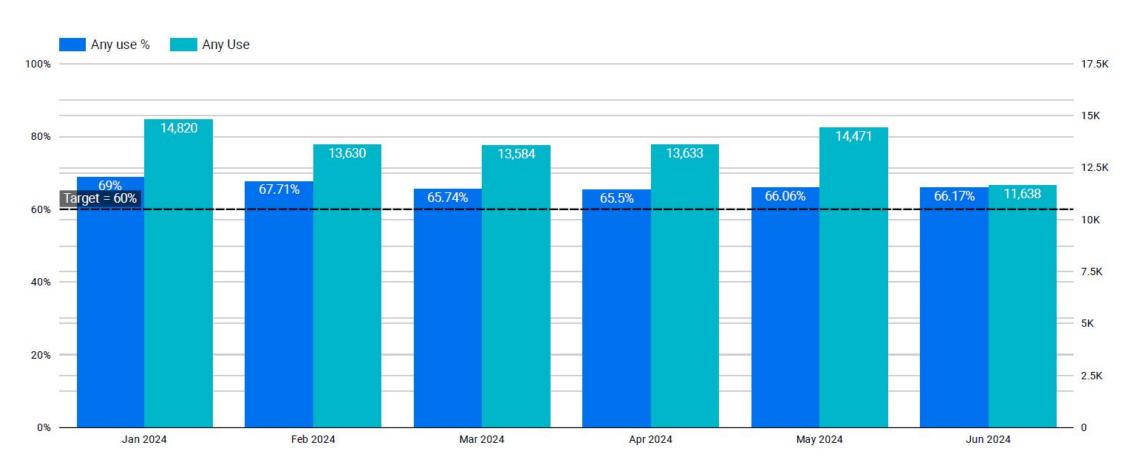
If the ED becomes busier, this could take 1 hour.



## **Current Utilization Rates | H1 2024**

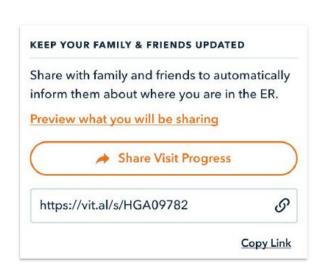


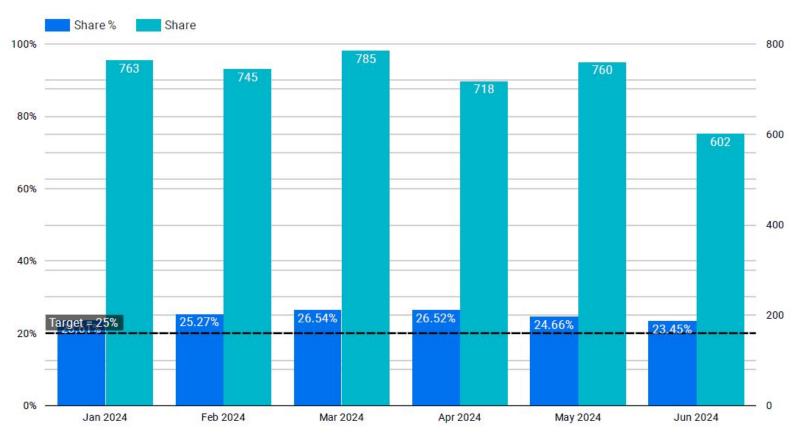
## Overall Use at EJCH | H1 2024





## **Keeping Family Informed | H1 2024**

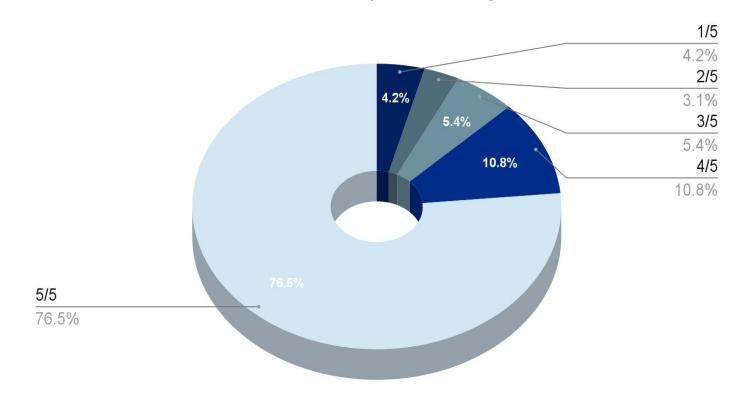






## **Vital Average Rating Distribution**

### **Distributed Patient Experience Ratings H1 '24**



4.5 stars

Average Rating (H1 '24)

779

**Total Responses (H1 '24)** 

## **Emory Patient Comments**

From Emory Johns Creek Experience Management Survey



Thank you to David who conducted my CT Scan for providing me warm blankets. It was a kind act to make me comfortable while received care."

06/30/2024



The staff is always phenomenal! Big shout out to the whole care staff..
I'm never a number I'm always treated like a person. Thank you!!"

06/20/2024



Saw me quickly and provided great care, answered all questions and quickly addressed pain and moved to diagnostics."

05/25/2024



## **Service Recovery and Accountability**

### **SERVICE RECOVERY**

"I'm in observation right now for passing a kidney stone. I have never experienced pain like this in my life, which is why I came to the emergency department. The first time **I advised the nurse that** the medication given to me was not working, she stated, "so it's bearable" and left. I just notified the nurses station in observation that I was again in pain at 2:45am and they advised they would let the nurse know. It is now 3:30am and I have had no update or check. I'm supposed to be laying down and there are signs advising to call for assistance. I cannot lay down due to pain. I feel that I am being marginalized and that my size is not being taken **into account** with the prescription of my pain medications. I didn't come here to wait in agony."

### **RECOGNITION**

"All so far, Nurse, Doctor, even front desk and triage were wonderful. I'm literally never going to again."

"My caregiver doctor I can't remember her name and the ct scan person please please let them know how amazing they were. I had just got into an accident and they just made me feel so comfortable and honestly I have never gotten treated like this ever at any hospital."

## **Staff Engagement**

It's great that I can see there's a concern and I can just swing by the room to check on how things are going. With one patient, he had given us a 1 star and I went in to check in on him. He was pleased with the recovery and next thing I saw, he had changed to a 5 star review!"

**ER Charge Nurse** 

We really don't manage any of the process after the patient checks in with their mobile number at registration. It's RARE if something is needed pertaining to VitalER support. It's really low impact on our workflows!"

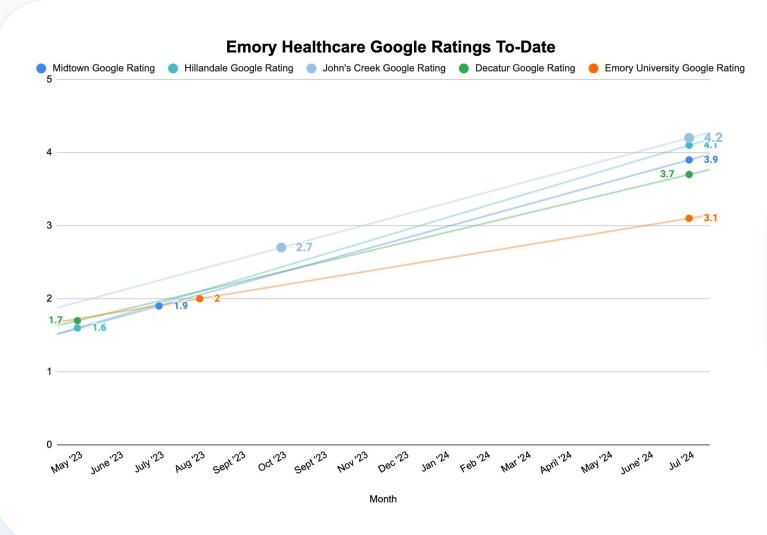
**Director, Registration** 

I love to share the compliments at huddle and send recognition to those who the patients thank for going above and beyond."

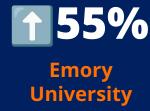
**Director, Emergency Services** 



## **Emory Google Ratings**





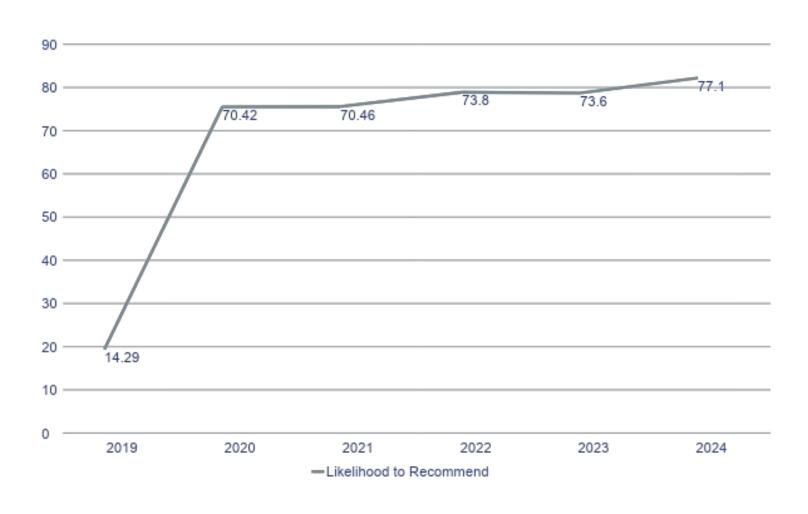




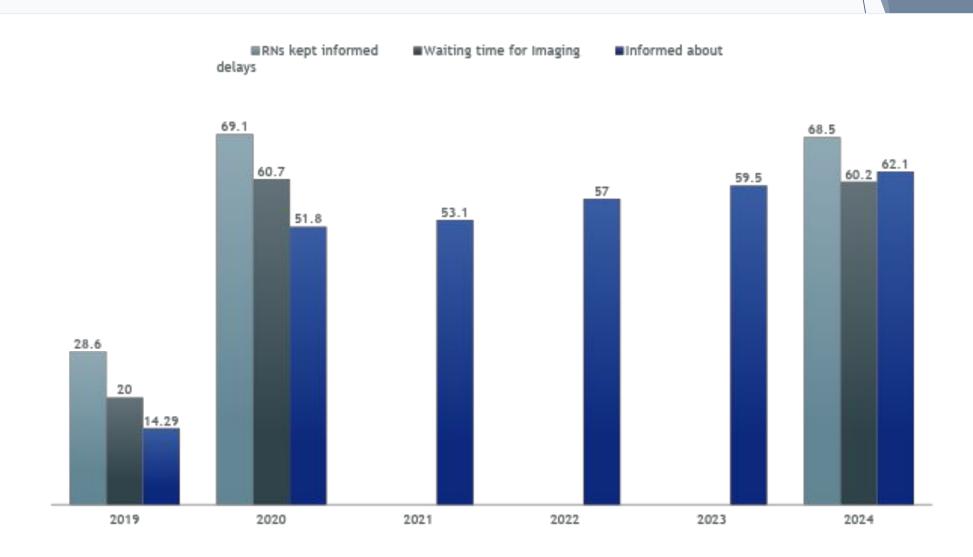




## **Impact - Likelihood to Recommend**

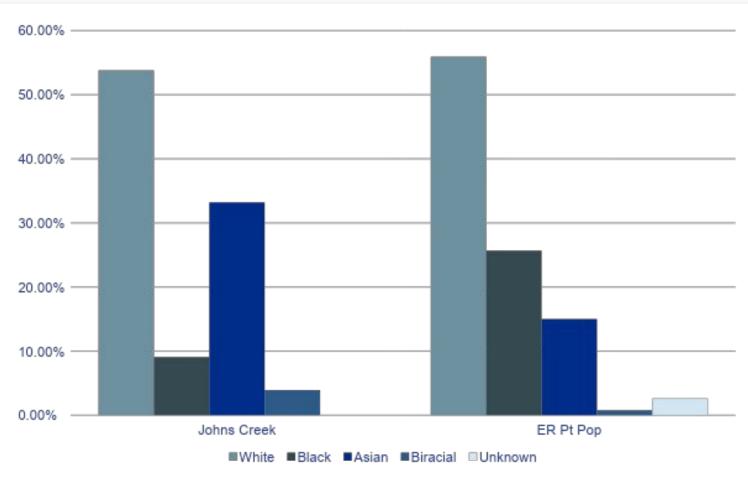


## **Specific Measures**



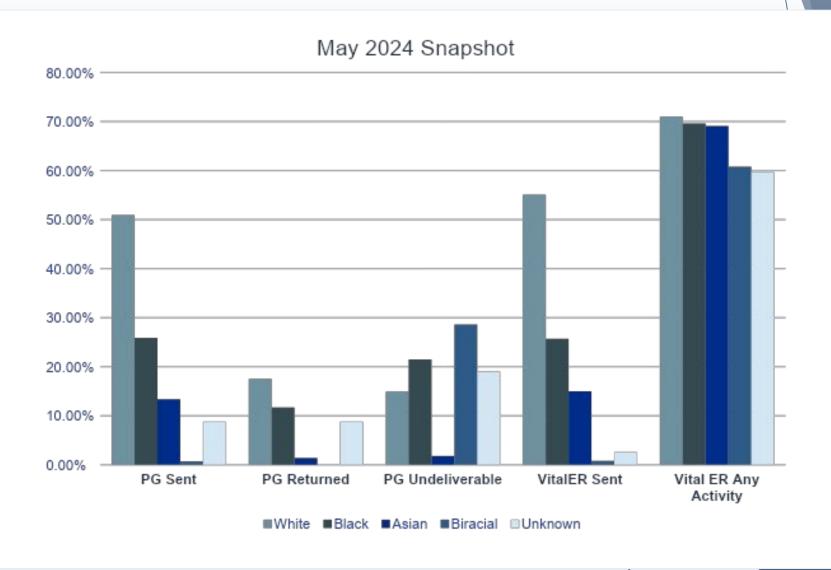
### The Impact of Vital on Equity in the ER

Community Population vs. Patient Population



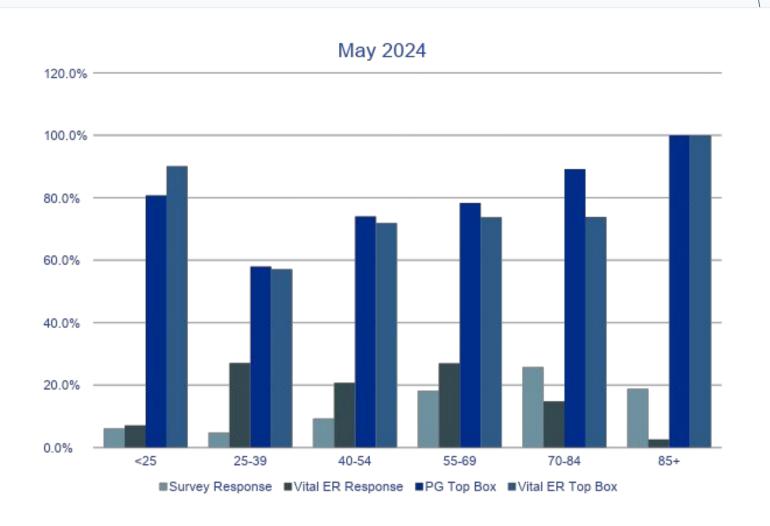
\*Johns Creek census data from American Community Survey data.

## **Overcoming Under-Representation Bias**



## Press Ganey vs. Vital

Response & Top Box Rating





# Emory's Transformation Office Vision

## **Emory's Patient Experience Future**

### Guiding the design & delivery of patient experiences...

- Create intuitive paths to care
- ✓ Instill confidence by always being on top of patient needs
- Respect our patient's time and priorities
- Show up as a unified system across all 'sites' of care
- Care for the whole patient, beyond their clinical needs
- ✓ Provide care beyond Emory's physical footprint

## ...while empowering and creating a positive environment for our clinicians and staff.

- Foster a culture of well-being across EHC
- Embed a service excellence mindset in everything we do
- ✓ Enable providers to work at the top of their license and staff to efficiently support patients







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## Upcoming Events & Programs

### **WEBINARS**

July 30 | The Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences in Pediatric and Adult

Healthcare

August 6 | Unleashing Collective Potential: The Power of Team-Based Leader

Rounding in Elevating Patient Care

August 15 | The Hospitality Effect: Creating a Culture to Improve Care & Outcomes

### CONNECTION CALLS/CHATS

July 24 | PX Connect Live - Patient Rounding

August 7 | Volunteer Professionals Community Connection Call - Shadowing

August 8 | Connection Call: Membership Benefits Overview

August 14 | Lost Belongings Workgroup



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Webinars are included in membership with the Institute.



