RESULTS

Interview Trends:
100% of employees stated that the book nooks being present have increased overall interest with and activity involving reading in their waiting space.

100% of employees stated that school-aged children typically read by themselves and toddlers typically read with a parent/caregiver/sibling.

100% of employees with a TV in their waiting room referenced it being a distraction to reading.

80% of employees referenced technology (rather being used by parent, child, or both) as an interference to reading.

Observation Trends:
100% of shared reading that was observed occurred with a child that was approximately 7 years of age or younger.

21% of visits observed involved some shared reading between parent and child.

98% of observed visits involved family filling out forms, using technology, or a combination of both.

Only 1 out of 47 observed visits involved parent-child shared reading with no distractions from technology and/or forms.

DISCUSSION

Interviews and observations highlighted that children were typically the ones initiating the reading that occurred while waiting.

Both interviews and observations indicated that children ages 0-5 were interested in reading but ultimately depended upon parent/caregiver response if any shared reading would occur.

Interviews and observations expressed that technology and well-child forms provided significant barriers to limiting shared reading time.

CONCLUSIONS

- The Book Nooks provided by READ ENC in local pediatric medical offices provide more opportunities for parent-child interaction to occur.
- The availability of books in these Book Nooks are appealing to children and differences in age lead to differences in what types of interactions occur.
- Especially with younger children (ages 0-5), the reading experience is dependent upon the actions of the parent in either reading with/to them or not acknowledging the reading request.
- Increased awareness and education with parents about the reasons for Book Nook placement has the potential to increase reading while waiting.
- Limitations to technology and forms while waiting could be implemented to encourage more reading.
- Encouragement from site employees for families to interact with the Book Nook may encourage more family reading experiences.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Thank you to Pirate Pediatrics, ECU Pediatrics, Eastern Pediatrics, Greenville Pediatrics, and Children’s Health Services for participating in this research study.