

# School Nurse Participation in Pediatric Dermatology for the Upper Midwest ECHO

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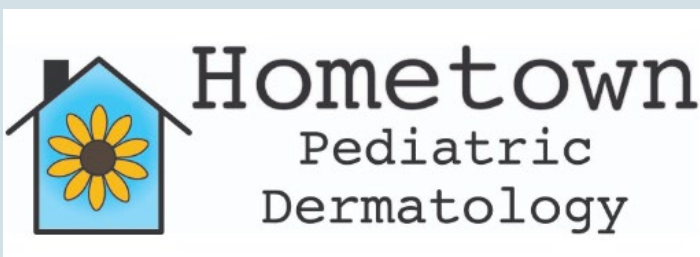
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## Background

- 98% of practicing pediatric dermatologists work in metropolitan areas of the U.S.
  - Many Upper Midwest U.S. states have 0-3 pediatric dermatologists
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- As a result, children from rural communities often receive dermatologic care from other health professionals, including school nurses, who are often a “first point of easily accessible medical contact”

## Unique Aspects of Our ECHO

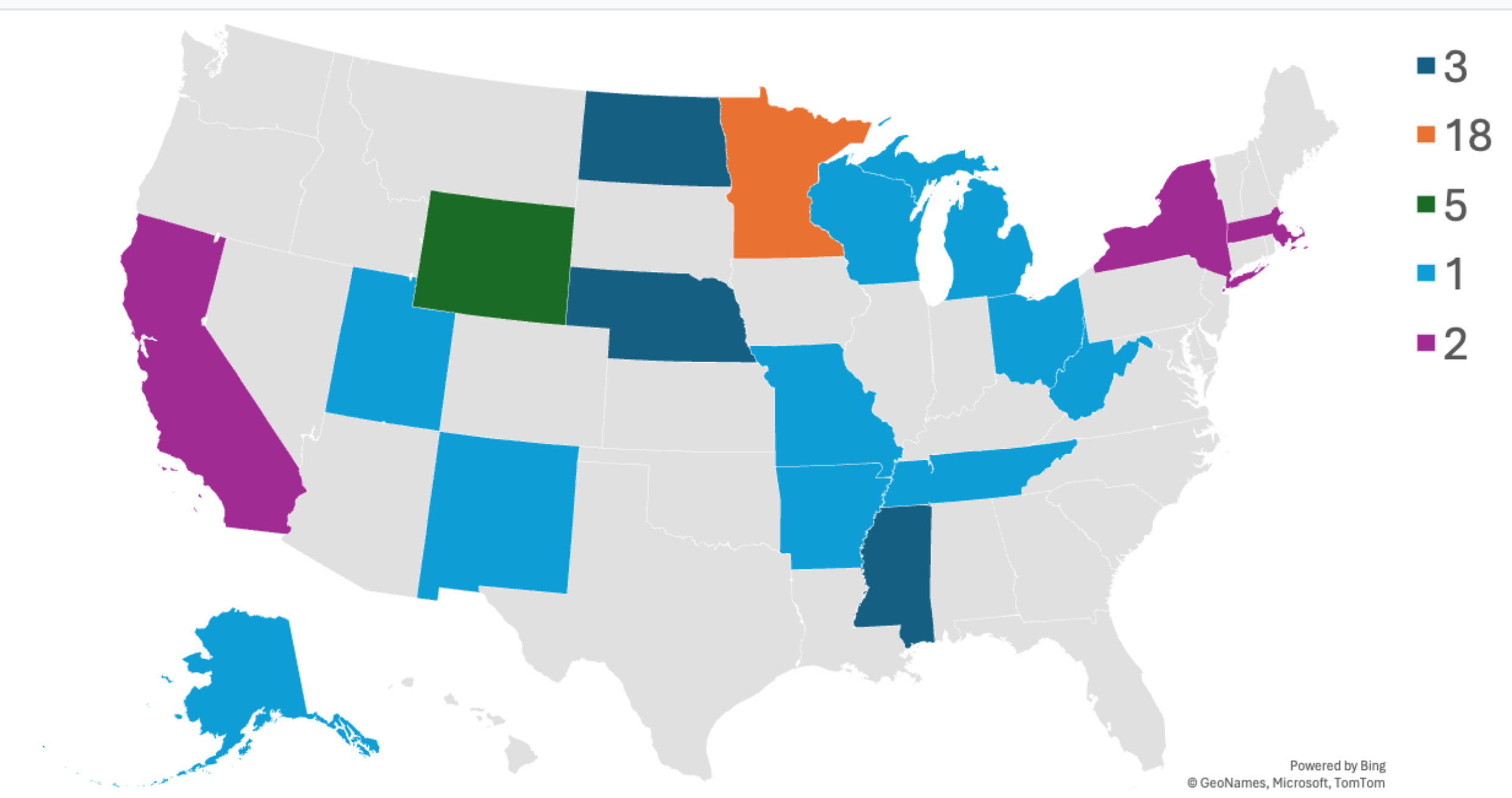
- Upper Midwest U.S. states as target population
  - Goal of improving rural access to pediatric dermatology resources
- Partnership with a rural medical student from the targeted U.S. states as its recorder
  - Building a rural specialty clinician pipeline in areas without home dermatology training programs
- High attendance by school nurses
  - New impetus to explore where rural children contact medical providers



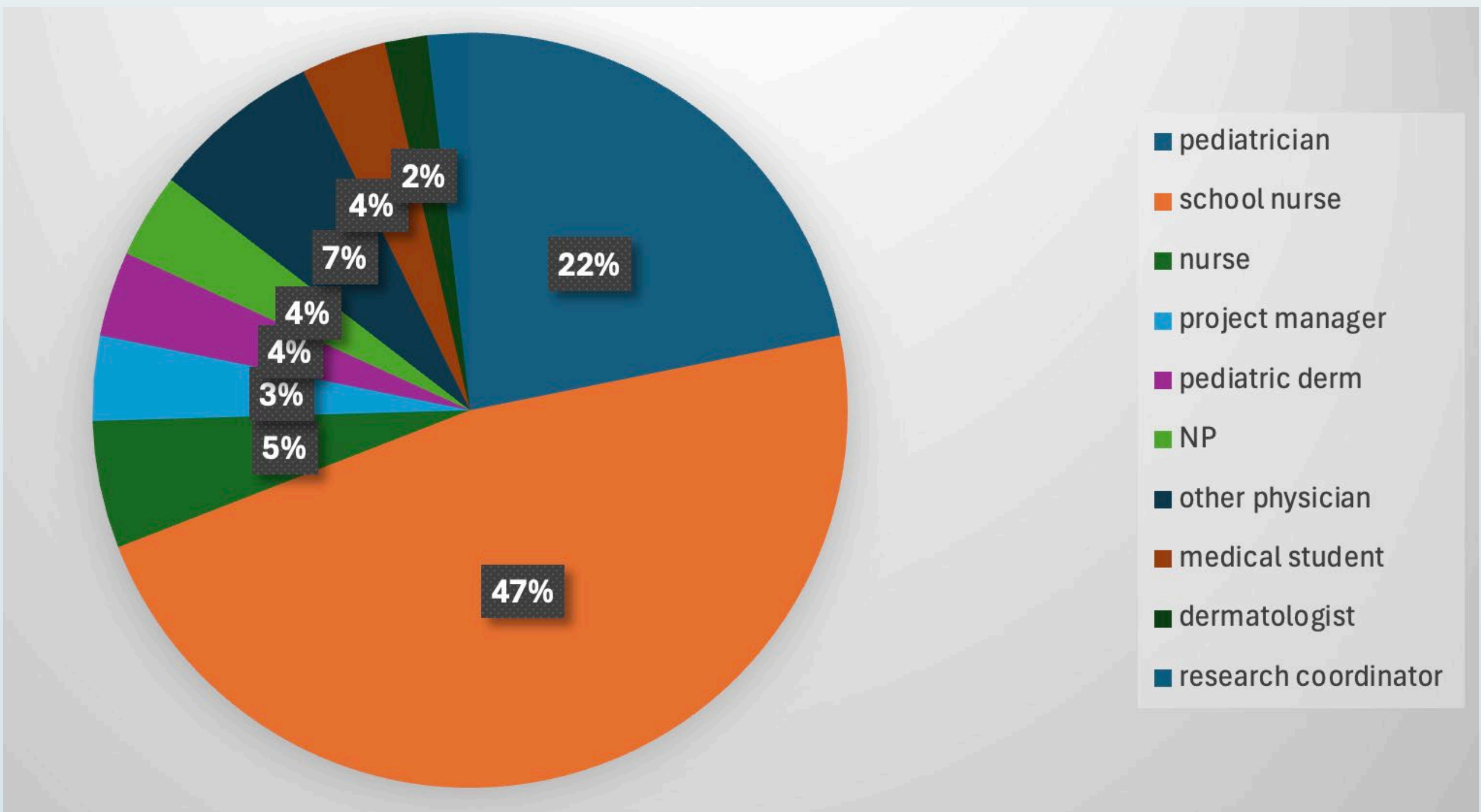
## Highlights to Date

- 10 completed ECHO sessions from March 2024 to December 2024
- 55 total participants, of which 45.5% are from Minnesota, North Dakota, or Nebraska
- 6 participants from other countries, including India, Tanzania, Ecuador
- Of those who attended 1 ECHO:
  - 62% attended at 1+ additional ECHO
  - 38% attended 2+ additional ECHOs
  - 22% attended 3+ additional ECHOs

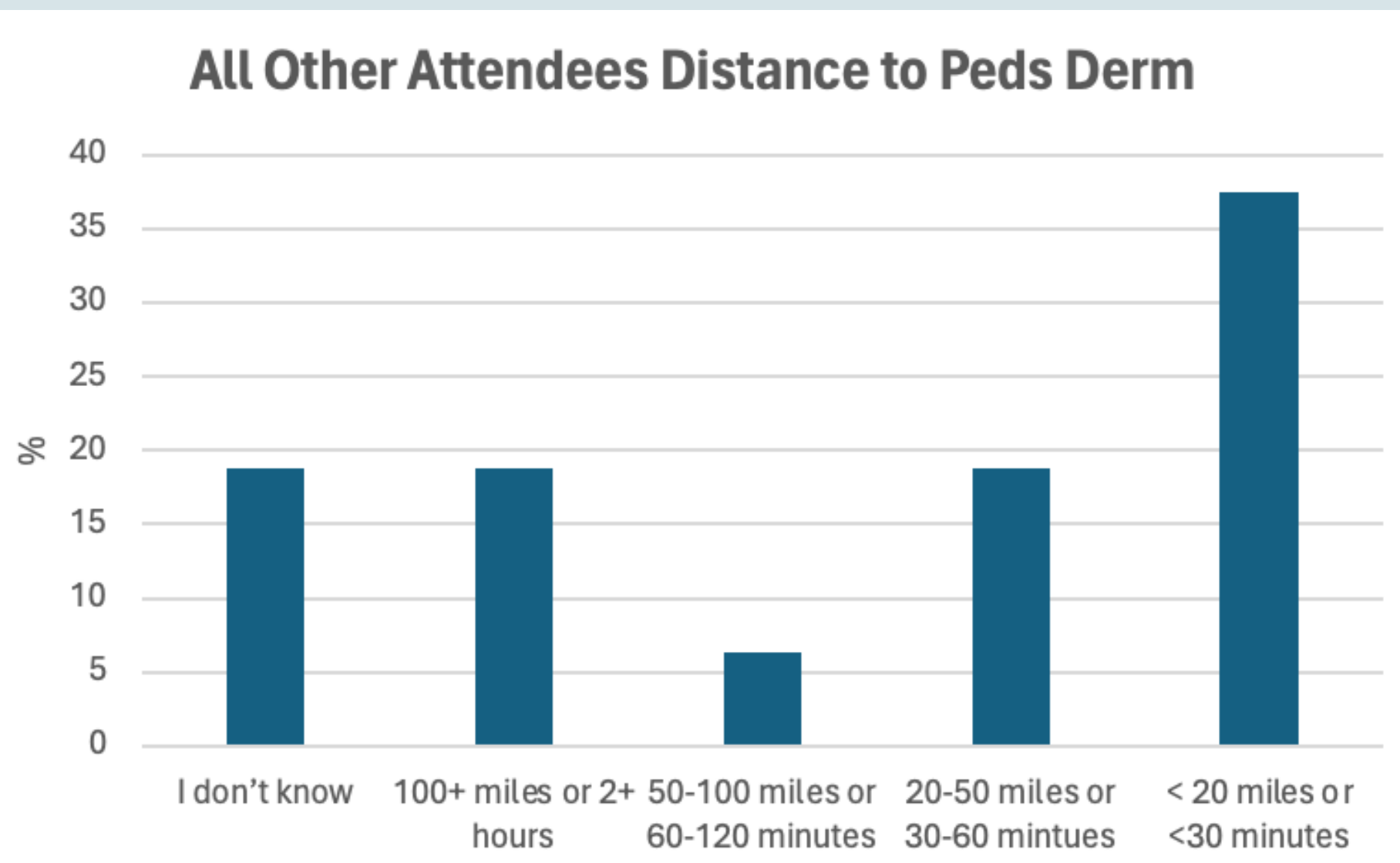
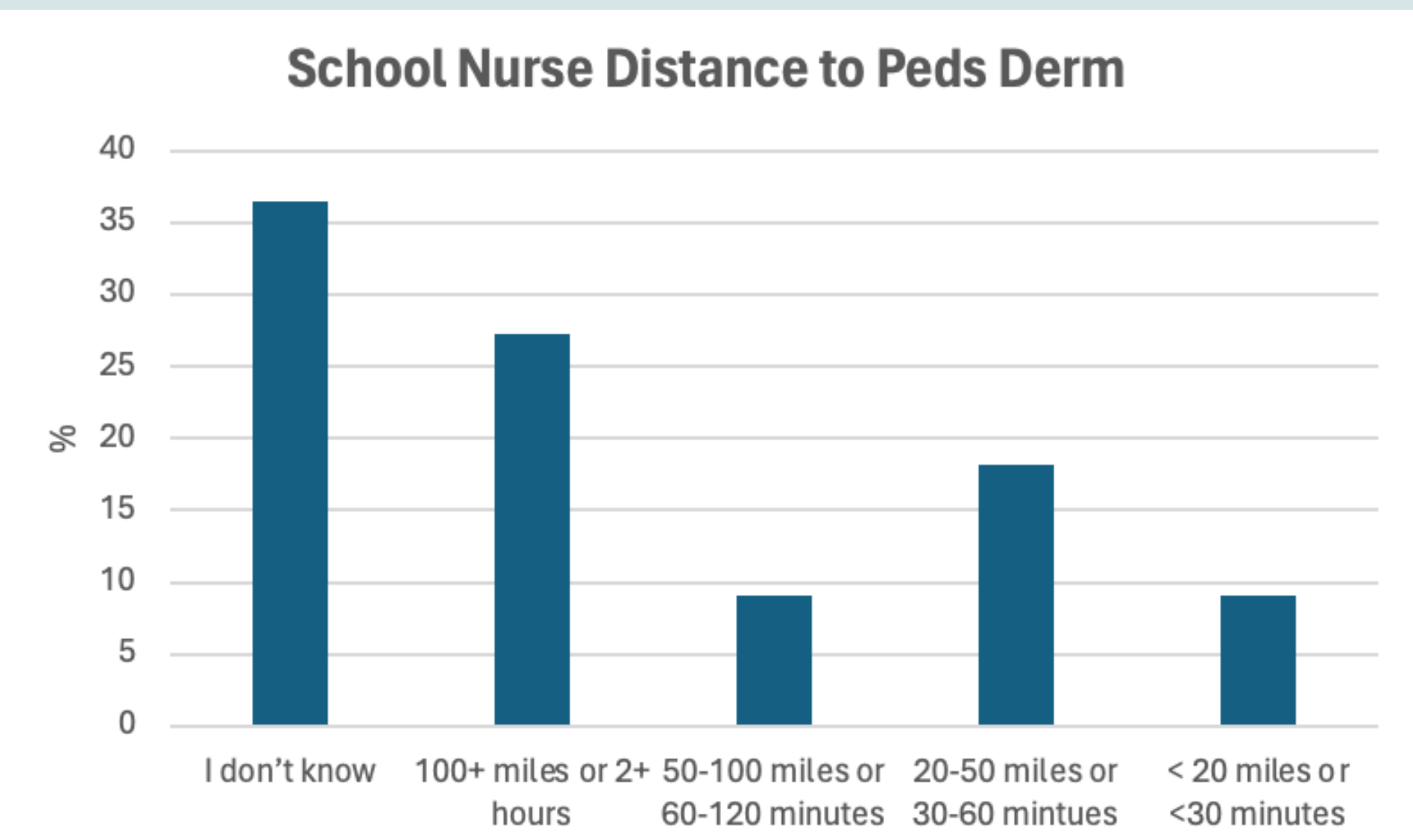
Attendee Location Distribution



Attendee Profession Distribution



- School nurses make up nearly 50% of attendees
- Pediatricians and other physicians account for about 35%
- School nurses are nearly 2x more likely to be 100+ miles or 2+ hours from a pediatric dermatologist, or to be unsure of their closest pediatric dermatologist, compared to all other attendees



## Takeaway

When conducting ECHO sessions in which children in rural communities are a target, inclusion of school nurses should be considered given their unique role as a first point of medical contact for this population.

“After attending an ECHO session on eczema, I mentioned dupilumab to the family of one of my students who has been struggling with eczema. She has clearer skin than she has had in years and her confidence has gone through the roof!”

- School nurse

## Contact Information

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Find our project ECHO at:  
<https://telehealthcoe.org/project/2111/>