

Introduction

Our objective is to understand the impact that specific symptoms have on the care partners of people with Parkinson's, considering gender (of both the person with Parkinson's and the care partner), year of diagnosis, role of the care partner and age of the care partner.

Methodology

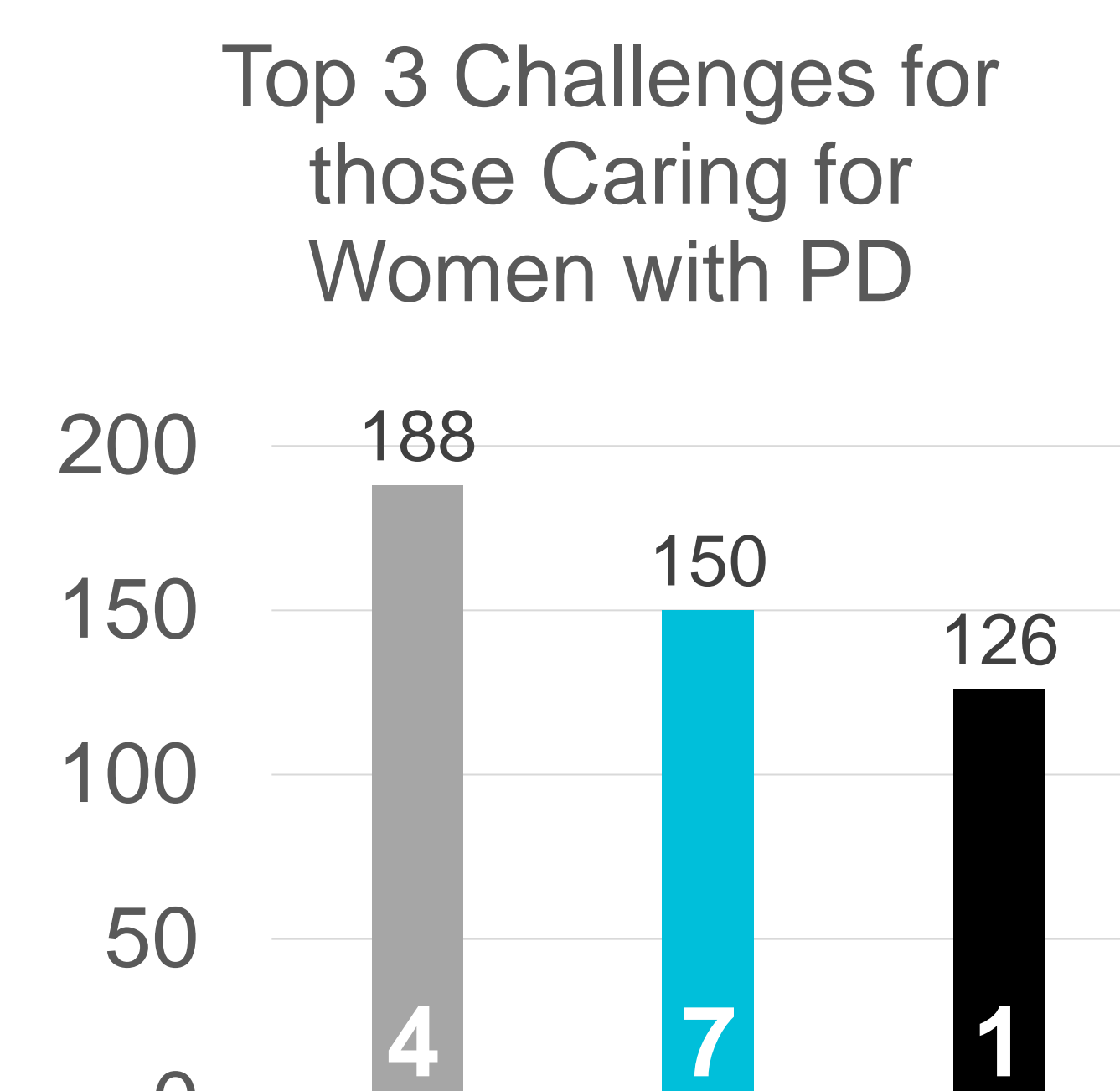
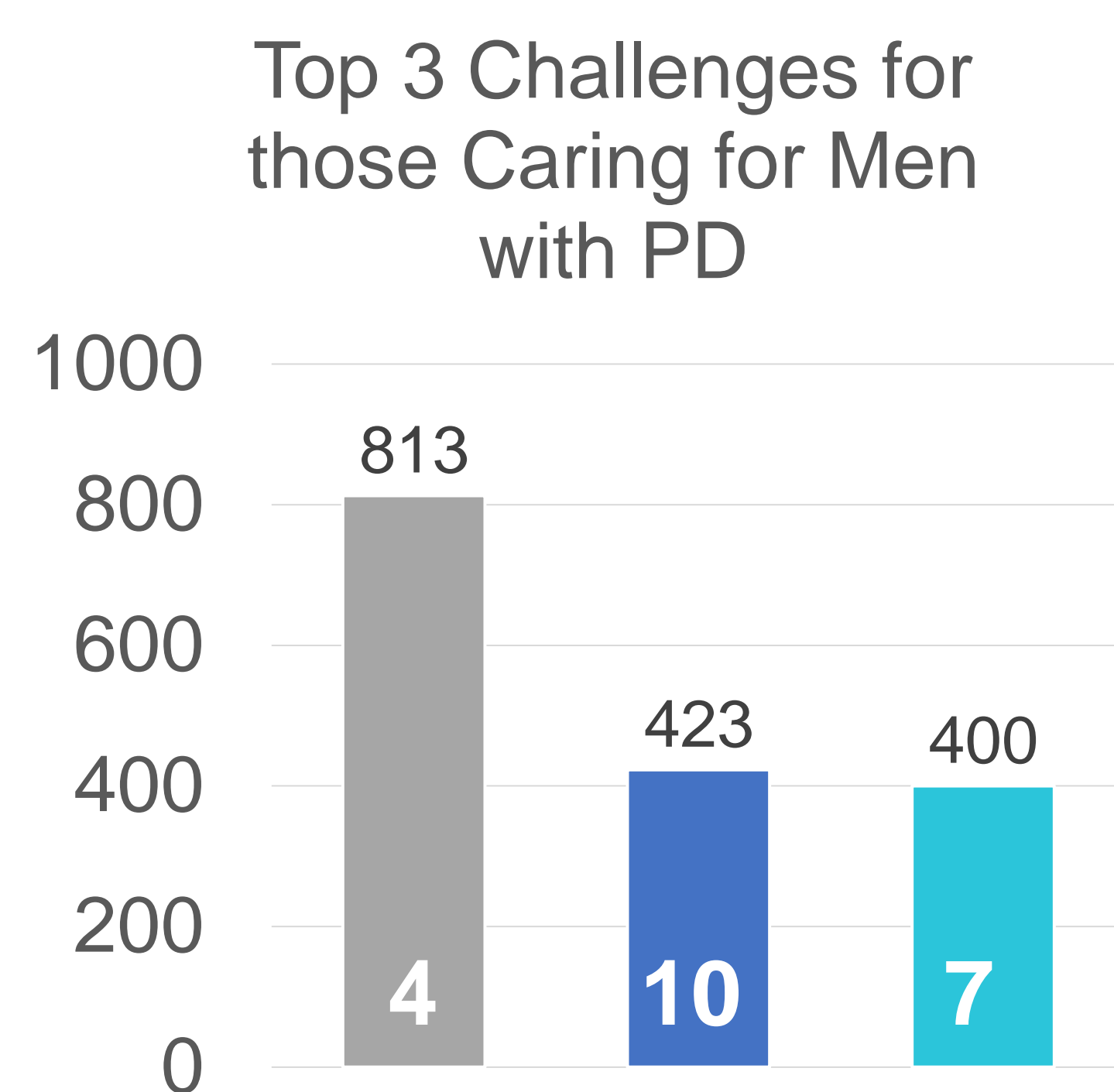
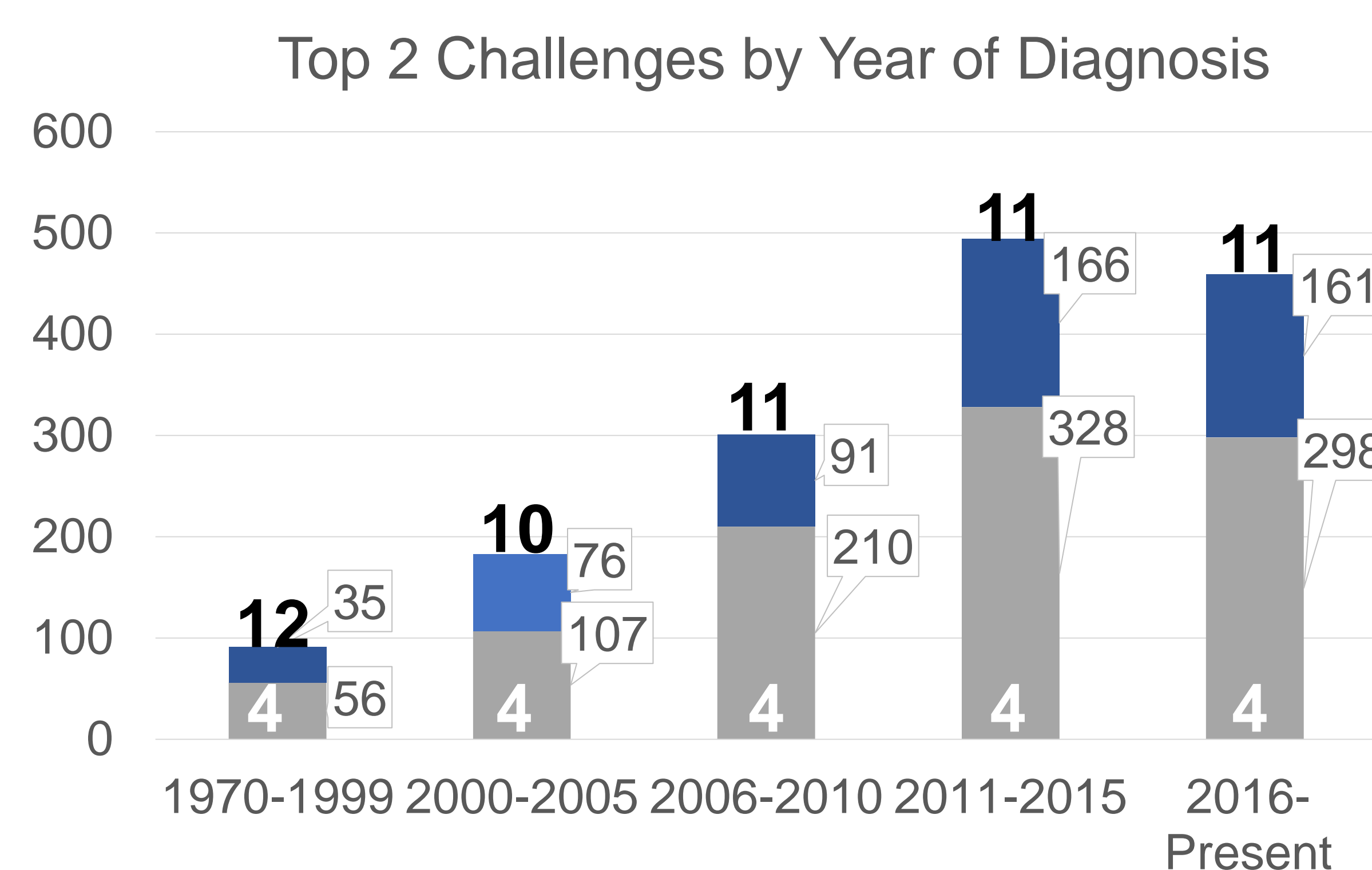
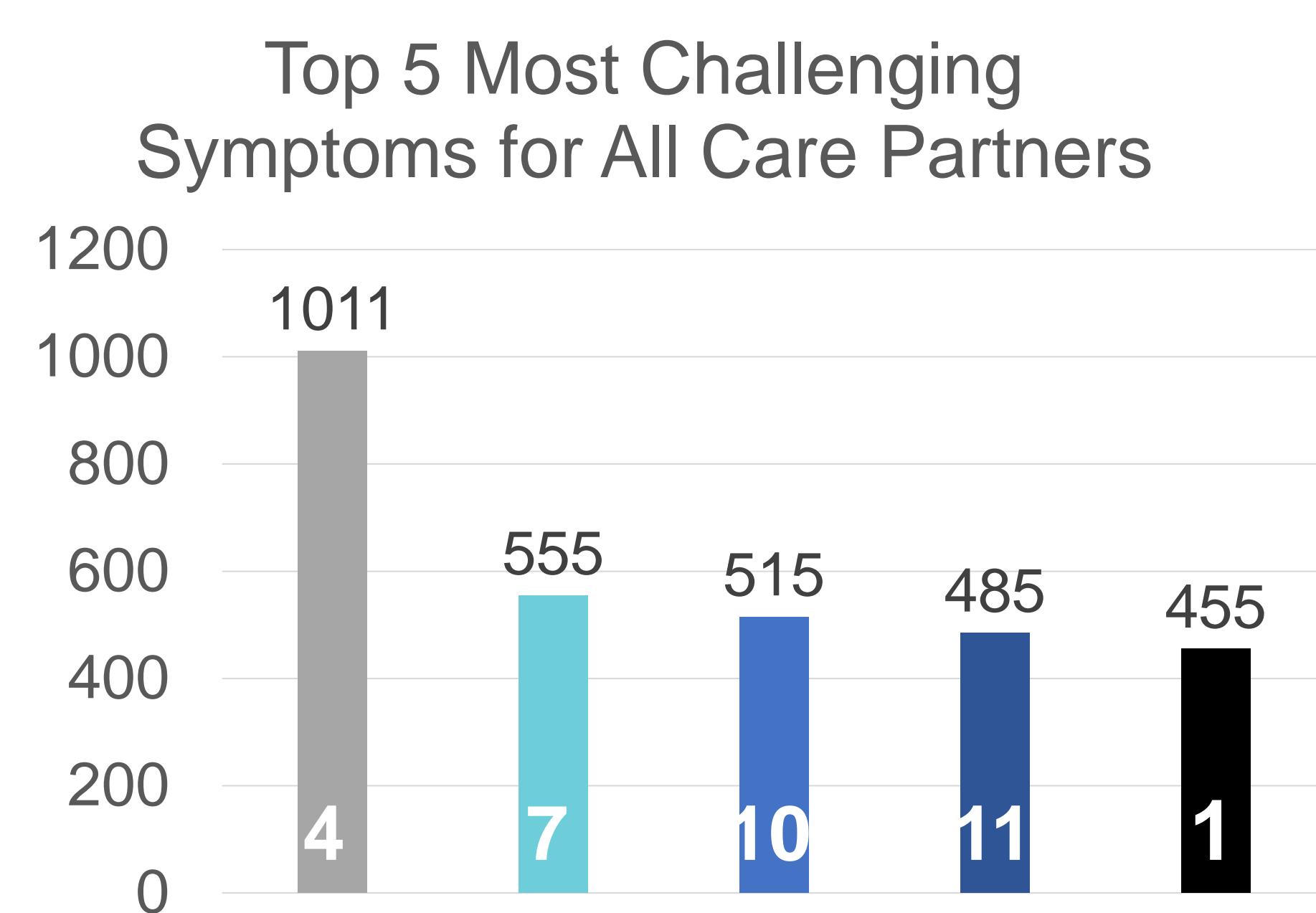
This data is being collected through registration for the 2020 Care Partner Summit | Cumbre Para Cuidadores (CPS), a free bilingual event hosted by the Parkinson's Foundation that includes both live and online viewing opportunities in English and Spanish. By end of February, we had 590 care partners registered, which includes 439 spouses/partners, 91 children, 33 other family and 27 friends of people with Parkinson's. Registration will remain open through the event on May 16, 2020. We expect to analyze data collected from at least 1,000 care partners for this poster. Through registration for the 2020 Care Partner Summit | Cumbre Para Cuidadores, we ask 2,615 respondents:

Which of your loved one's Parkinson's symptoms are the most challenging for you as a care partner? Respondents could select up to three of the following options:



Most Challenging Symptom for Care Partners: Cognitive Changes

We will analyze additional data as it comes in, but currently, the most challenging symptoms for care partners are (1) Cognitive Changes, (2) Bradykinesia (Slowness of Movement) and (3) Postural Instability/Balance Problems. If we look only at non-motor symptoms, the most challenging symptoms for care partners are (1) Cognitive Changes, (2) Sleep Disorders and (3) Fatigue, and Anxiety. Preliminary findings suggest that Sleep Disorders and Fatigue are more challenging for care partners of female persons with Parkinson's than male, with Cognitive Changes and Gait/Walking Changes as shared primary challenges for both groups. Cognitive Changes seem to be a significant challenge for care partners regardless of length of disease, with 20% of responses of spouses/partners placing Cognitive Changes as one of the three most challenging symptoms. In our final analysis, we found that Cognitive Changes were the top challenge across all demographics except for those in the 20-30 age range.



Age	Top Selected Symptom	Total
20-30	11 & 13	16
31-40	4	29
41-50	4	52
51-60	4	144
61-70	4	386
71-80	4	334
81+	4	55

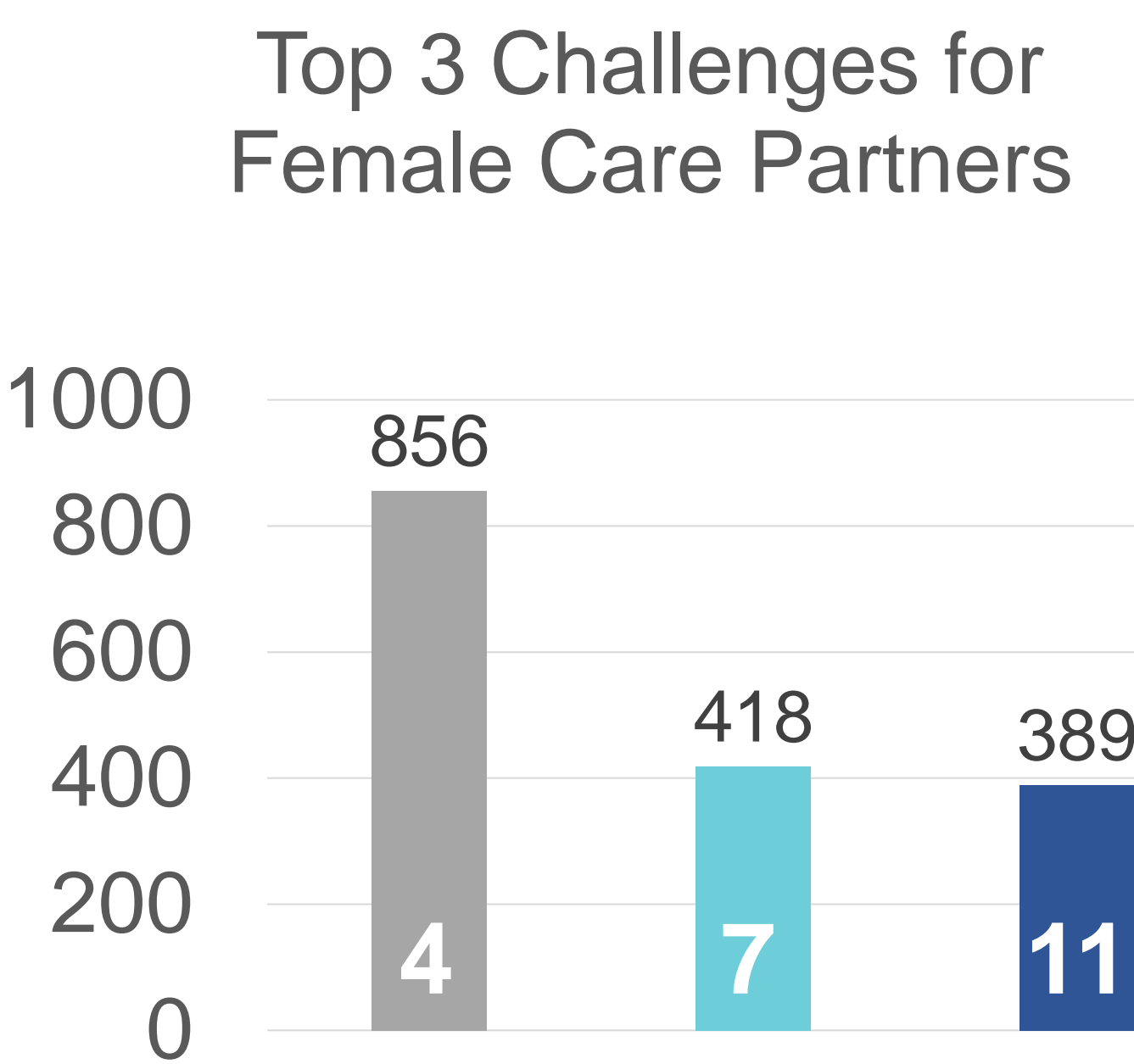
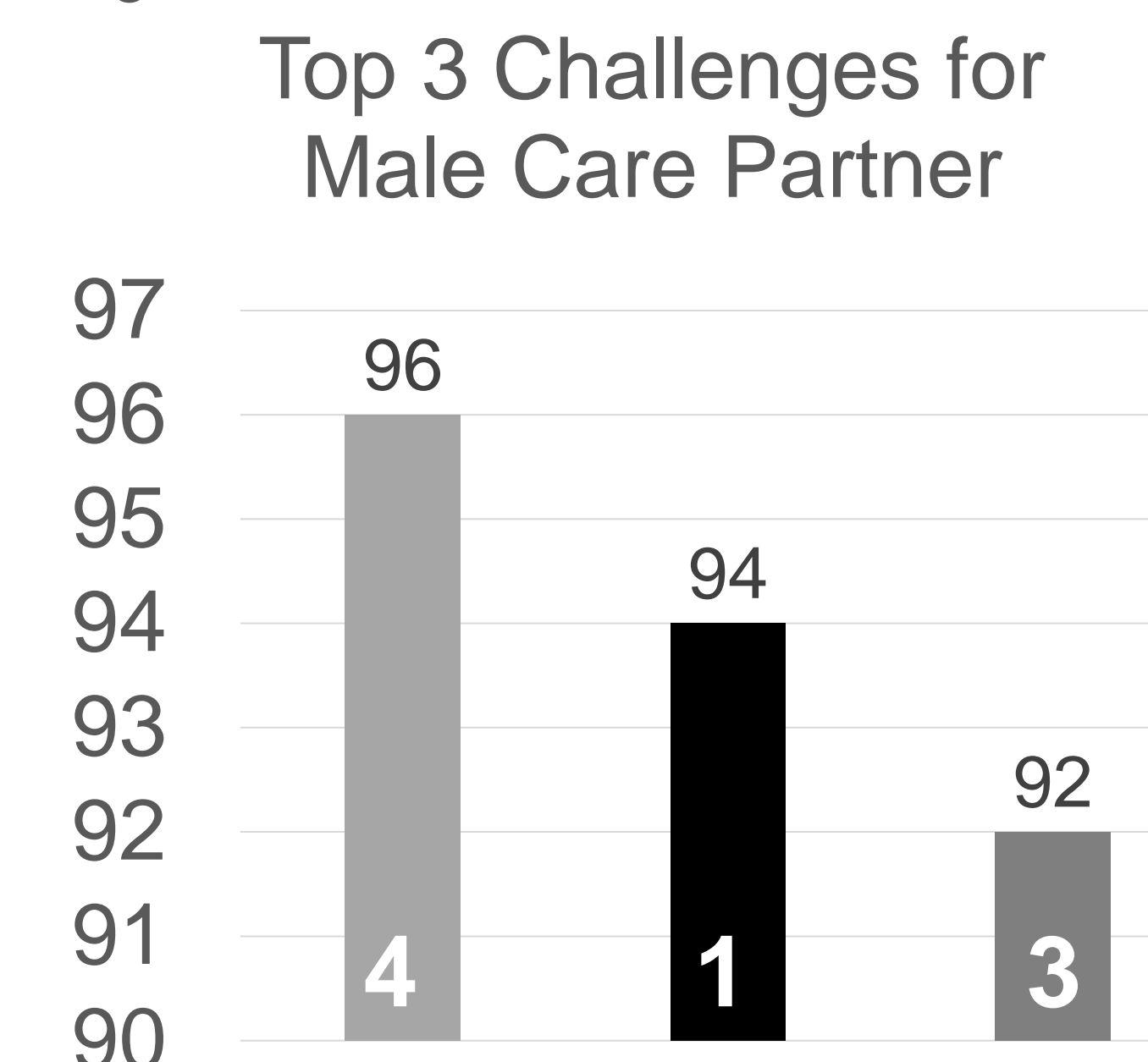
Conclusion

As a result of findings from the Care Partner Summit registration, cognitive changes seem to be a significant challenge for care partners regardless of length of disease, age of care partner and gender of both the care partner and PwP, with 51% of responses of spouses/partners placing Cognitive Changes as one of the three most challenging symptoms.

This helps the Parkinson's Foundation in recognizing the topics which care partners would like to see addressed in future programming as well as how to provide resources to people caring for People with Parkinson's on managing those difficult cognitive symptoms.

Acknowledgements

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Connection to PD	Top Selected Symptom	Total
Spouse/Partner	4	648
Parent has/had PD	4	100
More than one role	4	28
Other family of person with PD	4	25
Friend of a person with PD	4	9
Other	12	7
Healthcare Professionals	4	7