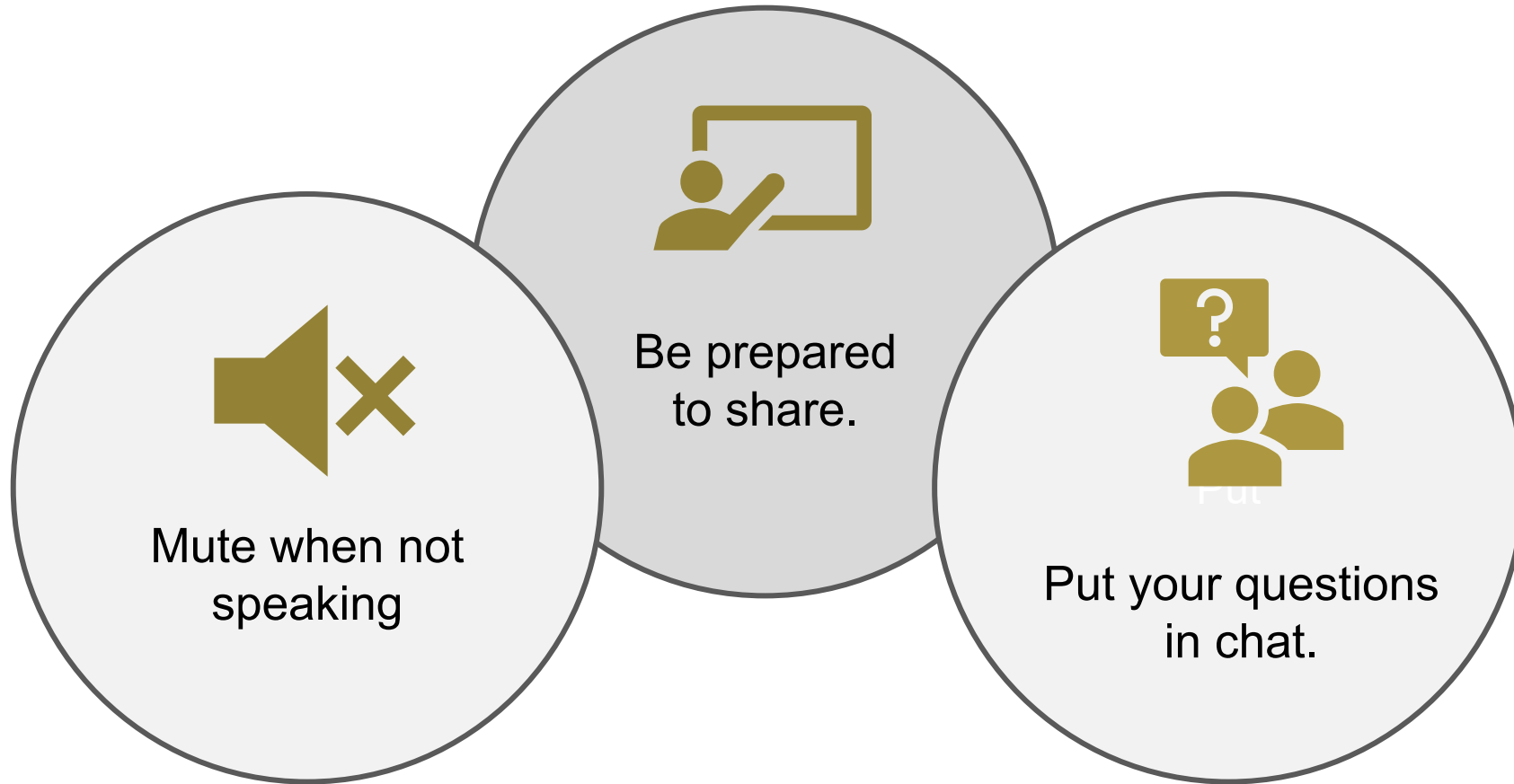





Session One: Reducing Women's Barriers to Care at Your Clinic

NAME | May 11, 2022

Housekeeping



Today's Agenda

- 
- Overview of why good and timely primary care is important for women
 - Identify barriers to care and challenges unique to women
 - Identify strategies to apply with hard-to-reach women that improve cervical screening and wellness visit attendance rates
 - Practice spotlight: One clinic's success strategy to increase cervical cancer and wellness visit attendance rates

Today's Presenters

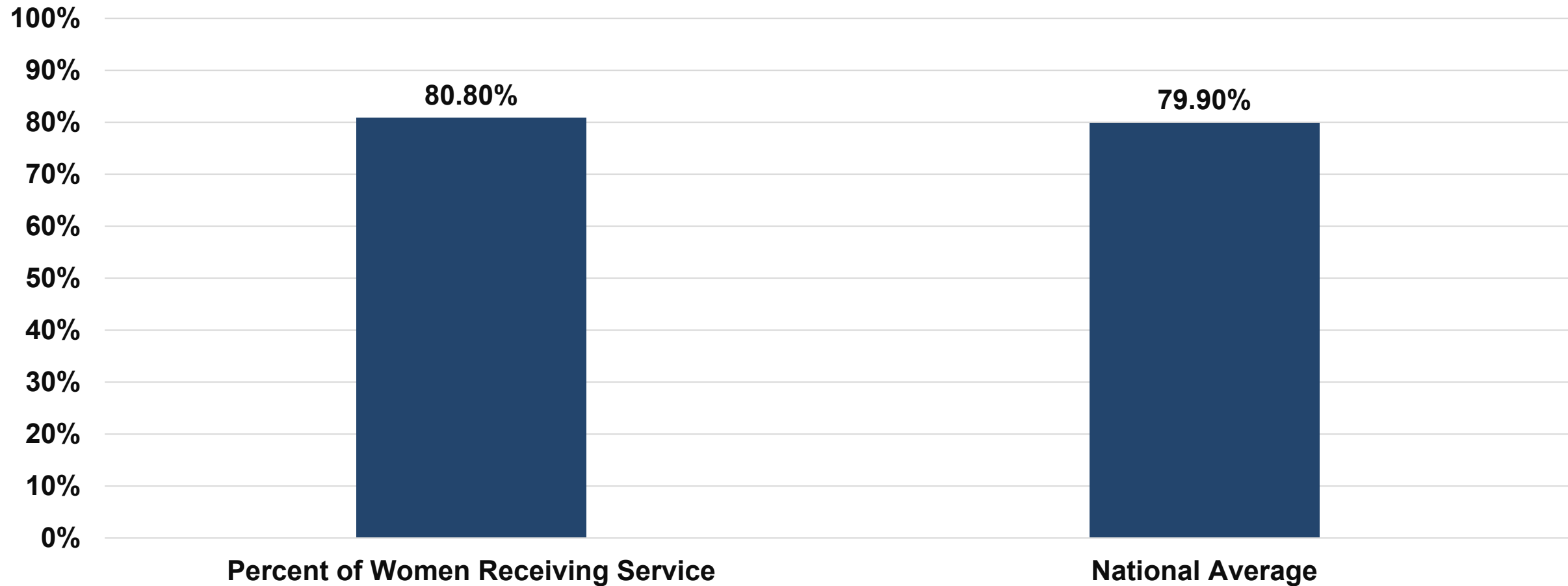


Erin Aklestad
**Mountain-Pacific
Quality Health**
Account Manager
eaklestad@mpqhf.org



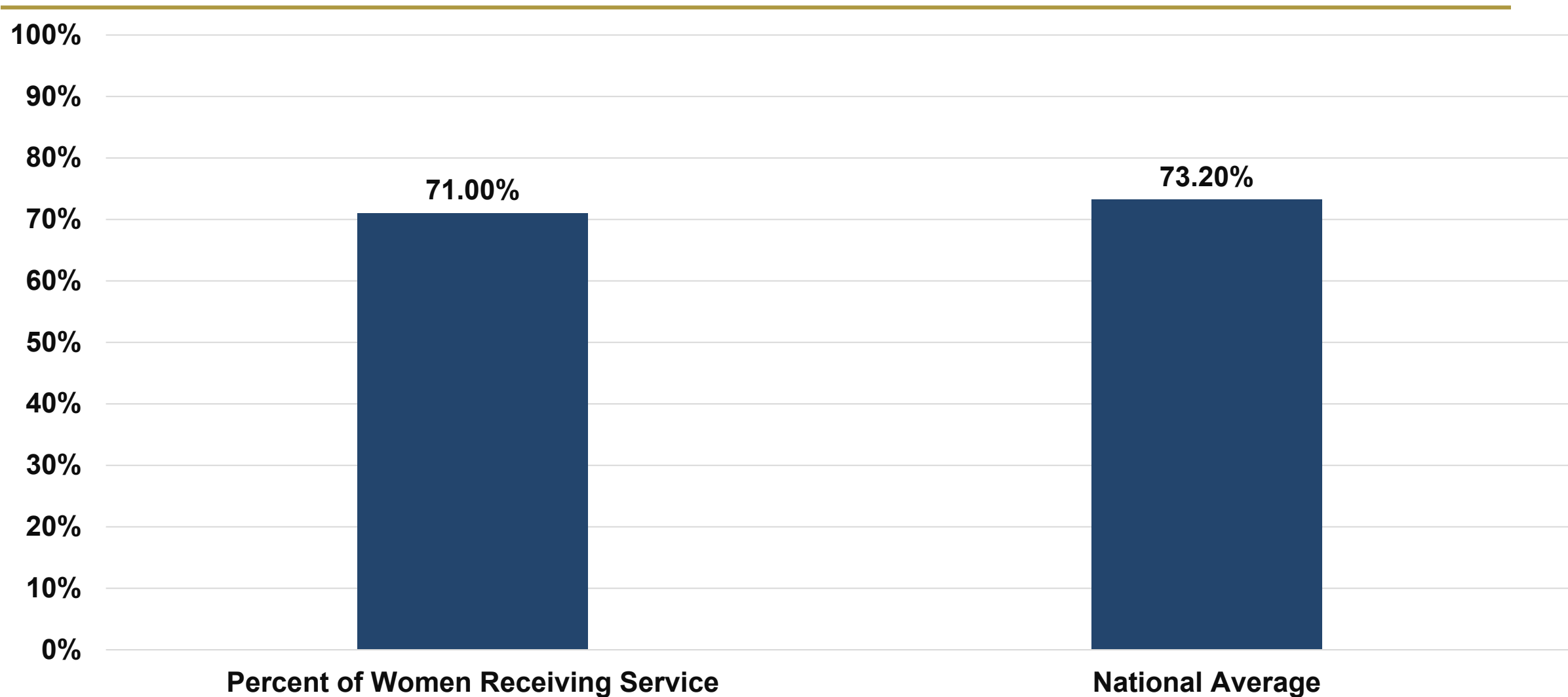
Jeff Redekopp
**Quality Health Associates of
North Dakota**
Quality Improvement Specialist
jredekopp@qualityhealthnd.org

Alaska Cervical Cancer Screening Rates in 2021



Source: America's Health Rankings

Alaska Well-Woman Visit Attendance Rates in 2021



Source: America's Health Rankings

Polling Question #1:



What is your clinic's biggest challenge in getting women ages 18 to 44 in your door for their annual well woman visit and/or cervical cancer screening?

Why is good and timely care for women important?

Healthy women
promote health
and economic
well-being

Almost 60% of U.S.
workers are women

COVID-19 has
magnified
dependance on
female health care
workers

U.S. women have
worse health
outcomes than
those in other high-
income countries

Many women enter
the health care
system only after
giving birth

Women's Barriers and Challenges to Receiving Health Care

Lack of medical education/training focused on gender

Underfunding of primary care that targets women

Inadequate gender diversity amidst health care leadership

Politicization of women's health

Women's Barriers and Challenges to Receiving Health Care

Time constraints

Gender and sex bias

Inequity and racism

Insufficient clinical care guidelines

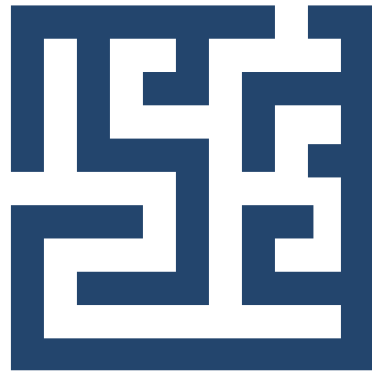
Inadequate screening and follow-up for social determinants of health

Care coordination deficiencies

Women's Barriers and Challenges to Receiving Health Care



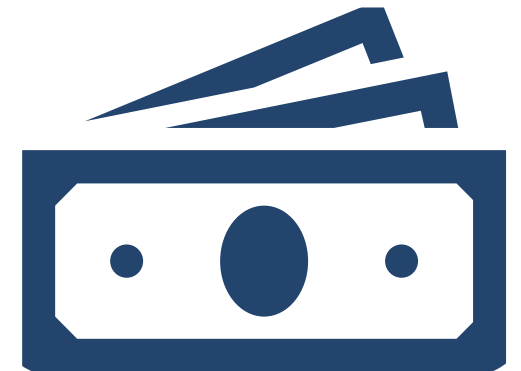
Irregular or no
source of
primary care



Difficulty navigating
the health
care system



Language,
communication,
culture and trust



Issues with
receiving and/or
maintaining health
care coverage

Polling Question #2:



What are biggest barriers your patients report for not coming in to have a well-woman visit or cervical cancer screening?

Tools to Improve Care for Women

Preventative Health Services

- Well Woman Visits

Preventative Health Screenings

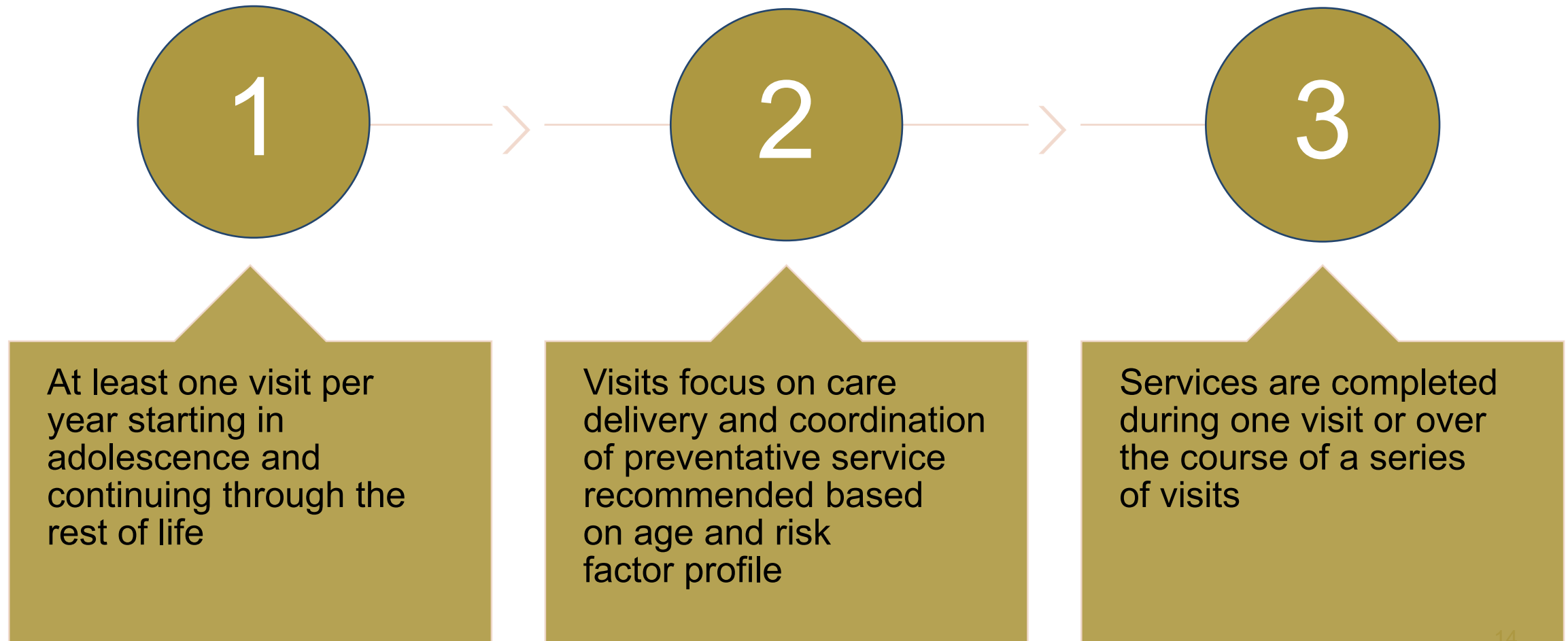
- Cervical Cancer Screening

Prevention and Wellness

- Oral Health
- Pregnancy and Reproductive Health
- Prenatal and Maternity Care

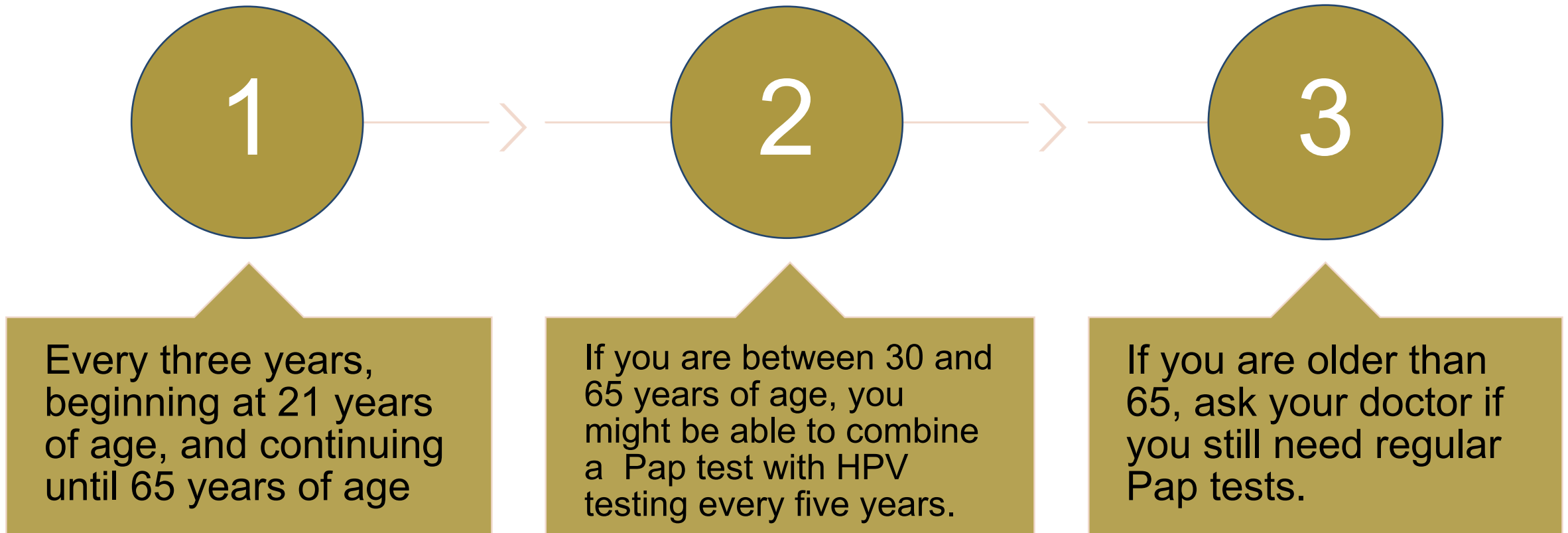
Well Woman Visits

Recommendations: (WPSI)



Cervical Cancer Screening

Recommendations: (ACOG)



Strategies to Improve Attendance Rates for Well-Woman Visits

Work with stakeholders to upgrade employer sick-leave policies

Provide regular access to insurance navigators

Partner with CBO's to develop a community fund for some uninsured/underinsured women

Strategies to Improve Attendance Rates for Well-Woman Visits

Increase availability of appointments outside of traditional hours:

- Drop-in or walk-in appointments
 - Online appointments or Telehealth
 - Phone consultations
-

Strategies to Improve Attendance Rates for Well-Woman Visits

Explore adding a community-wide women's hotline.

Provide updated brochures with instructions of how women can advocate with insurance carriers and providers.

Keep an updated list of your providers who offer women's health services in your waiting room and on your website/patient portal.

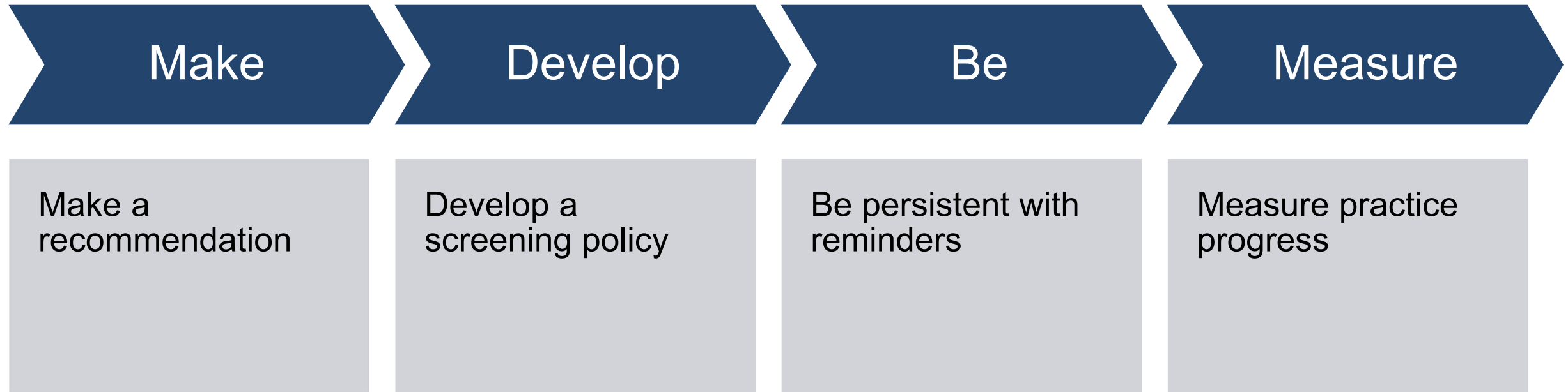
Strategies to Improve Attendance Rates for Well-Woman Visits

Community-wide health peer advocate programs

Provide trauma-informed care (TIC) training for your team

Partner with ride-share companies for patient transportation

Improving Attendance Rates for Cervical Cancer Screening: Essentials



Develop a Cervical Cancer Screening Policy

Practice actions to take

- Review national screening guidelines
- Consider your practice's realities
- Examine patient risk level and history
- Patient insurance coverage and preference
- Local medical resources

Provider/care team actions to take

- Discuss in-person with patient
- Follow-up by telephone
- Educate patients
- Help patients take needed steps to get screened

Improving Attendance Rates for Cervical Cancer Screening – Practice Level



Invitation letters



Phone calls

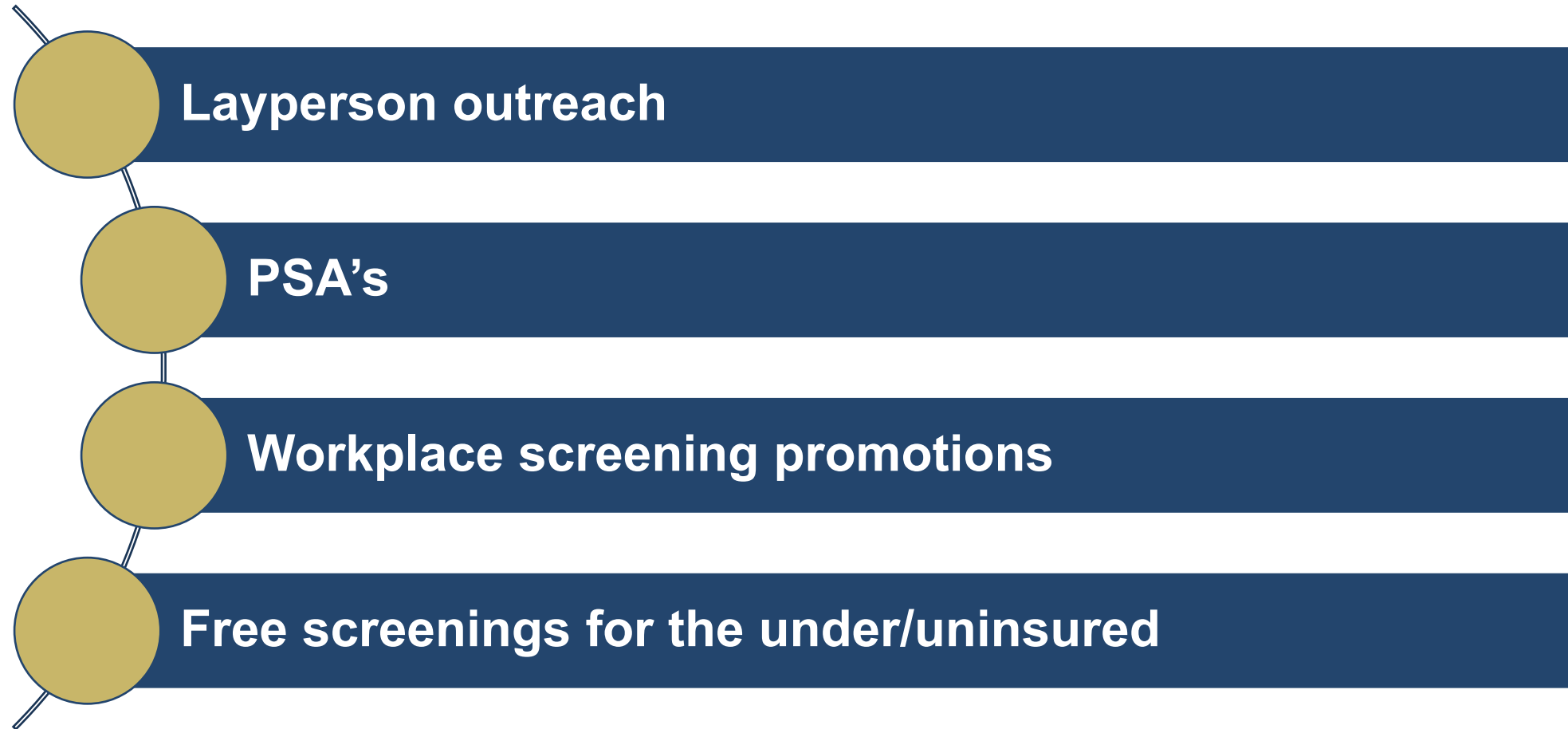


Text messages



Group education

Improving Attendance Rates for Cervical Cancer Screening – Community Level



Improving Attendance Rates for Cervical Cancer Screening – Other Options

Self-Management

- Short patient education sessions
- Provide relevant education materials
- Encourage setting screening and follow-up appointments on-site

Care Delivery

- Allow MA to assess need for screening
- Permit MA or nurse to discuss screening/concerns before PCP arrives
- Ensure exam rooms are comfortable

Community Linkages



LADIES FIRST

Alaska Breast and Cervical Services

Ladies First



SEARHC

SOUTHEAST ALASKA REGIONAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

Wisewomen



**ALASKA NATIVE
TRIBAL HEALTH
CONSORTIUM**

Cancer Program

ASNA

ARCTIC SLOPE NATIVE ASSOCIATION

Screening for
Life Services



Let Every
Woman Know

Polling Question #3:



What is one thing you are doing at your practice to improve women's access to care?

Participant Q & A

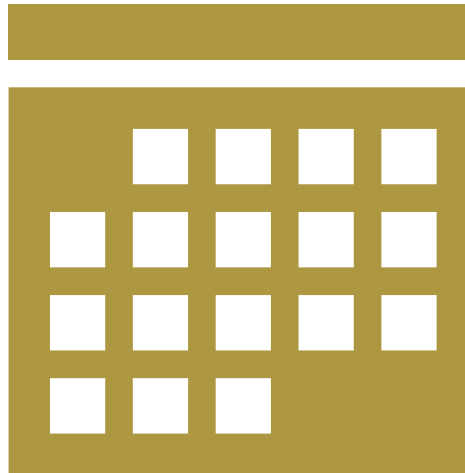


Resources:

- DHSS Alaska: [Alaska Women's Health Program](#)
- HRSA: [Women's Preventative Services Guidelines](#)
- AAFP: [Cervical Cancer Screening Guidelines](#)
- State of Minnesota: [ICC Screening Toolkit](#)
- WPSI: [Women's Preventative Health](#)
- WPSI: [Well-Woman's Chart](#)
- ACOG: [Well Woman Visit](#)
- New York Presbyterian: [Women's Health Checklist](#)
- Contemporary OB/GYN: [Implementing Recommendations to Improve Women's Health](#)
- US Preventative Services Task Force: [A and B Recommendations](#)
- Johns Hopkins: [Women's Healthcare Guidelines](#)
- Commonwealth Fund: [Transforming Primary Healthcare for Women - Part 1](#)
- Commonwealth Fund: [Transforming Primary Care for Women Part 2](#)

Upcoming Sessions

Session	Topic	Date
2	Using Data to Bring Hard to Reach Women In for Care	May 18



Thank you for your attendance and participation!