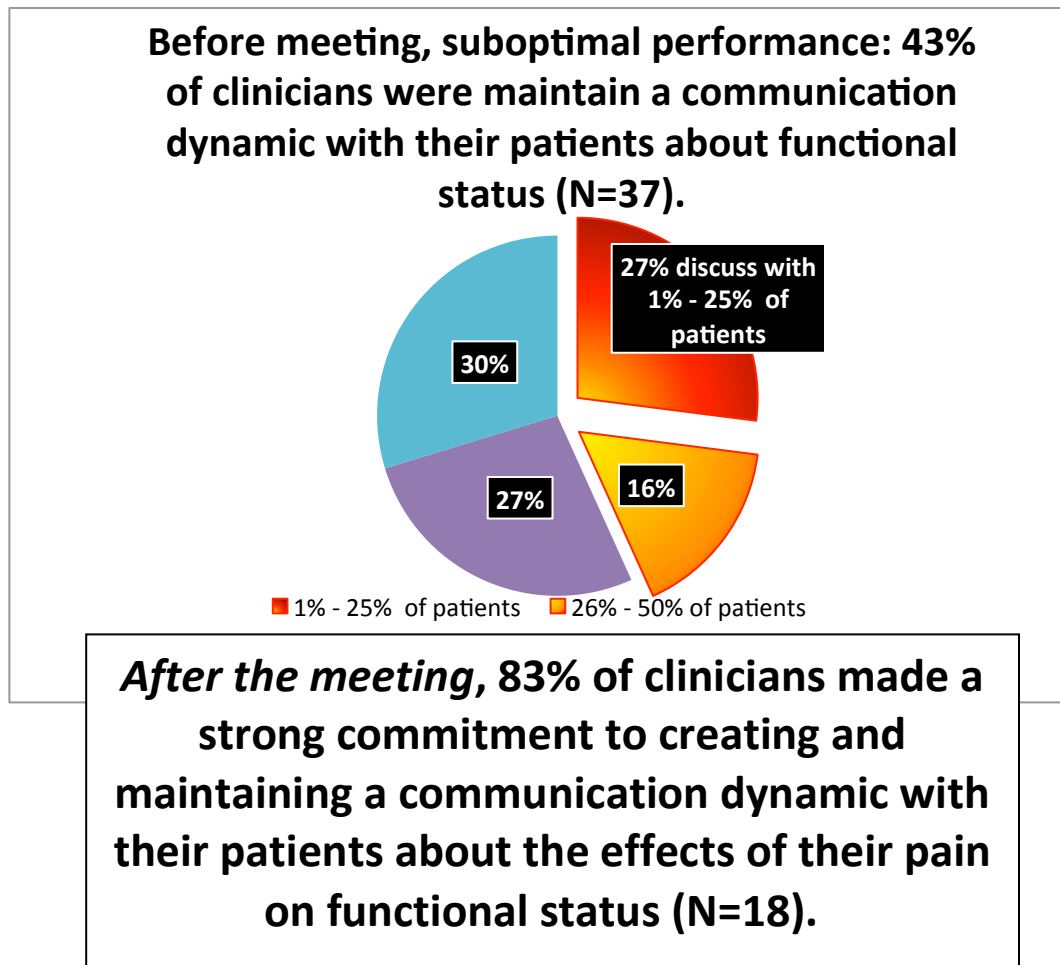


Physicians Improved Their Understanding of Chronic Pain Management with Opioid Therapy and Commit To Hearing the “Voice of the Patient”

A pre-activity survey at the CMEO Annual Chair Summit 2013 collected performance data from clinicians who affirmed that they manage patients with chronic pain. Results regarding clinicians’ assessment of “functional status,” as well as improving communication about pain, were as follows:

- Baseline rates were suboptimal, where **43%** of these clinicians were conversing with *less than half of their patients with chronic pain* about the effects of their pain on functional status (n = 37; see Figure.)



These preliminary findings strongly suggest that clinicians who attended the Pain Track meeting at the Annual Chair Summit had a strong desire to improve their communications with their patients who have chronic pain...pain that interferes with their daily function. We believe that this finding also intensely implies that the “voice of the patient” is being heard by our learners.