REFUGEES IN MILWAUKEE:
Demographic and Health Related Characteristics Post Immediate Resettlement

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BACKGROUND
Since 2002, over 13,000 refugees have resettled in Wisconsin with more than two thirds of that population residing in the city of Milwaukee.

METHODS
We conducted a retrospective chart review of 122 refugee patients at two Aurora Family Medicine Residency Clinics. Of the initial 268 patients who underwent the initial refugee examination, 122 established care with a provider at one of the two studied primary care clinics at least 6 months after their initial primary care examination. At least two independent investigators conducted the chart review on each patient. Discrepancies in the data entry were reconciled.

RESULTS
Due to poor health literacy, language/cultural barriers, and psychosocial circumstances, delivering healthcare to refugees can be challenging for both patients and their providers. Currently, there is a limited number of studies on the unique healthcare needs of refugee patient populations beyond their initial health care screenings.

CONCLUSIONS
Refugees are racially, culturally, and linguistically diverse and it is important for healthcare providers to understand the psychosocial determinants of health specific to these populations.

REFERENCES