Purpose
To explore the learning needs of APPs and develop an educational program to advance the clinical care they provide by remaining up to date on current best practices.

Background
Allergy APPs expressed a desire for an education and case discussion forum tailored to their learning needs and patient population. Prior research has established the majority of nurses’ preferred learning styles are visual and sensing (Mangold, 2018), therefore an Allergy APP learning curriculum was developed with an emphasis on certain allergic conditions, practical clinical pearls, treatment algorithms, and pictures/diagrams.

Methods
To determine which conditions should be the focus of the education program, seven allergy APPs completed an assessment on comfort levels with diagnosis and management of common allergic conditions via a 5-point Likert scale. Responses ranged from extremely comfortable (1) to extremely uncomfortable (5). Formal monthly didactics and case-based learning discussions on conditions APPs felt least comfortable managing will be held monthly. Presentations will be developed and led by an APP with a physician mentor.

Conclusion
The needs assessment identified areas of deficit to better inform curriculum development targeted at allergy APPs. We hypothesize that with the education program APPs will become more skillful and competent in the initial diagnostic evaluation and basic management of complex patients and non-routine diagnoses.

Specialty clinics may consider developing needs assessments for their APP teams to explore their unique learning needs, and guide selection of APP continuing education topics in order to advance the clinical care they provide.