

# NAEC Annual Meeting

December 9, 2019

Baltimore, MD



# Agenda

## 1. Welcome and President's Update

- a) NAEC Operations Update
- b) 2019 Activities and Accomplishments
- c) 2020 Activities

## 2. NAEC Center Data Update

## 3. Panel Discussion: Maintaining High Quality Epilepsy Care in a Changing Environment



# President's Update

Susan Herman, MD, President



# Outgoing Board Members



Mary Zupanc, MD  
CHOC Children's  
NAEC Board Member at Large



David Labiner, MD  
Banner-University of Arizona, Tuscon  
NAEC Past President



# Thank you!



Nathan Fountain, MD  
F.E. Dreifuss Comprehensive Epilepsy Program  
NAEC President



# NAEC Board for 2020

|                         |                                                                                        |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President               | <b>Susan Herman, MD</b><br>Barrow Neurological Institute                               |
| Vice President          | <b>Fred Lado, MD, PhD</b><br>Hofstra Northwell Comprehensive Epilepsy Center           |
| Secretary/<br>Treasurer | <b>Meriem Bensalem-Owen, MD</b><br>University of Kentucky                              |
| At-large                | <b>Kevin Chapman, MD</b><br>Children's Hospital of Colorado                            |
| At-large                | <b>David Clarke, MD</b><br>Dell Children's Medical Center                              |
| At-large                | <b>Stephan Schuele, MD, MPH</b><br>Northwestern Medicine Comprehensive Epilepsy Center |
| At-large                | <b>Robert Wechsler, MD, PhD</b><br>Idaho Comprehensive Epilepsy Center at St. Luke's   |
| Past President          | <b>Nathan Fountain, MD</b><br>F.E. Dreifuss Comprehensive Epilepsy Program             |



# NAEC Epilepsy Center Accreditation

## Center Demographic (2019)

|         | Adult | Adult/Pediatric | Pediatric | Total |
|---------|-------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| Level 4 | 66    | 82              | 44        | 192   |
| Level 3 | 35    | 13              | 6         | 54    |
| Total   | 101   | 95              | 50        | 246   |

## NAEC Accredited Centers Over Time

|         | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 |
|---------|------|------|------|------|
| Level 4 | 192  | 188  | 181  | 184  |
| Level 3 | 54   | 52   | 52   | 41   |
| Total   | 246  | 240  | 233  | 225  |



# 2020 Accreditation Timeline

## November 2019

- Instructions distributed

## January 31, 2020

- Deadline to pay dues, complete Center Annual Report, and upload required documents

## February 1-15, 2020

- Review and revise period

## March 1, 2020

- Final deadline for revisions/additions
- **No materials accepted after this date**





# 2019 Accreditation Webinars

- NAEC will hold two identical webinars on the 2020 accreditation process, criteria and timeline:
  - December 16<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm eastern
  - January 9<sup>th</sup> at 12 pm eastern
- Please share with your administrators/staff who help with process!



# Accreditation Changes Taking Effect in 2020

- Level 4 Centers and Level 3 Centers that perform surgery: Neurosurgeon must be ABNS board-certified or **board-eligible and tracking towards certification**. S/he have at least 2 years of experience **or have completed an epilepsy fellowship**. Foreign-trained neurosurgeons will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Level 4 Centers: Rather than 1 intracranial VEEG case from the year before a center completing accreditation process, **centers must perform at least 1 intracranial case per year and at least 3 in the last 3 years**.
- New research questions related to genetics, psychiatric services, and telemedicine.



# Accreditation Changes Taking Effect in 2021

- **Required to have an EMU that meets certain criteria** related to staffing, set up, 24/7 monitoring
- **Center Medical Director must be board-certified in epilepsy or clinical neurophysiology (ABPN or ABCN).** Center's 2<sup>nd</sup> neurologist with expertise in epilepsy may be board-eligible rather than board-certified.
- **Centers must meet core criteria with no exception** (center would lose accreditation rather than be conditionally accredited) related to Medical Director, EMU, pediatric epilepsy specialist (Adult/Ped and Ped Centers) and neurosurgeon (Level 4 Centers)

**NAEC will send more details re:  
implementation of new criteria!**



# NAEC By-Laws Revision

- NAEC Membership Approved By-Laws Revisions Proposed by NAEC Board
  - Minor edits to reflect current practices and MN nonprofit law
  - Codification of Accreditation Committee
  - Shortening of officer terms from 4 to 3 years



# 2019 Activities and Accomplishments

## Standard Setting

- Completed 2019 accreditation cycle
- Research on neurosurgeon board certification process; developed relationship with ABNS
- Public comment process re: 2020 and 2021 criteria changes
- Comments on AAN's revisions to Epilepsy Quality Measures and participated in panel that updated measures
- Collaborated with ACNS on SEEG survey re: current practices to evaluate and develop standards.

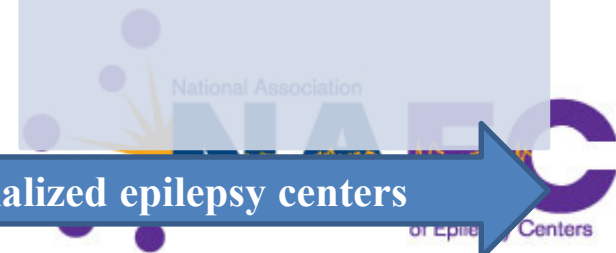
## Advocacy

- CMS and Congressional advocacy for payment levels for new long-term EEG monitoring codes
- Advocacy related to protected classes in Medicare Part D
- Advocacy with insurers re: coverage of LITT
- Analysis of Medicare rules
- Collaborations with AAN, AES, ELC, and EF

## Member Center Support

- Supporting Epilepsy Learning Health System
- Enhancements to online member center directory
- Continuous updates to NAEC website
- Respond to center-specific questions

Assuring quality epilepsy care by supporting strong specialized epilepsy centers



# 2019 Activities: Standard Setting

- Completed 2019 Accreditation cycle
- Significant research on board certification process for neurosurgeons and developed relationship with ABNS
- Completed public comment process regarding 2020 and 2021 criteria changes to solicit member feedback
- Commented on AAN's revisions to Epilepsy Quality Measures and participated in panel that updated measures.
- Collaborated with ACNS on an SEEG survey re: current practices to evaluate and develop standards.



# 2019 Activities: Advocacy

- Developed and implemented advocacy strategy re: payment levels for new long-term EEG codes
  - CMS meeting and comment letters
  - Congressional advocacy to support sign-on letter opposing CMS' proposed further reductions
  - Partnered with sister organizations (AAN, ACNS, AES, EF, ELC)
  - Education for members on new codes
- Advocacy to maintain protected classes policies in Medicare Part D
- Advocacy with insurers re: coverage of LITT
- Analysis of Medicare rules
- Collaborations with AAN, AES, ELC, and EF



# 2019 Activities: Member Center Support

- Supporting Epilepsy Learning Health System
- Enhancements to online member center directory
- Continuous updates to NAEC website
- Respond to center-specific questions





# 2020 Activities

## Standard Setting

Complete 2020 Accreditation Cycle

Update accreditation criteria for 2021 and share resources with centers regarding compliance with new criteria

Begin to draft Guideline update

## Advocacy

- Advocacy with insurers
- Analysis and advocacy re: Medicare Rules
- Collaborations with AAN, AES, ELC, and EF
- Education of members re: new long-term EEG codes

## Member Center Support

- Support Epilepsy Learning Health System
- Continuous website enhancements
- Answer center-specific questions
- Developing Center Toolkit
- Develop center marketing materials

Assuring quality epilepsy care by supporting strong specialized epilepsy centers



# 2020 Coding Changes

**AES/NAEC Session on Long-Term EEG Codes at 9:00 today - Room 316 of the Convention Center (3<sup>rd</sup> floor)**

This session will provide a historical overview of CPT Code 95951 (VEEG) and the other long term EEG monitoring services, their review by the AMA CPT Panel and Relative Value Update Committee in 2017/2018. Detailed information will be presented on the new code structure, definitions and appropriate usage. The Medicare assigned relative values and payment rates for the new codes also will be explained.



# Questions?



# NAEC Data Update

Fred Lado, MD, PhD

NAEC Vice President

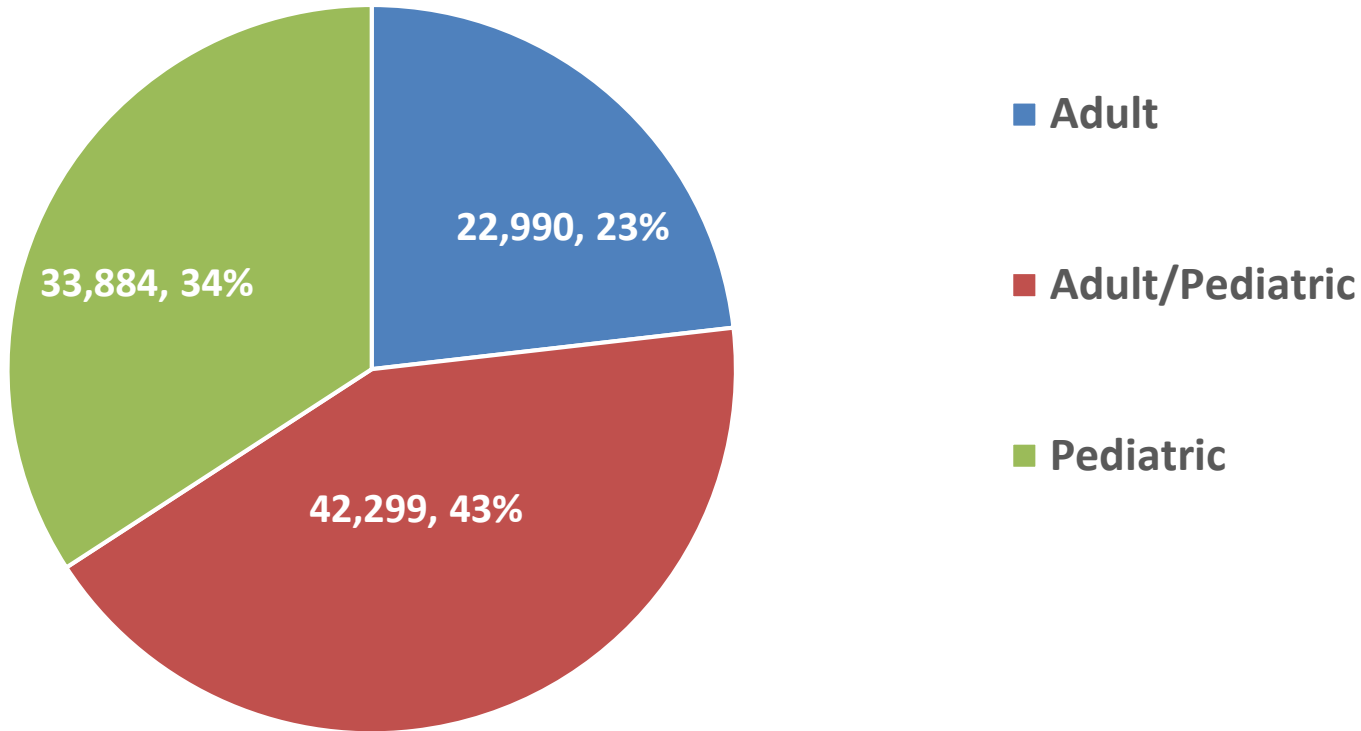


# Center Demographics

|                | <b>Adult Centers</b> | <b>Adult/Pediatric Centers</b> | <b>Pediatric Centers</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Level 3</b> | 35                   | 13                             | 6                        | 54           |
| <b>Level 4</b> | 66                   | 82                             | 44                       | 192          |
| <b>Total</b>   | 101                  | 95                             | 50                       | 246          |



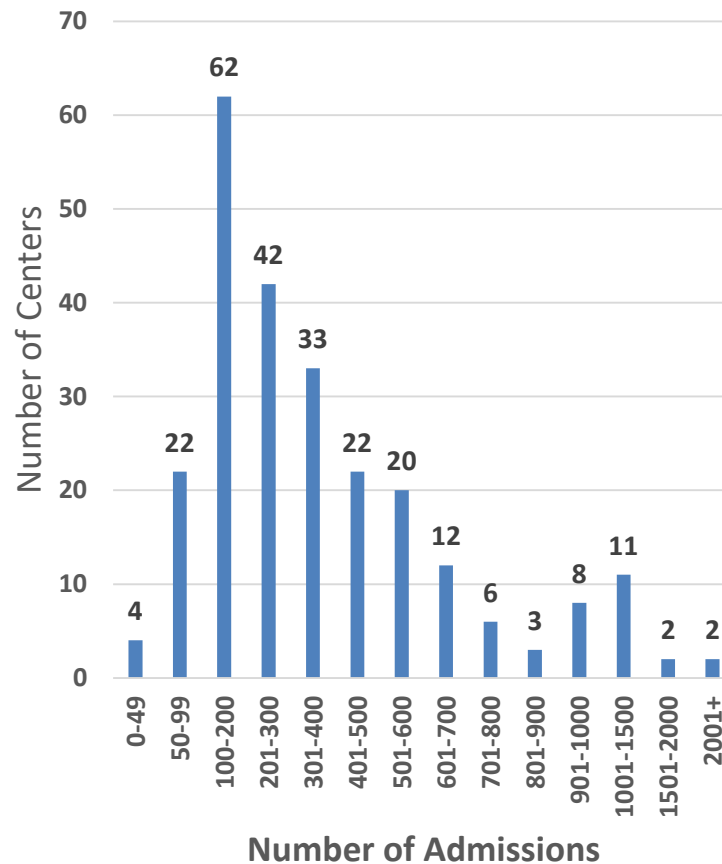
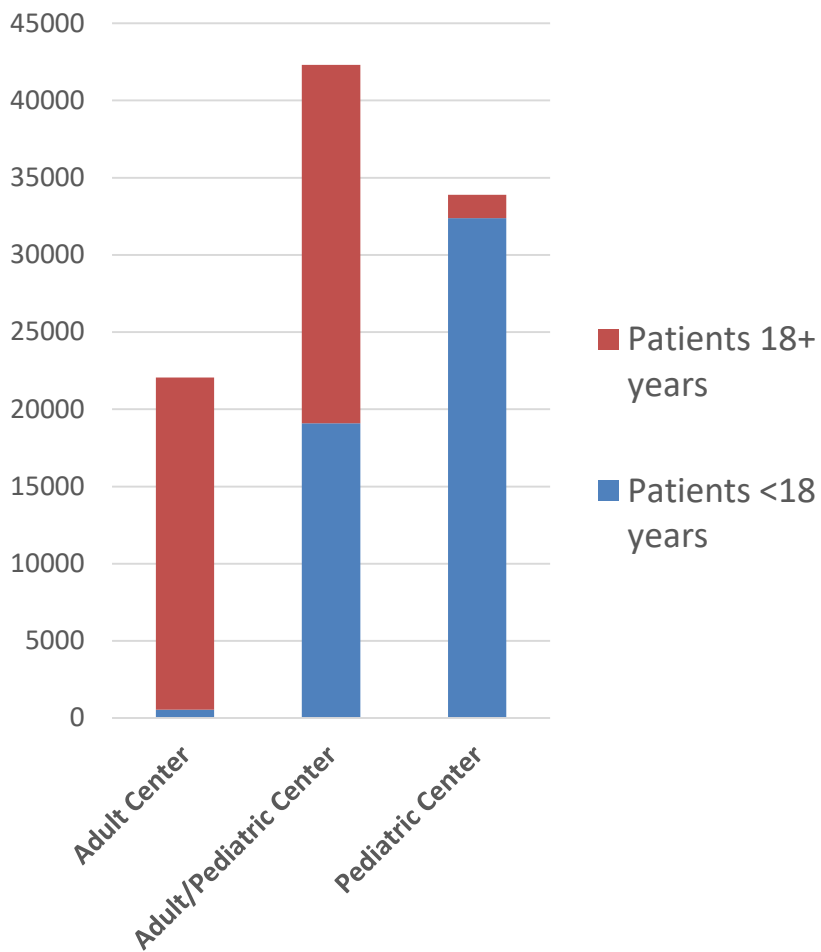
# EMU Admissions – Total Patients by Type of Center



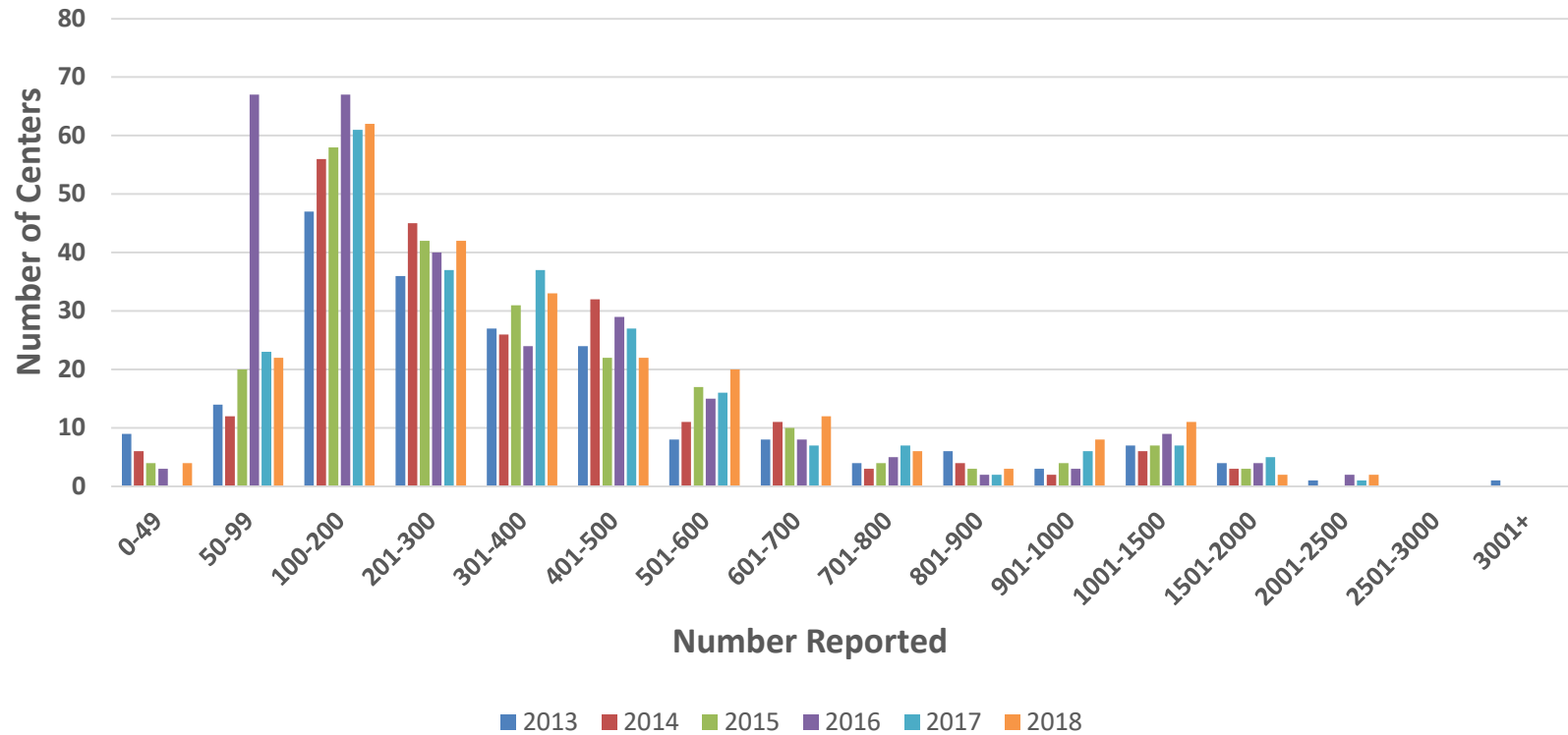
**Total EMU Admissions: 99,173**



# EMU Admissions - 2018

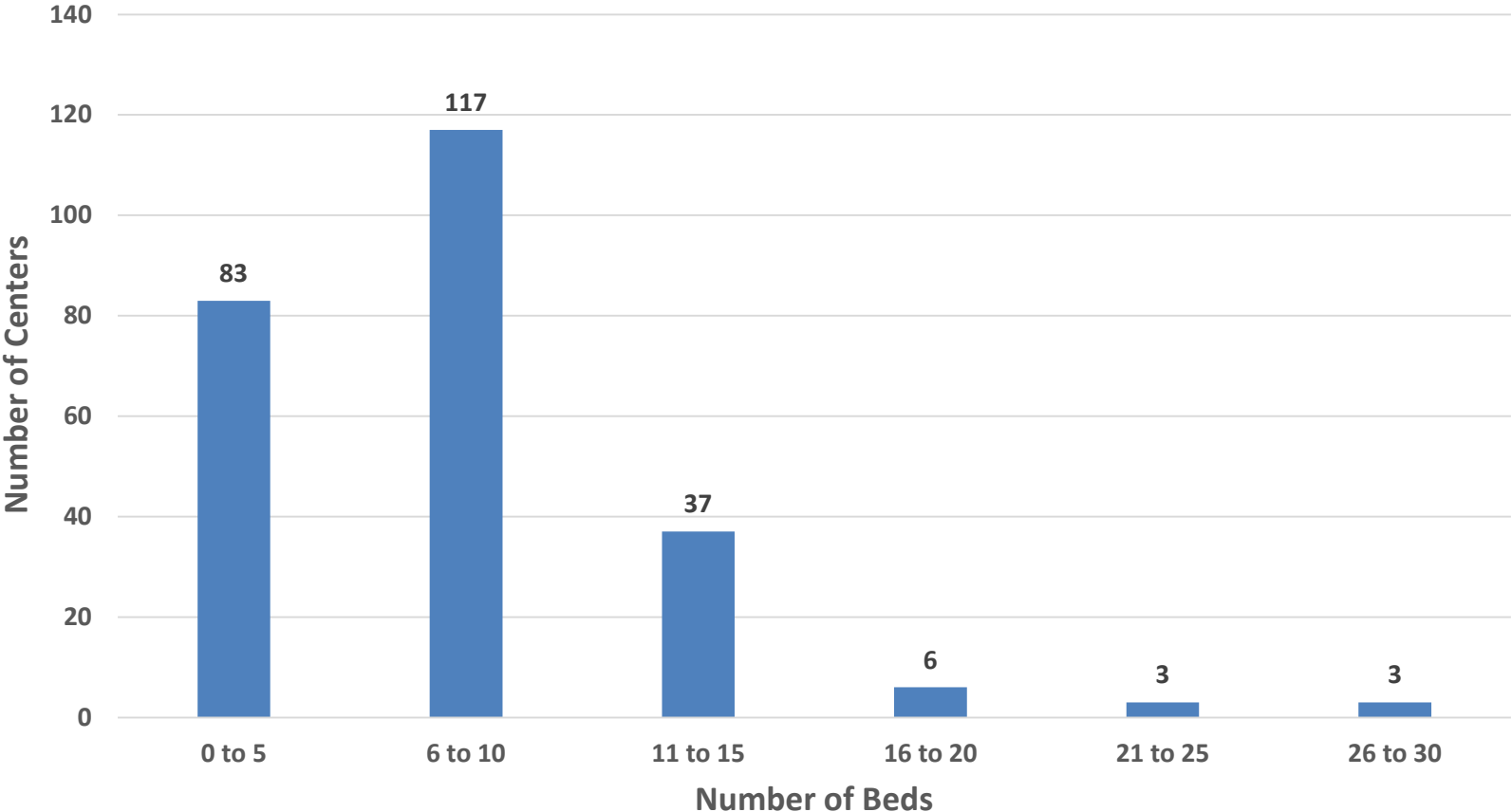


# EMU Admissions – 2013-2018

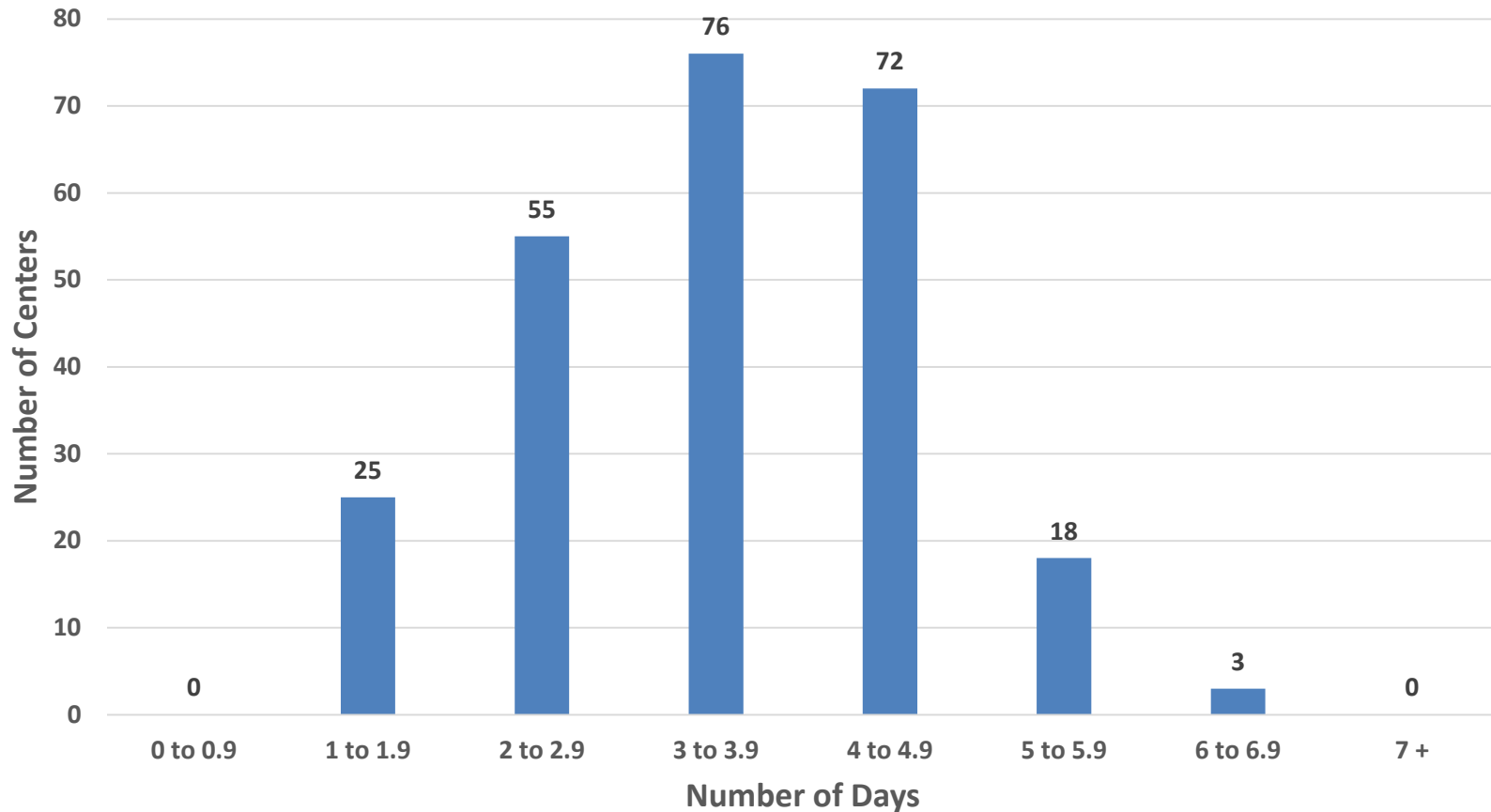




# Number of EMU Beds - 2018



# Average Length of Stay - 2018

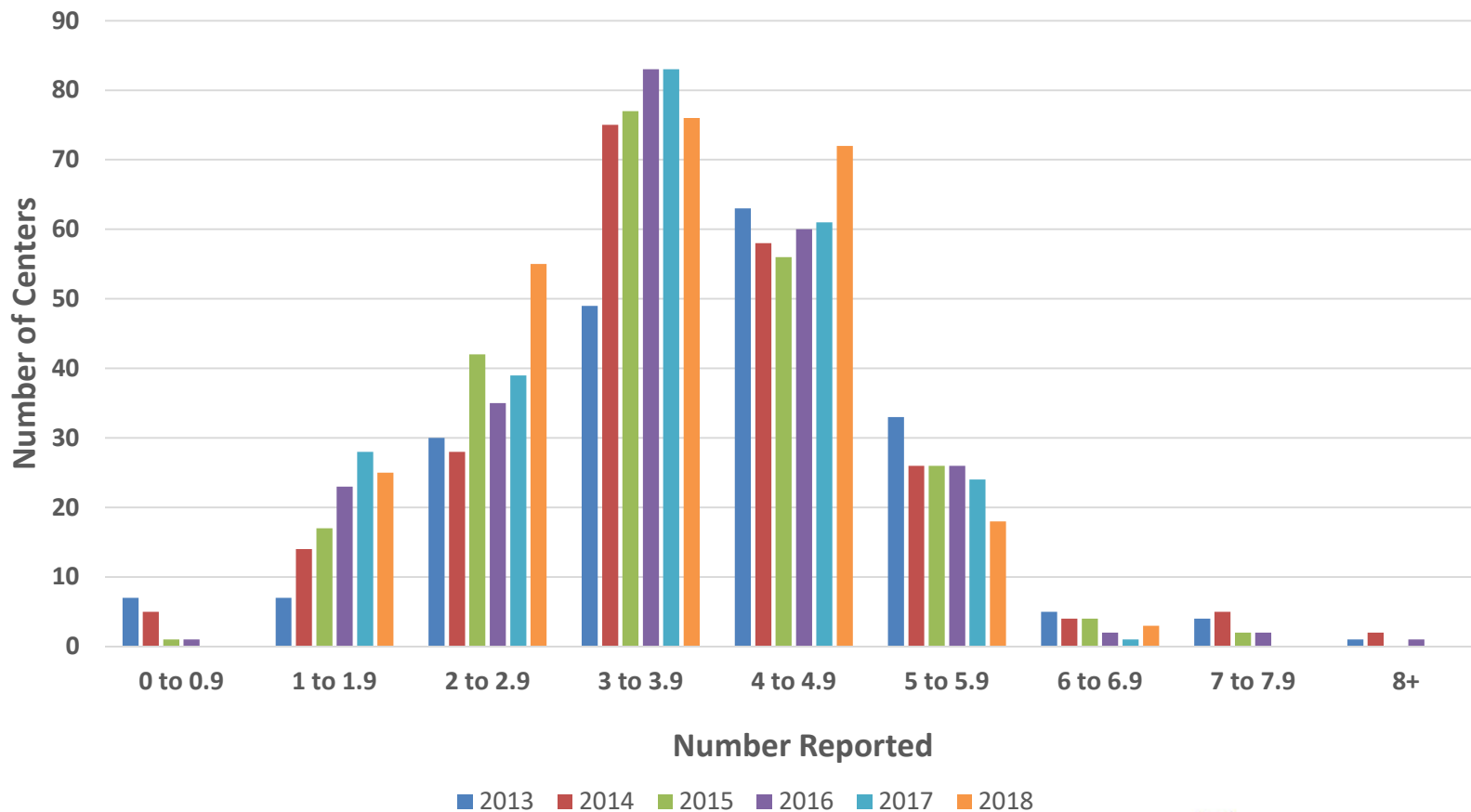


Average LOS – 3.3 days

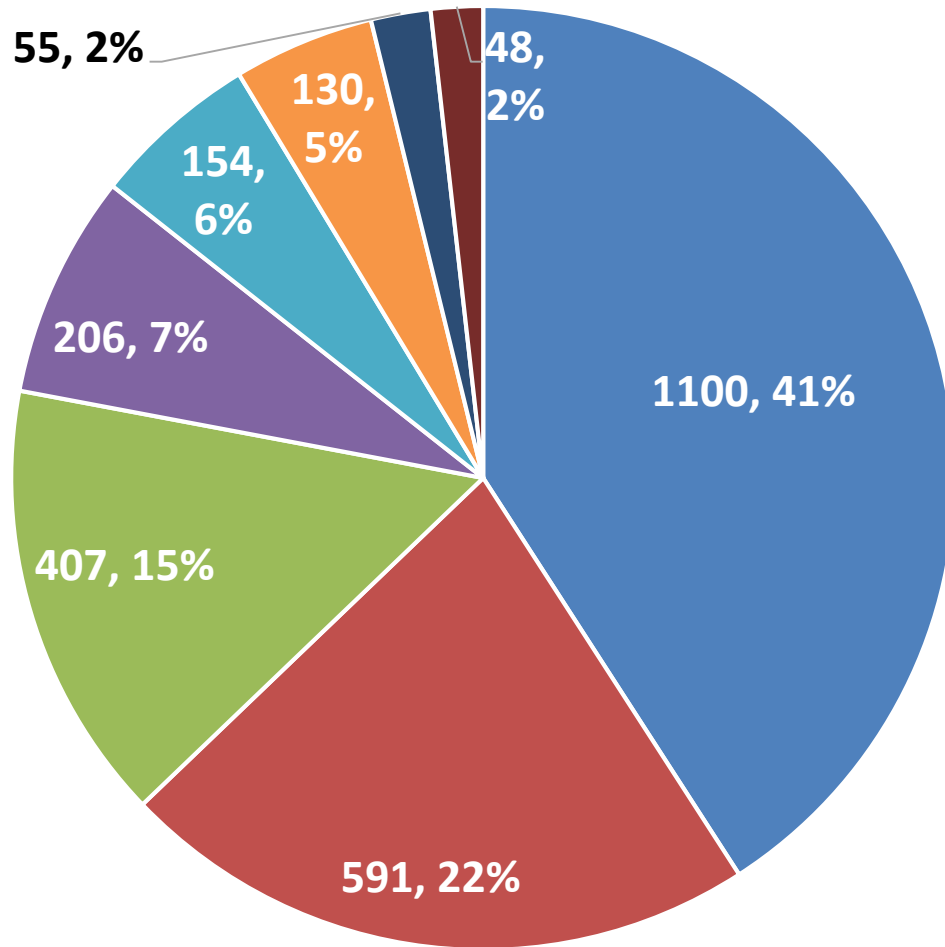
Median LOS – 3.4 days



# Average LOS – 2013-2018



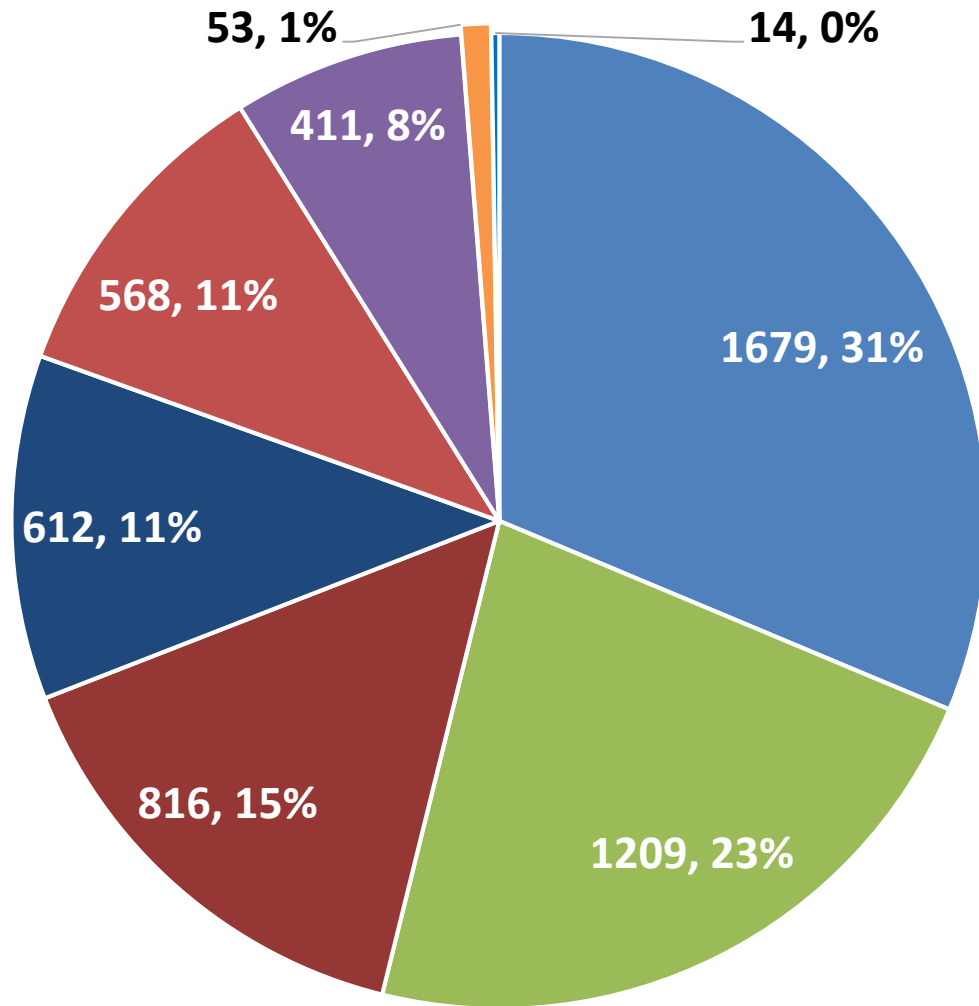
# Distribution of Procedures - Pediatric Patients



- VNS Implantations
- Extra-Temporal Resections
- Temporal Lobectomies
- Laser Ablations
- Hemispherotomies
- Corpus Callosotomies
- DBS/RNS Implantations
- ICM without Resection



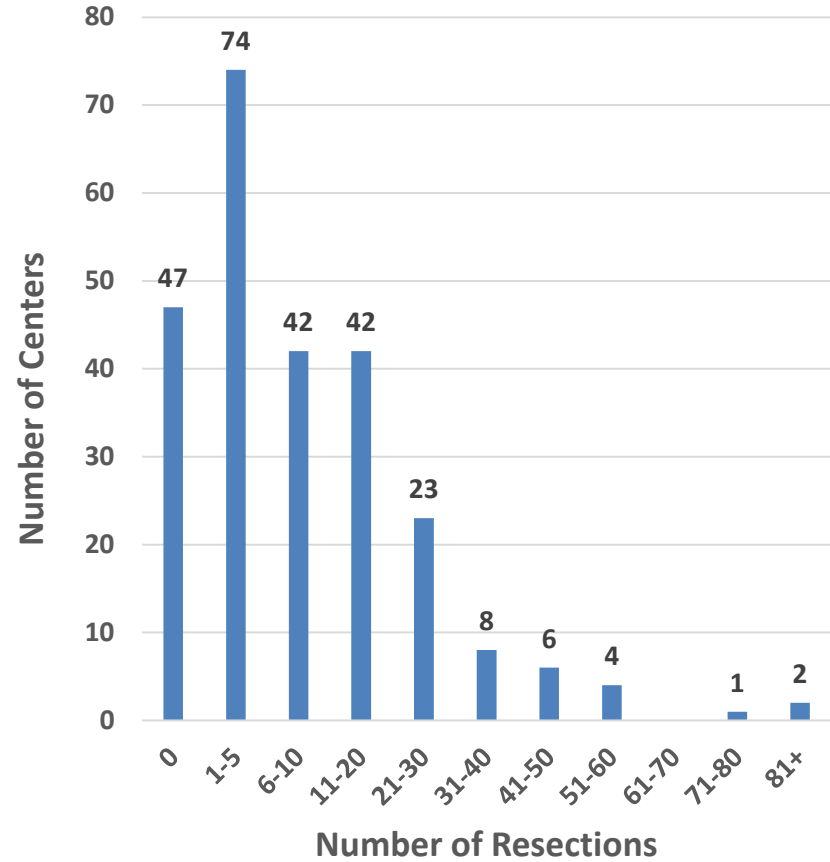
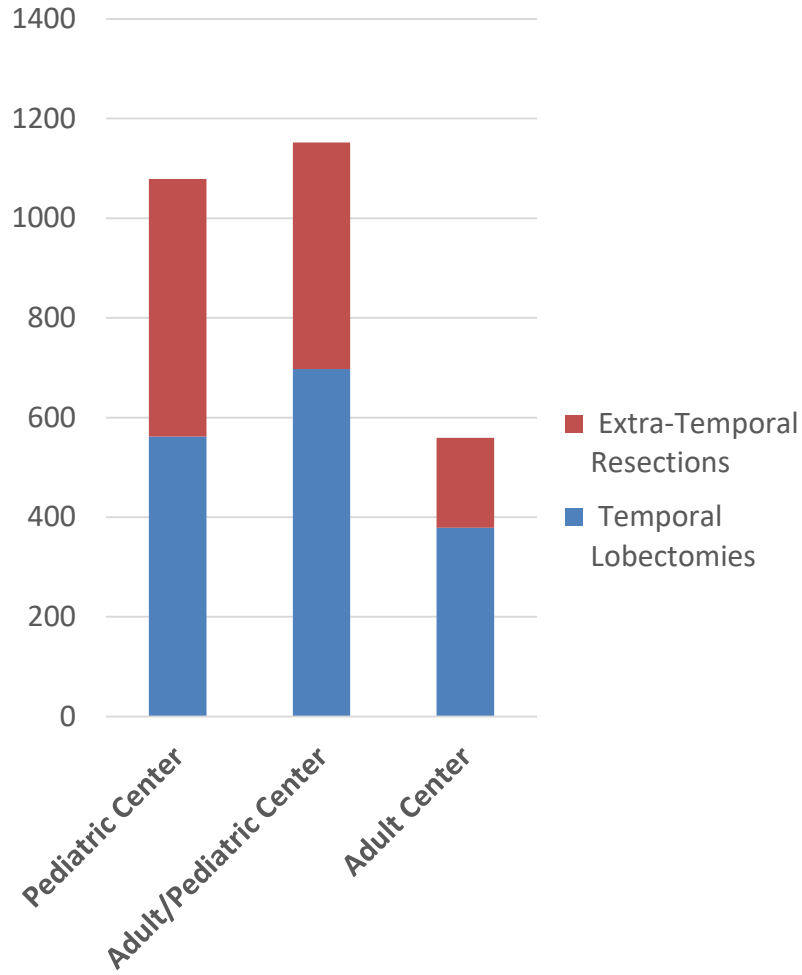
# Distribution Procedures – Adult Patients



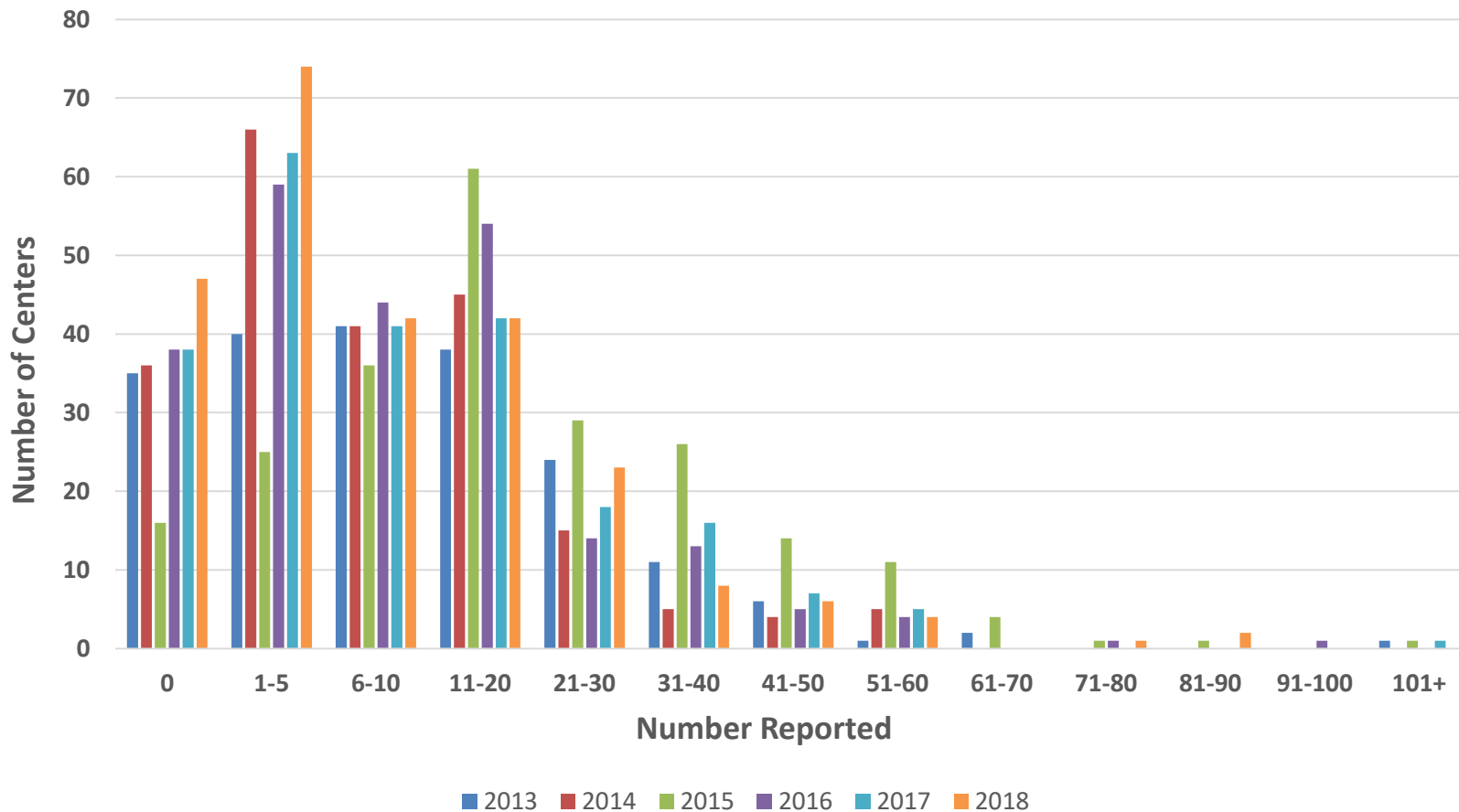
- VNS Implantations
- Temporal Lobectomies
- ICM without Resections
- DBS/RNS Implantations
- Extra-Temporal Resections
- Laser Ablations
- Corpus Callosotomies
- Hemispherotomies



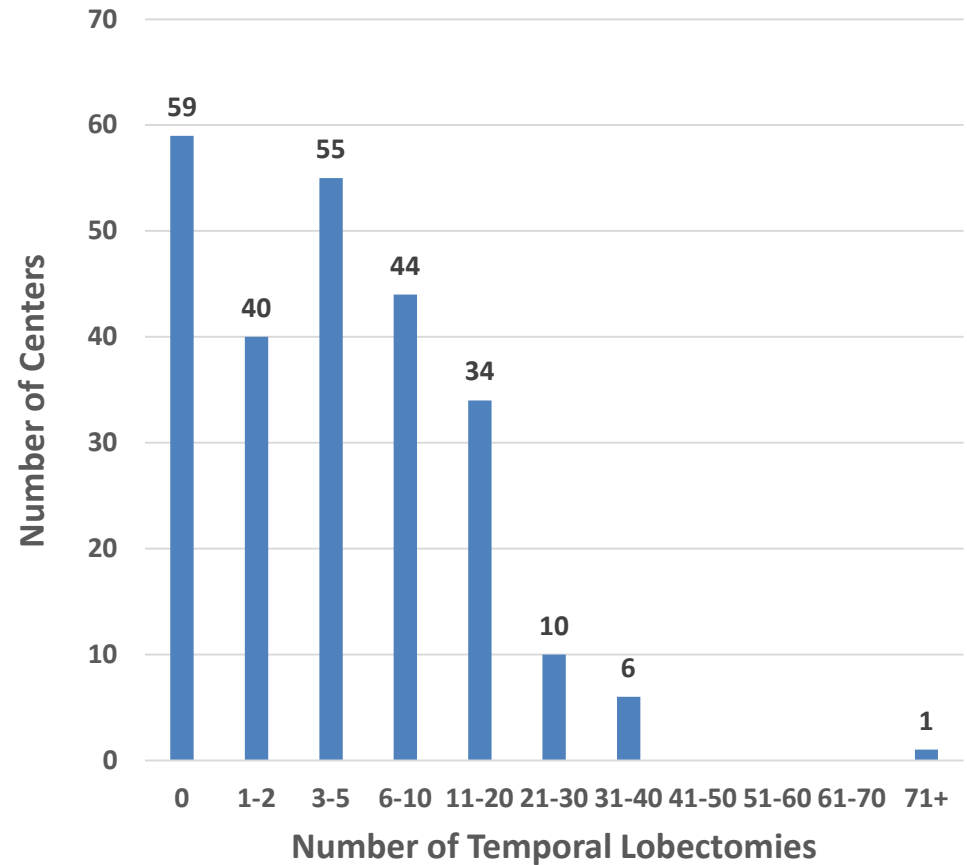
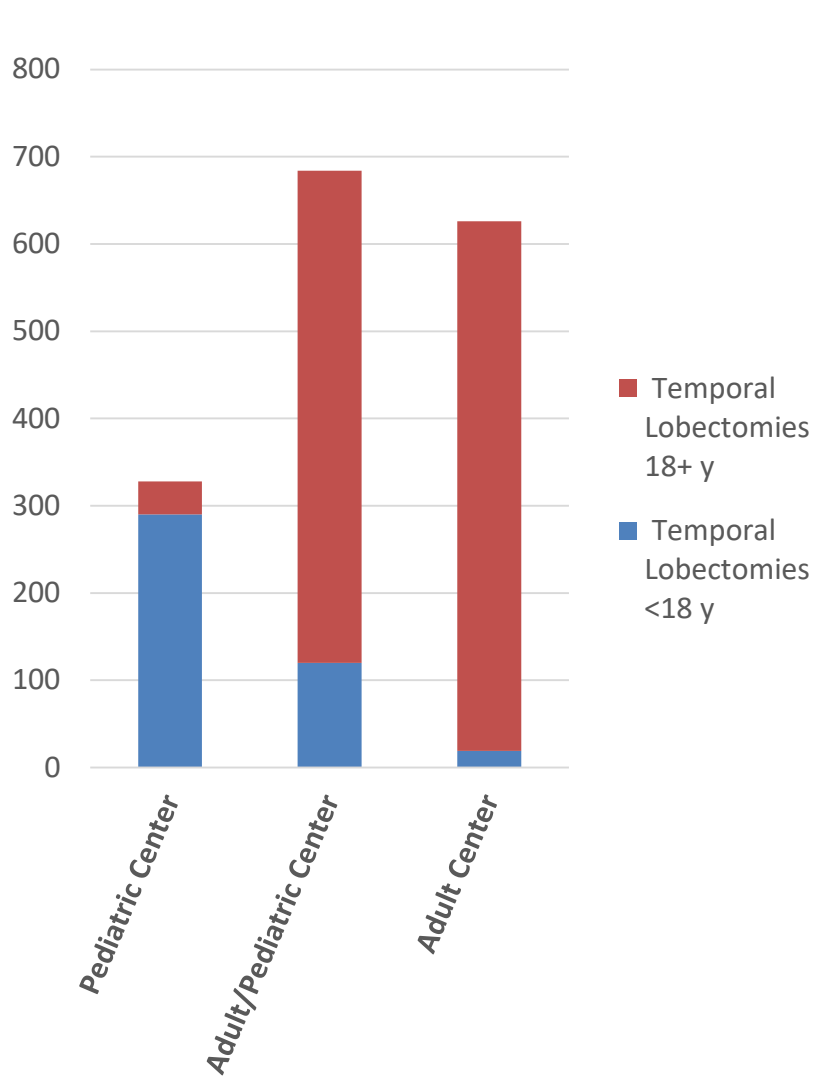
# Total Resections - 2018



# Total Resections – 2013-2018

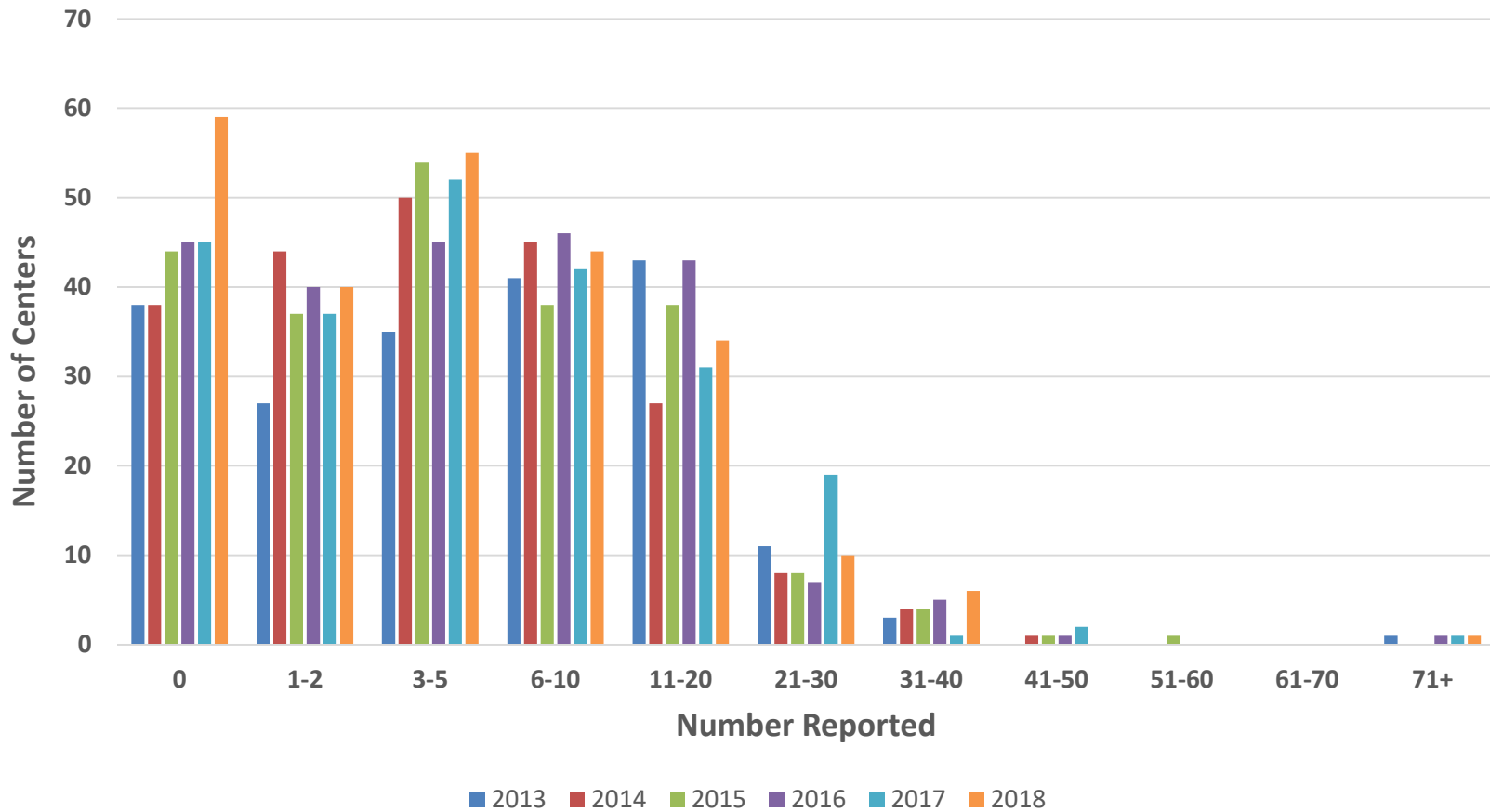


# Temporal Lobectomies – 2018

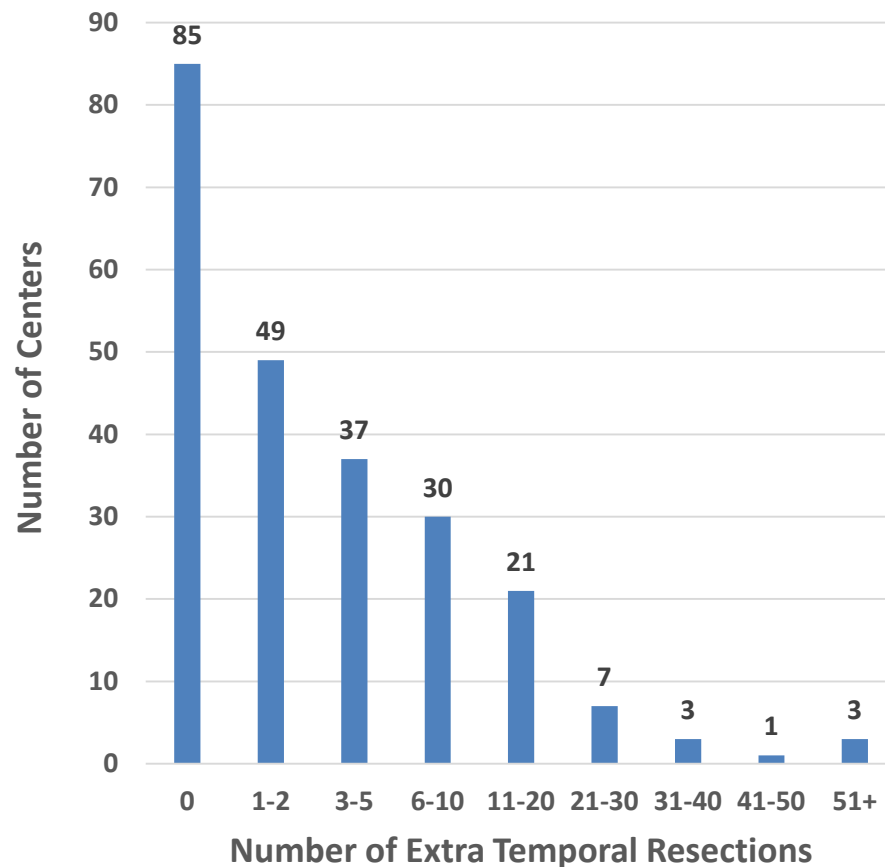
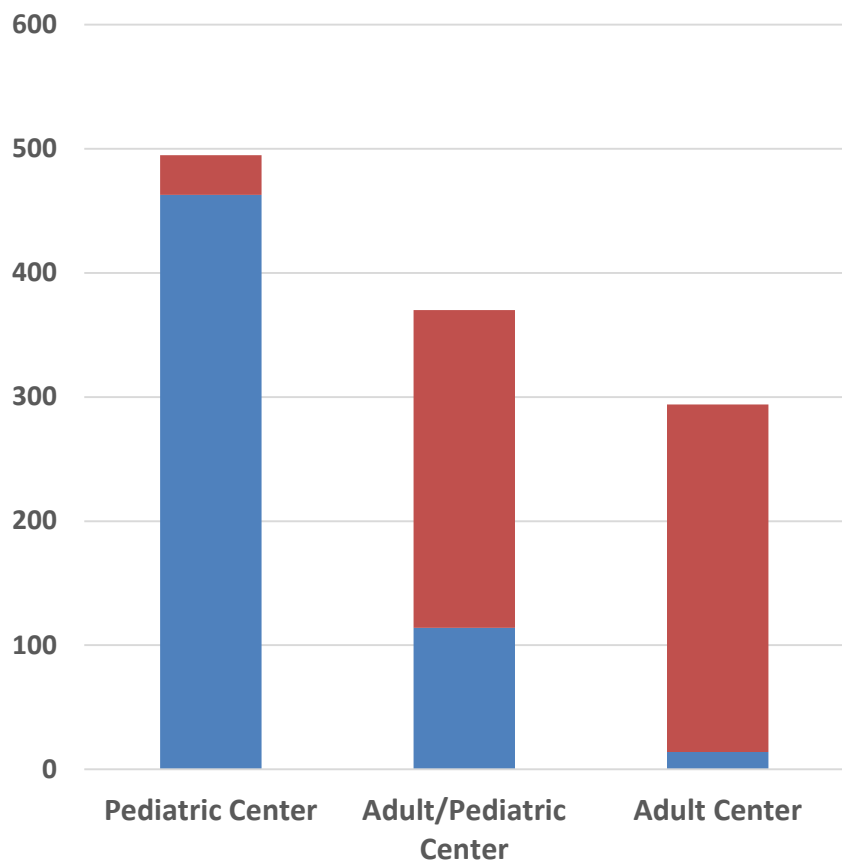




# Temporal Lobectomies – 2013-2018



# Total Extratemporal Resections - 2018

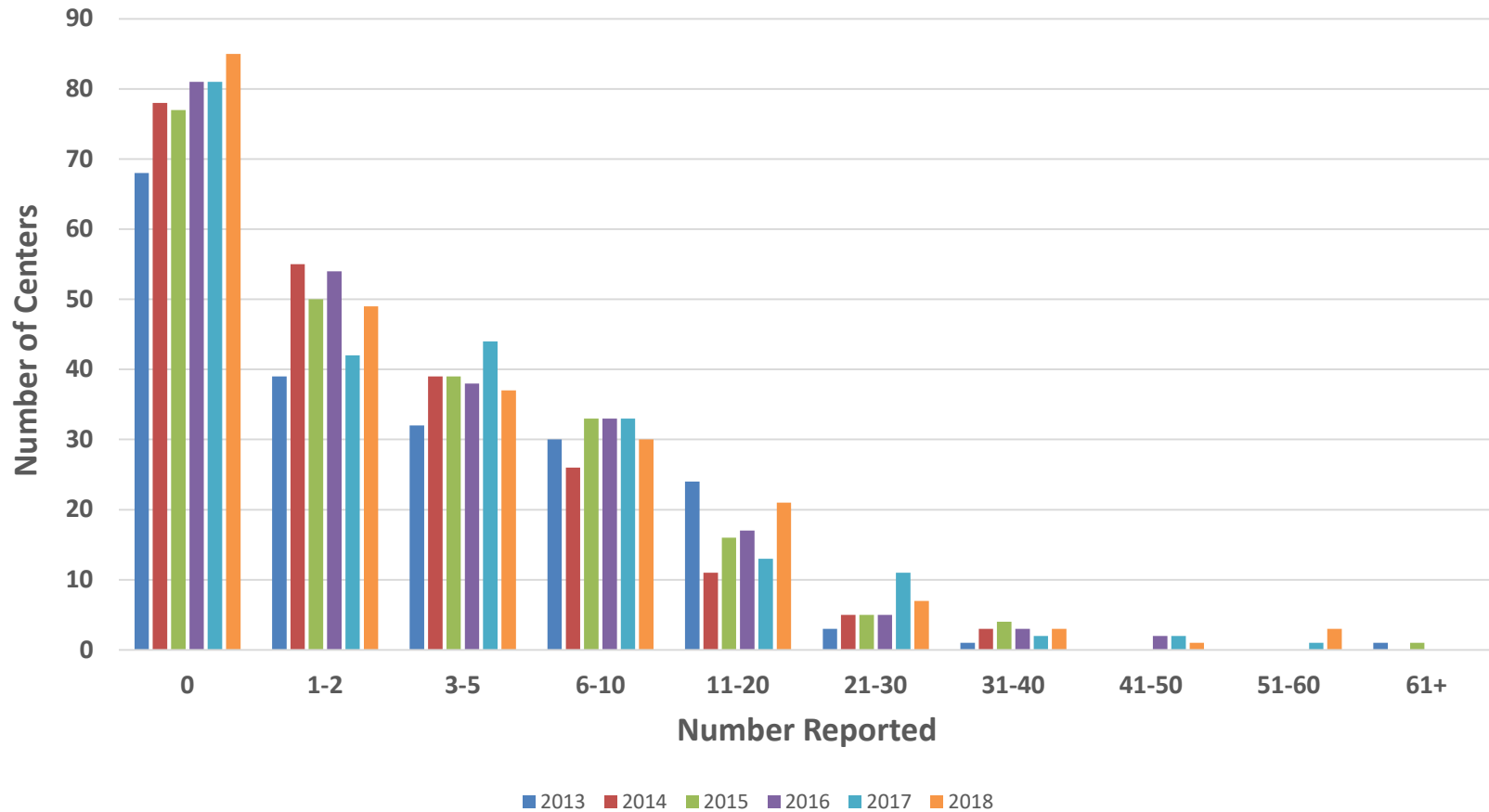


■ Extra-Temporal Resections 18+y

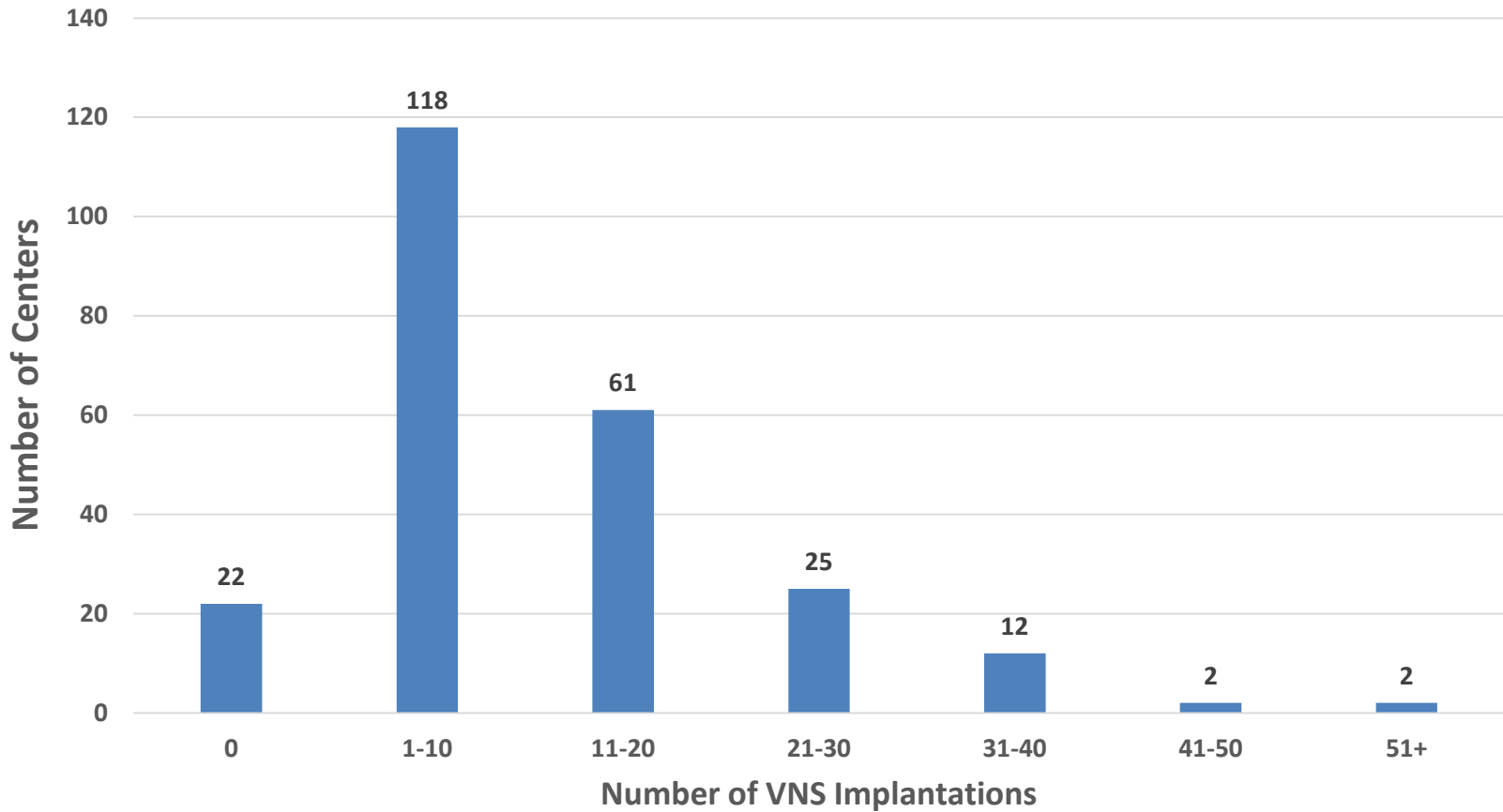
■ Extra-Temporal Resections <18



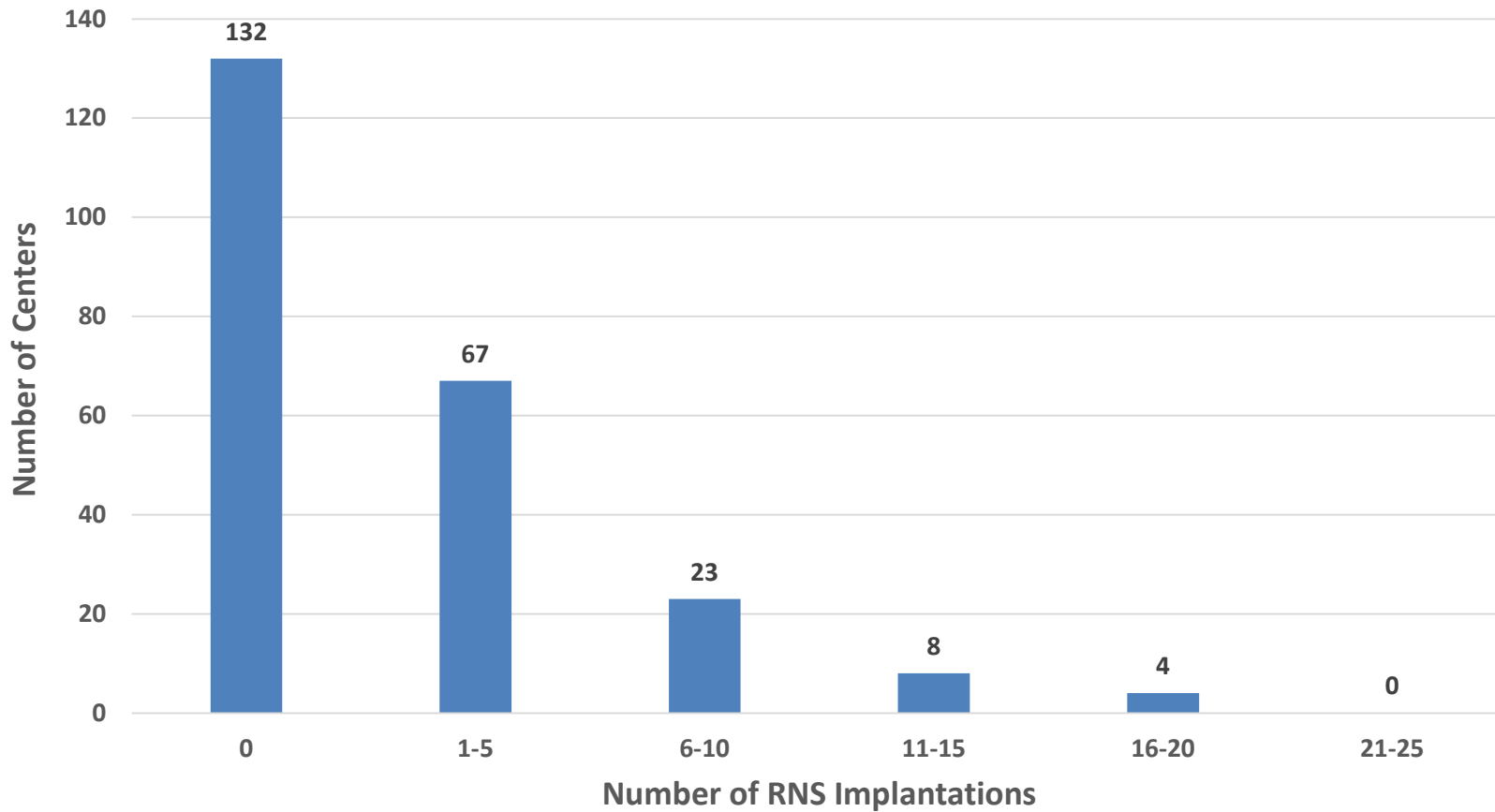
# Extra-Temporal Resections 2013-2018



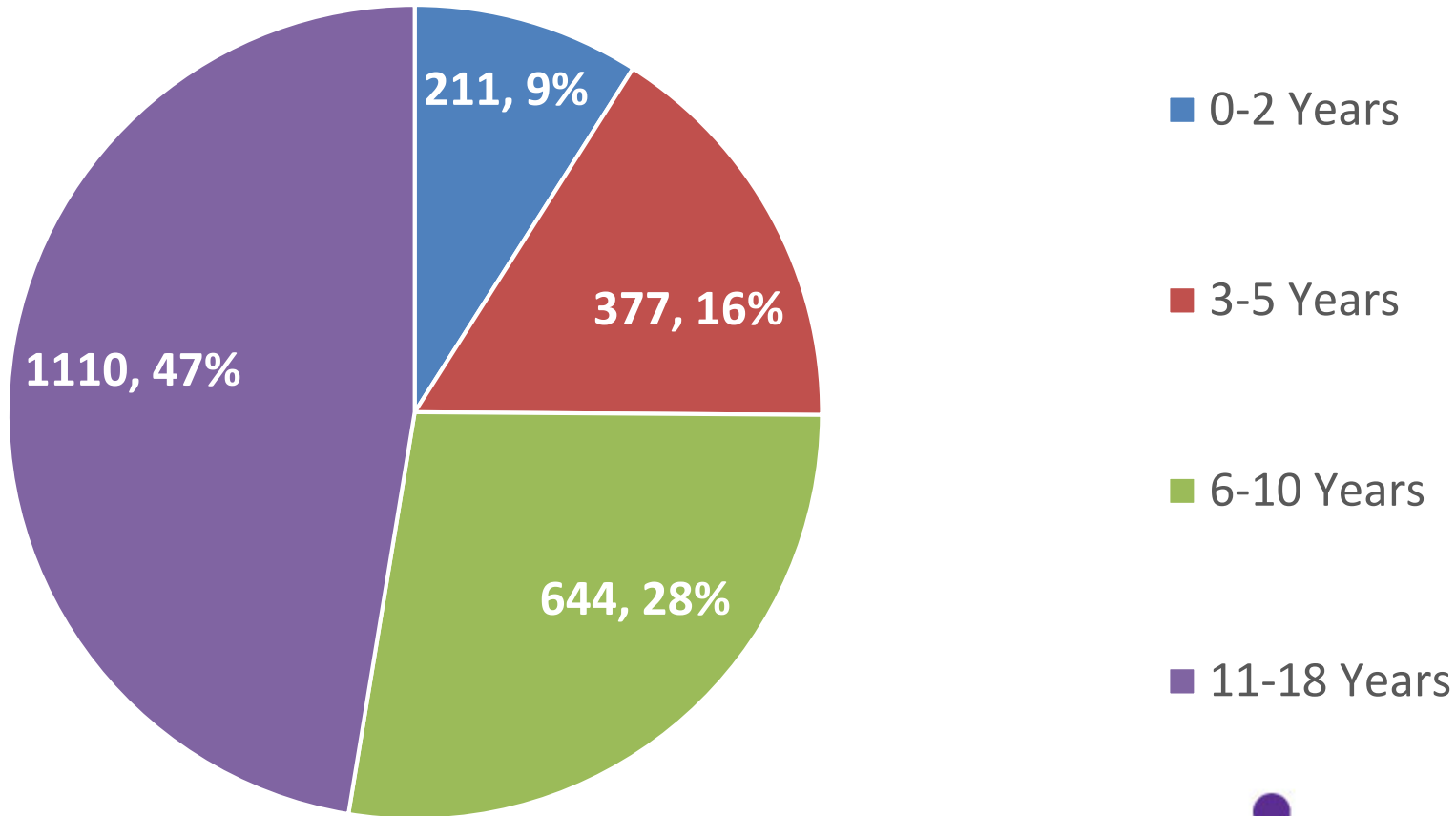
# VNS Implantation - 2018



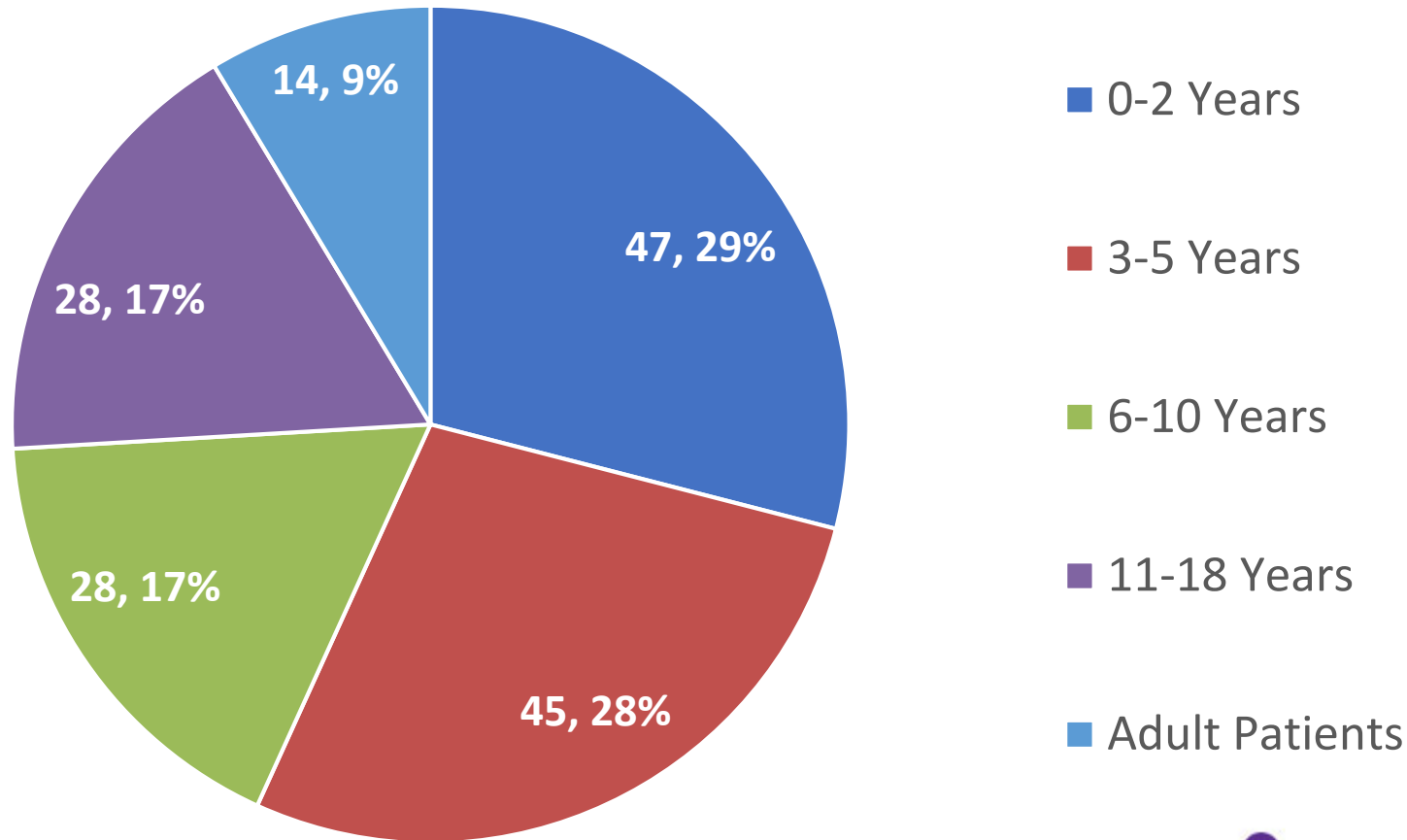
# RNS Implantation -2018



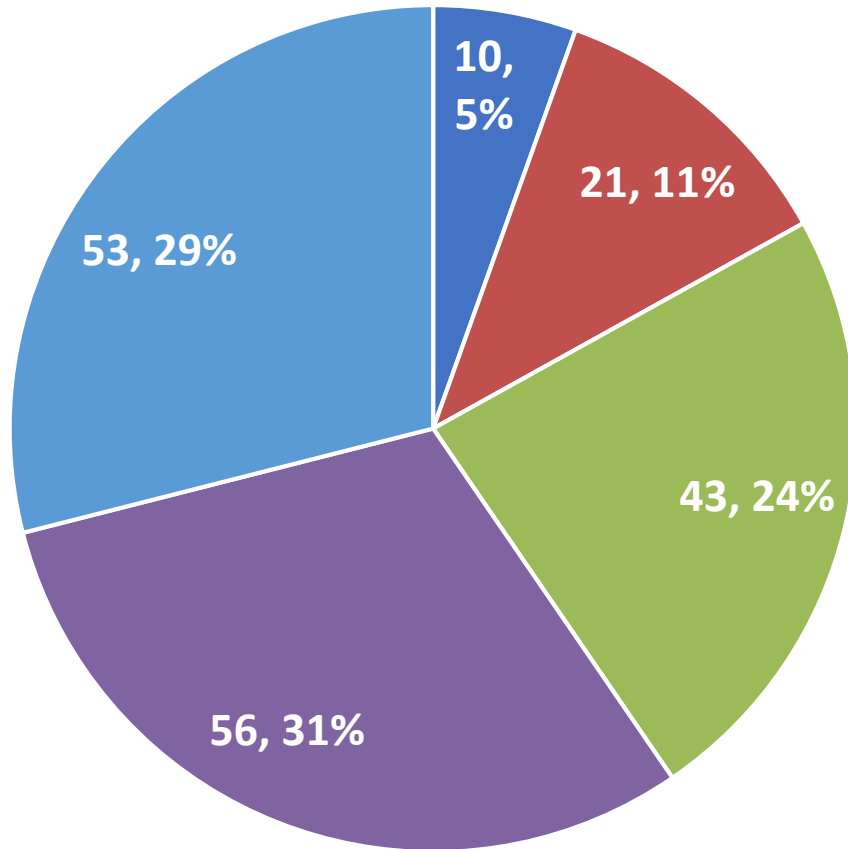
# Total Pediatric Procedures by Age of Patient



# Hemispherotomies by Age



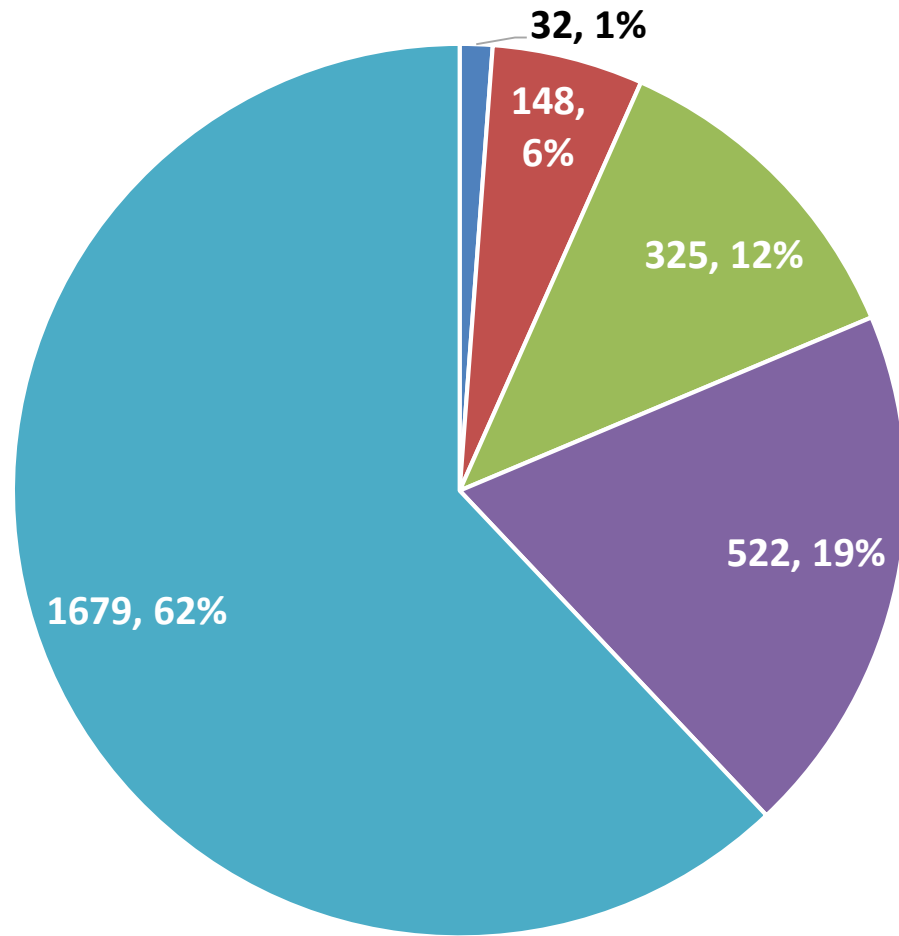
# Corpus Callosotomies by Age



- 0-2 Years
- 3-5 Years
- 6-10 Years
- 11-18 Years
- Adult Patients



# VNS by Age



- 0-2 Years
- 3-5 Years
- 6-10 Years
- 11-18 Years
- Adult Patients



# Questions?



# Maintaining High Quality Epilepsy Care in a Changing Environment

## Participants:

- **Dr. Nathan Fountain**, University of Virginia
- **Dr. Jennifer Hopp**, Director of Division of Epilepsy, Department of Neurology and Medical Director, University of Maryland
- **Dr. David Labiner**, Director of Arizona Comprehensive Epilepsy Program and Head of Department of Neurology, University of Arizona, Tuscon
- **George Lawrence**, Administrator, Cleveland Clinic Neurological Institute
- **Dr. Robert Wechsler**, Owner of Epilepsy and Neurology PLLC and Medical Director of Idaho Comprehensive Epilepsy Center



# Questions?

