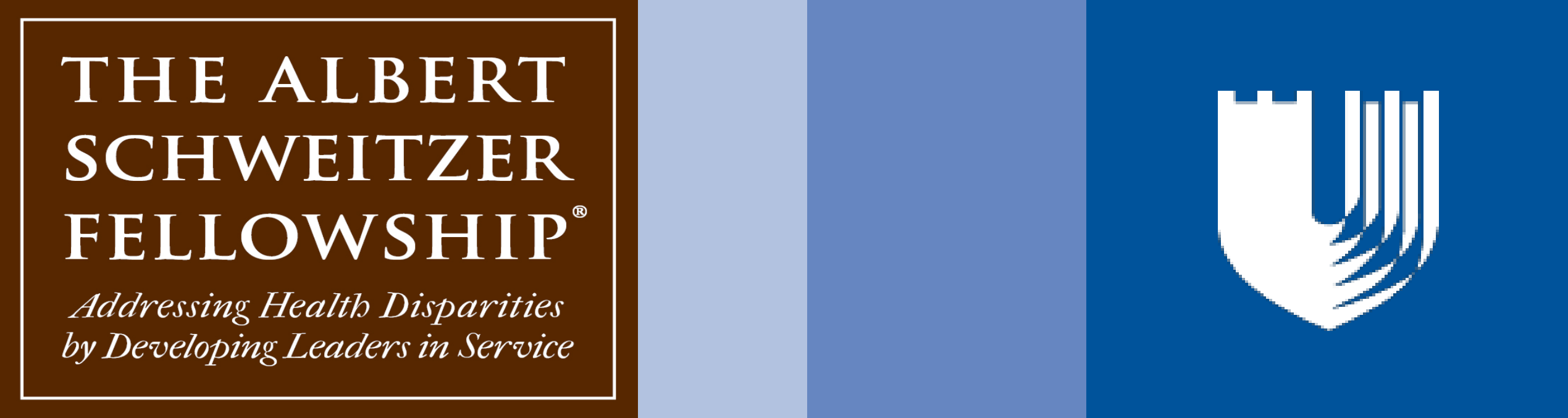


Duke SOARR Initiative: Surgical Oncology Ambassadors

Redefining Recovery

Cierra Hong and Kristen Rhodin, 2017-2018 NC Albert Schweitzer Fellows
Duke University School of Medicine



Background and Motivations

- **Surgical oncology patients** with Medicaid or without insurance are **more likely to die** within 30 days of surgery
 - Longer hospital stays
 - Lack of support system
 - Less health literacy
 - Loss to follow-up
 - Multiple comorbidities
- **25% of Durham County's population** relies on Medicaid or is uninsured



Project Overview

Patient population: Patients receiving surgery for breast cancer or endocrine neoplasia (benign or malignant thyroid, parathyroid, and adrenal diseases), who are uninsured or have Medicaid, Project Access, or Duke Charity Care.

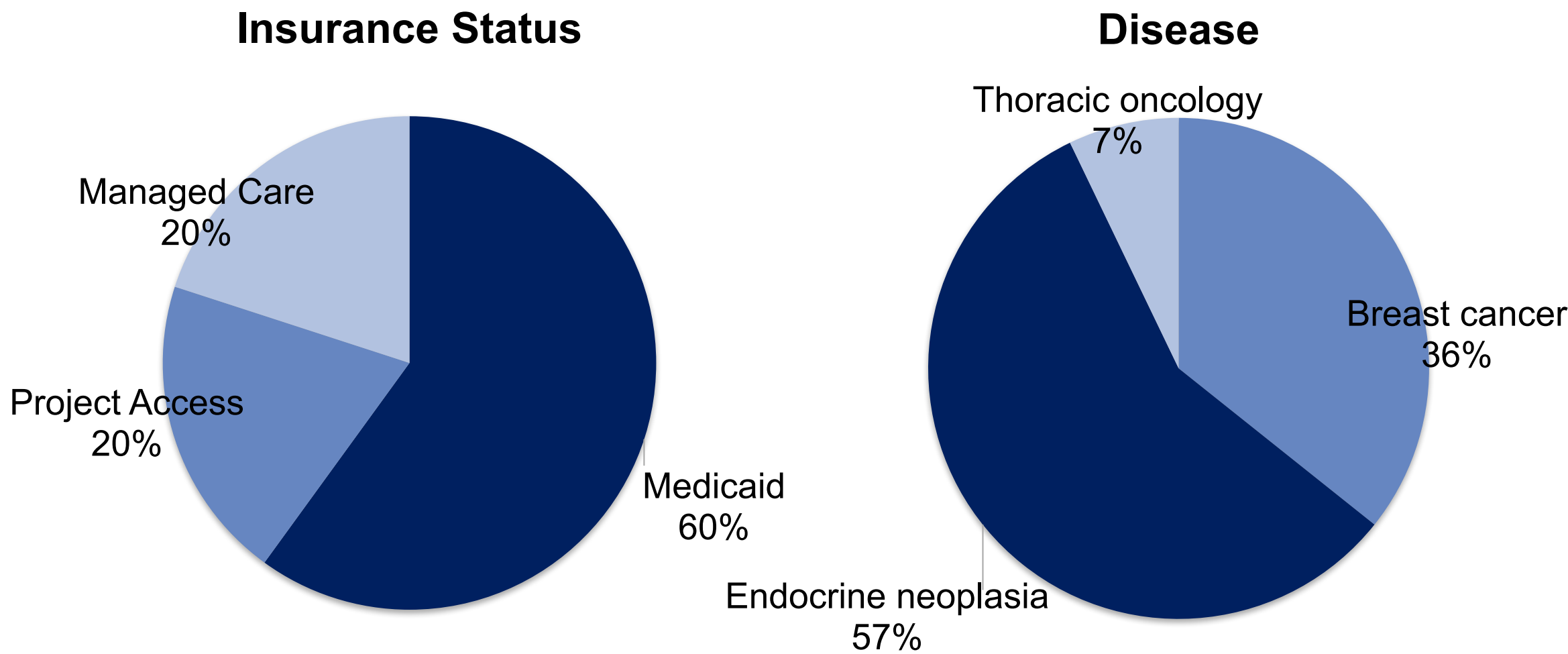
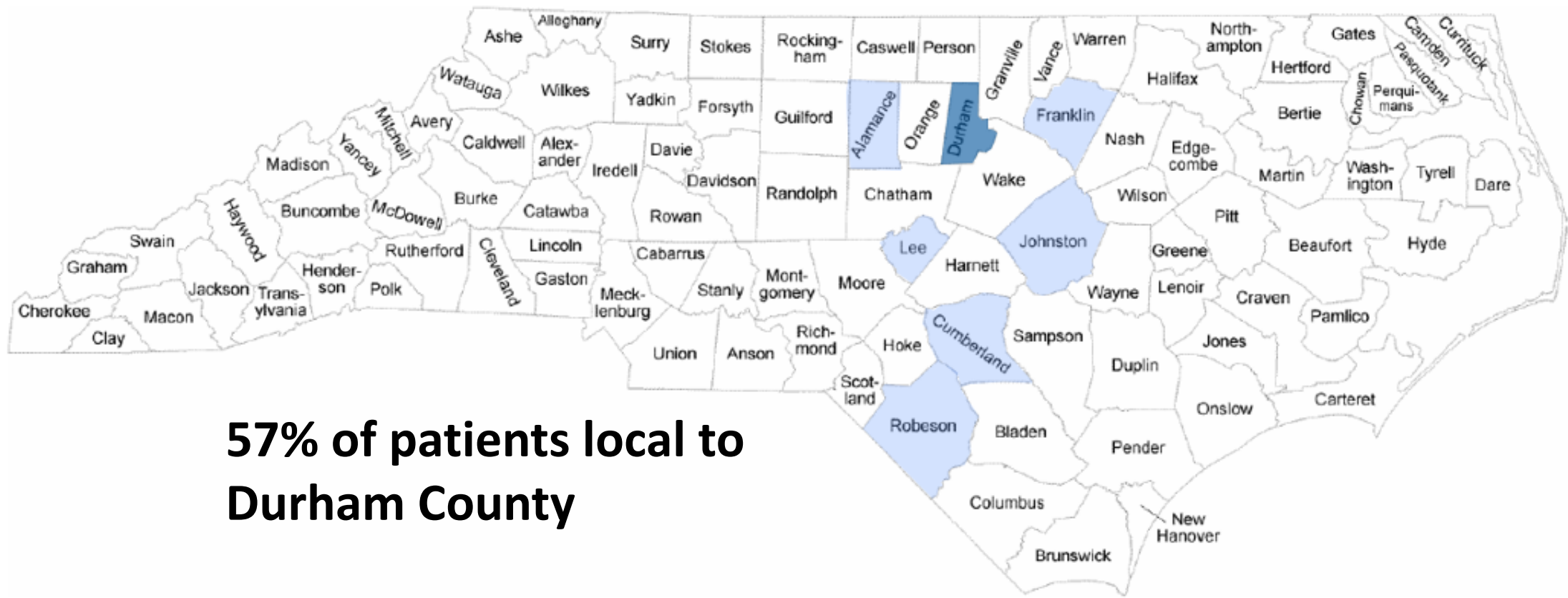
Project site: Duke Cancer Institute (DCI)

Aims:

- Address health disparities in perioperative management by pairing low socioeconomic patients with medical student ambassadors to reinforce appropriate postoperative management and help patients and families navigate the complex health system during the operative and recovery period
- Provide an enriching and educational experience to students

Results

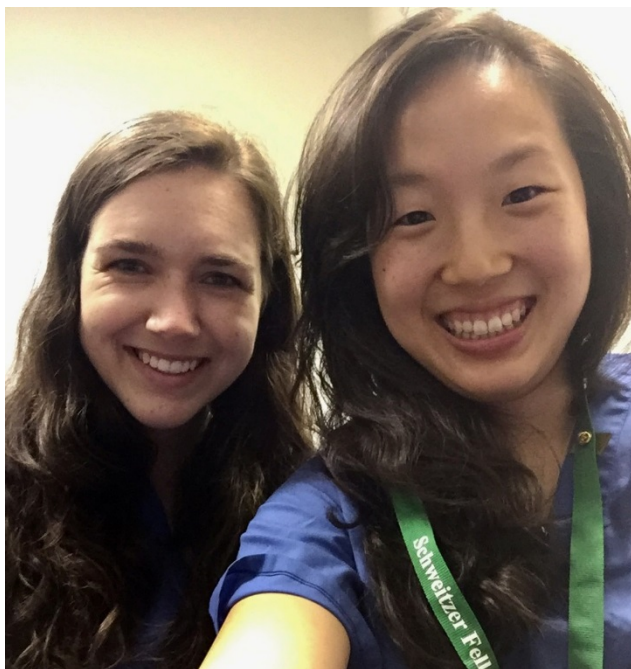
- Overall participation:
- 32 first year and 13 third year medical students
 - 14 patients receiving surgical care through the DCI participated and still recruiting



- Patient Goals:
- 100% of patients attended their pre-anesthesia testing appointment (PAT) or answered the PAT phone call
 - 100% of patients answered the student preoperative phone call and complied with NPO status
 - 90% of patients arrived on time for surgery
 - 93% of patients had an established PCP prior to surgery
 - 100% of patients presented for post-operative appointments
 - No patients were readmitted

Results

- Other ways we helped:
- Medication reminders
 - Triaged transportation issues
 - Friendly face at appointments and surgery



Sustainability

- Duke SOARR has been adopted as a Davison Council sponsored student interest group at the Duke University School of Medicine
- Rising third year medical students will be transitioning into leadership roles to lead the next cohort of students and patients
- Duke SOARR will continue to work with Breast Surgical Oncology and Endocrine Neoplasia, as well as continuing to expand to Thoracic Oncology

Acknowledgements

Thank you to our mentors, Julie Ann Sosa and Lola Fayanju, the providers within the divisions of endocrine neoplasia and breast surgery, and the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship.