

# Analysis of the Central Washington Cleft Lip and Palate Team



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## INTRODUCTION

- Cleft lip and/or palate (CLP) is the most common congenital craniofacial anomaly<sup>1</sup>
- CLP may result in:
  - Feeding difficulties
  - Hearing problems
  - Speech issues
  - Psychosocial concerns<sup>2</sup>
- Team care is critical in meeting the complex diversity of needs experienced by children with cleft lip and palate<sup>3</sup>
- Access to these services can be challenging for children in rural communities<sup>4</sup>
- The Central Washington CLP Team is based in Yakima, Washington and serves children with cleft lip and in rural central Washington with a geographic area that spans from the Canadian border to the Oregon border

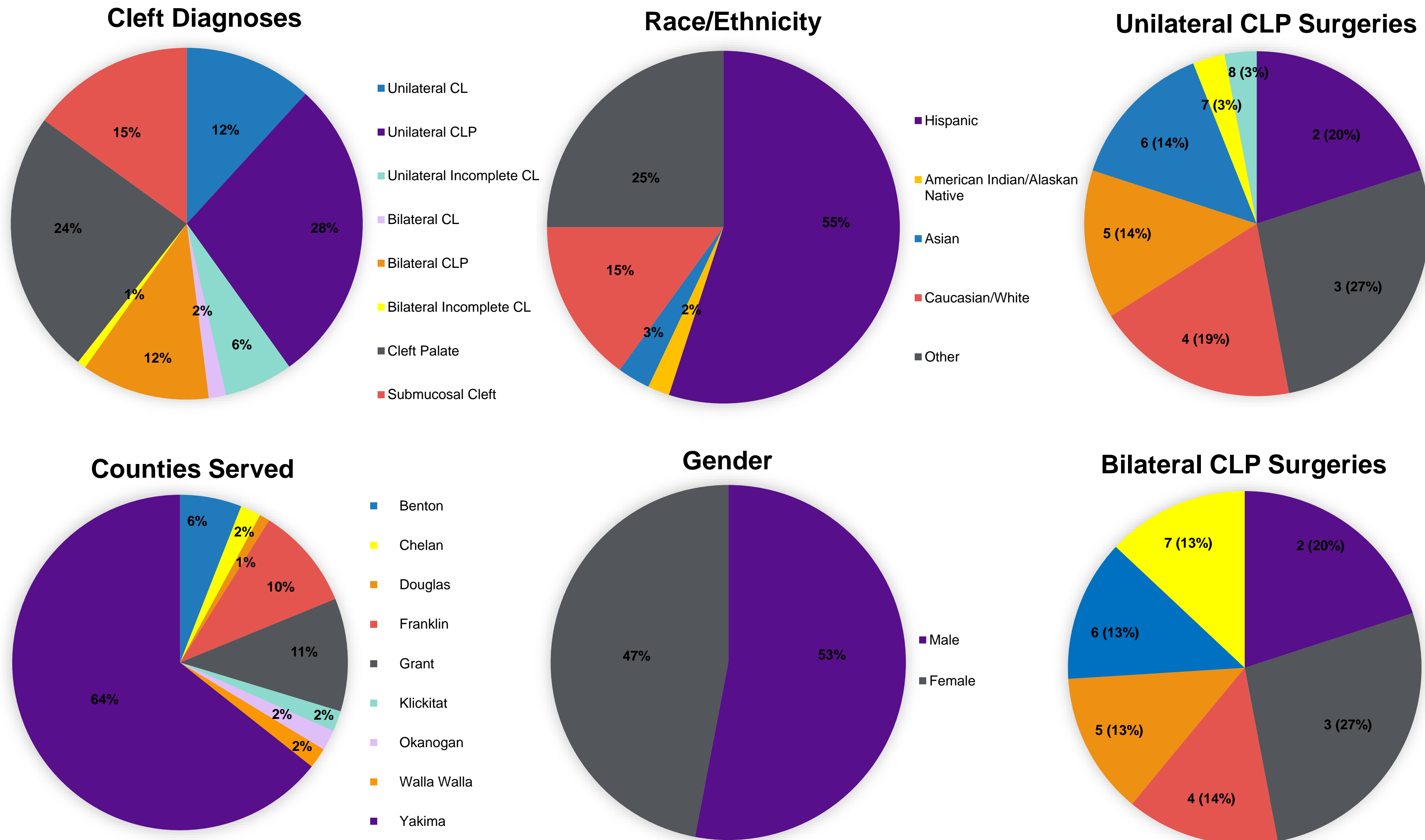
## PURPOSE

- The aim of this study was to describe the patient population served by the Central Washington CLP Team

## METHODS

- Records were reviewed for all patients who are current patients of the Central Washington CLP Team
- Data collected included:
  - Age
  - Sex
  - Race
  - County of residence
  - Cleft diagnosis
  - Surgical history

## RESULTS



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- 130 patient records were evaluated
- Patient age was 2 to 18 years old
- Mean age was 10.1 (SD 4.9)
- 53% male
- 55% Hispanic
- 64% reside in Yakima County
- Most common diagnoses were:
  - Unilateral complete CLP (28%)
  - Isolated cleft palate (24%)
- Patients with bilateral CLP had 3.0 times as many surgeries as patients with unilateral cleft lip and palate (P=.01)

## LIMITATIONS

- Small sample size
- Limited generalizability

## CONCLUSIONS

- Children with bilateral CLP diagnoses have significantly more surgeries than those with unilateral CLP
- Most patients served by the team are male, from Yakima County, of Hispanic background, and had a diagnosis of unilateral CLP or isolated cleft palate
- Further research is needed to continue to monitor and improve outcomes

## REFERENCES

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