

Taking the Pressure Off in the Emergency Department

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TAKING THE PRESSURE OFF IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT



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A PASSION FOR BETTER MEDICINE.™



Purpose

- **Project Purpose:**
 - To identify and prevent pressure ulcers in at risk patients being admitted into the hospital from the Emergency Department



PICO QUESTION

- **PICO Question** – In all adult patients presenting in the Emergency department, does the implementation of a prompt skin assessment (initial skin assessment and reassessment prior to inpatient admission) result in a increase in reportable skin breakdown compared to standard protocol?
 - **P**- All adult patients presenting to the Emergency Department
 - **I**- Initial skin assessment and reassessment prior to inpatient admission
 - **C**- Standard protocol(assess within two hours of hospital admission)
 - **O**- Increase in reportable skin breakdown incidents

EVIDENCE

- Emergency Department duration of stay
- Populations at risk
- As per HBI, there is a total of 858 pressure ulcers reported in the past 24 months for CC and Muhlenberg
- As per RL solutions reporting system for the month of February 2015, 118 pressure ulcers were reported
 - 85/118 were reported present on admission(POA) or present when admitted from another facility
 - Of that 85, 49 were reported from the ED
 - 12-CC
 - 36-EDM
 - 1-ED 17TH



Current LVHN Policy

- No specific policy for LVHN Emergency Department
- What is currently being done in the ED
 - Skin inspection within two hours of admit
 - Submission ET/PT/Wound healing Team Consult
 - PSR
- Noted inconsistency with skin inspection documentation



BARRIERS & STRATEGIES

■ Barrier:

- ED overcapacity
- Admission holds in the ED
- Lack of reassessment
- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of time and resources for preventive measures

■ Strategy to Overcome:

- Prompt skin assessment
- Identify at risk patients
- Removal of pt clothing during ED visit
- Reassessment of admitting patients
- Proper hand off communication



Expected Outcomes

- Focused approach to pressure ulcer prevention
- Increase reportable skin breakdown
- Alleviate hospital financial cost



PROJECT PLANS

- Prompt skin assessment in EMR
- Formulating a more precise and feasible skin assessment protocol for Muhlenberg Emergency Department
- Communication tool to the Inpatient Units



Implementation

- Employee in-service
- Skin Champion recognition
- Pre-Intervention Survey
- Skin Assessment hand off sheet



Pre-Intervention Assessment



take our
survey

Questionnaire for Skin Assessment Communication from the ED to the Admitting Unit

Are you aware that a skin assessment was completed on your patient admitted via the ED?

- Always Sometimes Never

Are you aware that a skin patient safety report was submitted if necessary on your patient admitted via the ED?

- Always Sometimes Never

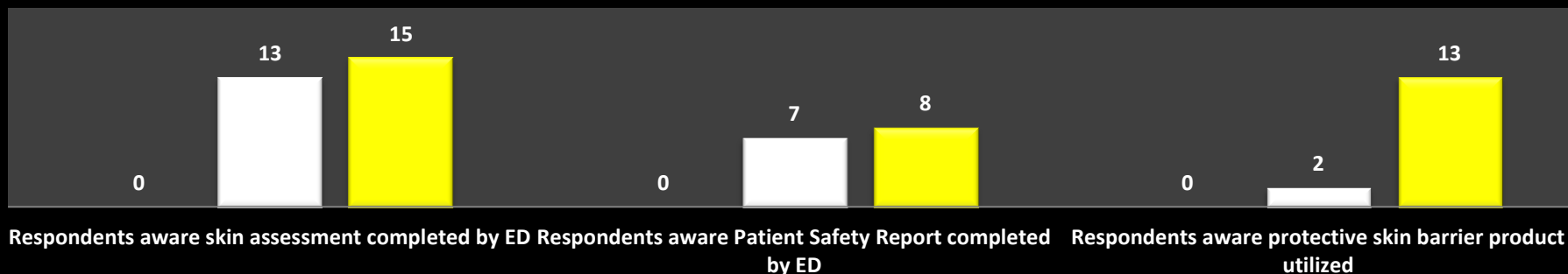
Are you aware if protective skin barrier products have been utilized on your patient admitted via the ED?

- Always Sometimes Never

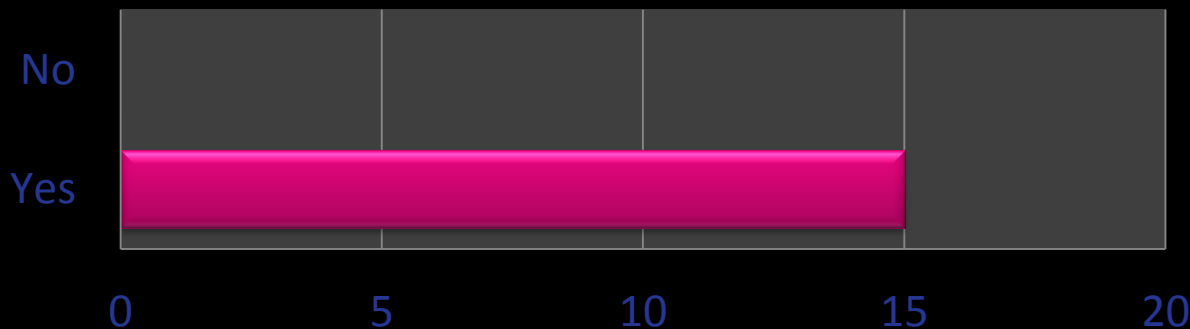
Results/Outcome

Pre-Survey Results: Skin Assessment Hand-Off Communication Form

Always Sometimes Never



Respondents in favor of a skin assessment hand-off communication form

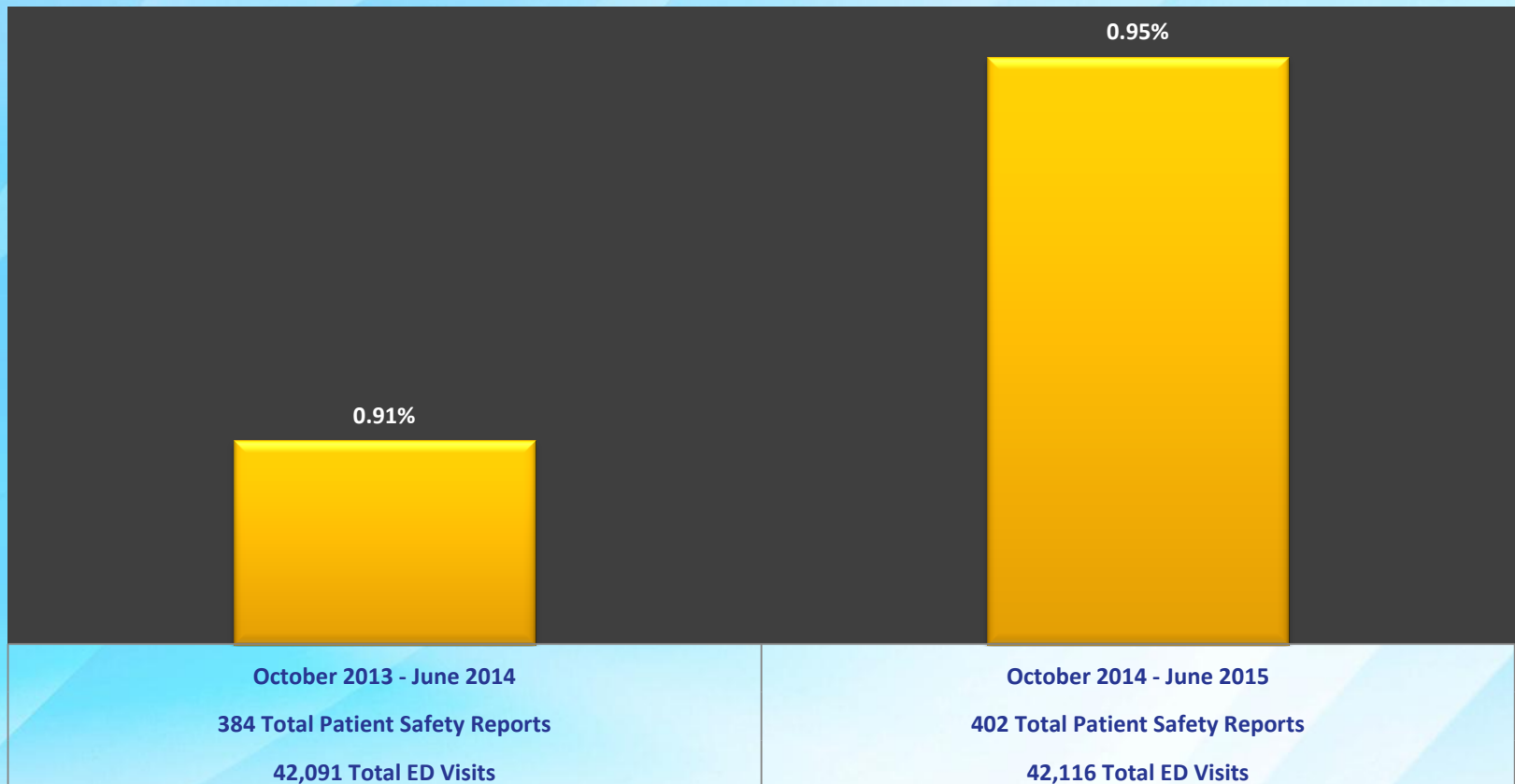


Respondents in favor of a skin assessment hand-off communication form

Results/Outcomes

Percentage of Patient Safety Reports

■ Percentage of Patient Safety Reports



Results/Outcomes

- Missed Pressure Ulcers on Admission from Emergency Department Muhlenberg:
 - April – ZERO
 - May – ZERO
 - June - ZERO



Change in Practice

- Prompt skin assessment and reassessment
- Effective communication tool to inpatient unit
- Reposition every two hours and/or as needed
- Protective skin barrier products

from
answers
to
action

References

- *Bergquist-Berringer et al. Pressure ulcers and prevention among acute care hospitals in the United States. Jt Comm j Qual Patient Safety. 2013; 39(9); 404-414*
- Denby A, Rowlands A. Stop them at the door. Should a pressure ulcer prevention protocol be implemented in the emergency department? *J Wound, Ostomy, Continence Nurs.* 2010;37(1):35-38.
- Rogers, C et al. Improving process to capture on admission pressure ulcers. *Advances in Skin and Wound Care.* 2013;26(12):566-572

Questions or Comments?



Make It Happen

- Lets Save Some Skin!



Cedar Crest



17th Street



Muhlenberg



Health Centers