Patient Care Services / Nursing

MEWS or Lose Labor and Delivery Cedar Crest

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Background

- Recommendation by regulatory agency (Joint Commission) of the critical importance of utilizing the MEWS score amongst L&D/PNU nurses.
- Unit leadership acknowledgment of gaps and documentation of the MEWS score as evidence by chart audits.
- Knowledge deficit amongst L&D and PNU nurses as evidenced by staff survey created by nurse residency cohort.

EVIDENCE

Utilizing MEWs score increases awareness of changes in maternal condition thus decreasing potential PPH thus decreasing maternal mortality rates.

PICO

- Do Labor and Delivery /PNU nurses posses the necessary knowledge to utilize the MEWS score for patient safety when compared to Labor and Delivery/PNU nurses with increased education and training?
- **P** – Labor and Delivery/PNU nurses
- **I** – Education on proper utilization of the MEWS score.
- **C** – When compared to Labor and Delivery/PNU nurses with additional education and training on the MEWS score.
- **O** – Improved knowledge and utilization of MEWS score and its positive effect on patient care and outcomes.
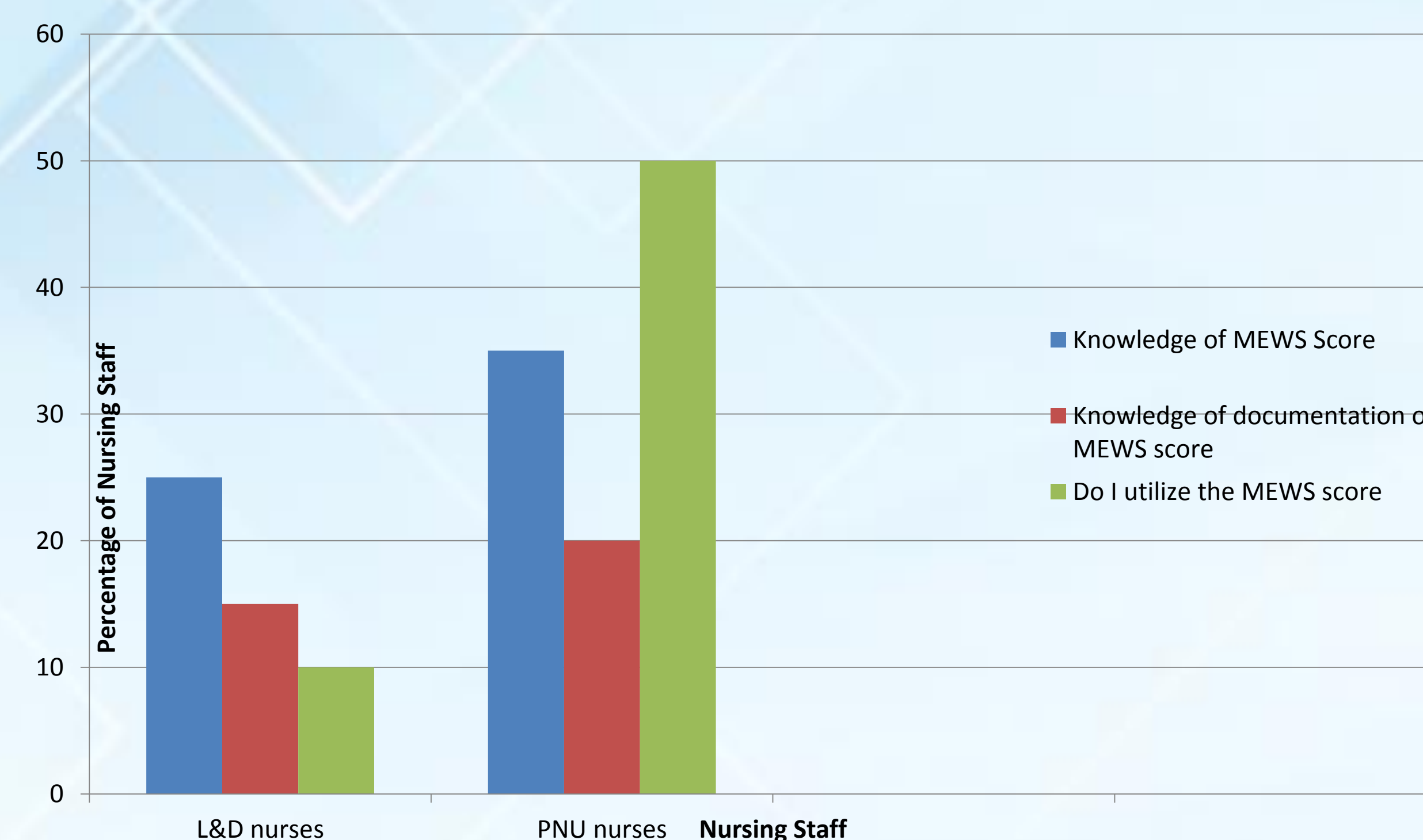
Implementation Plan

Process Indicators:

Pre-Survey was distributed on each POD located on L&D/PNU that assess RN's knowledge in regards to importance of utilizing the MEWS.
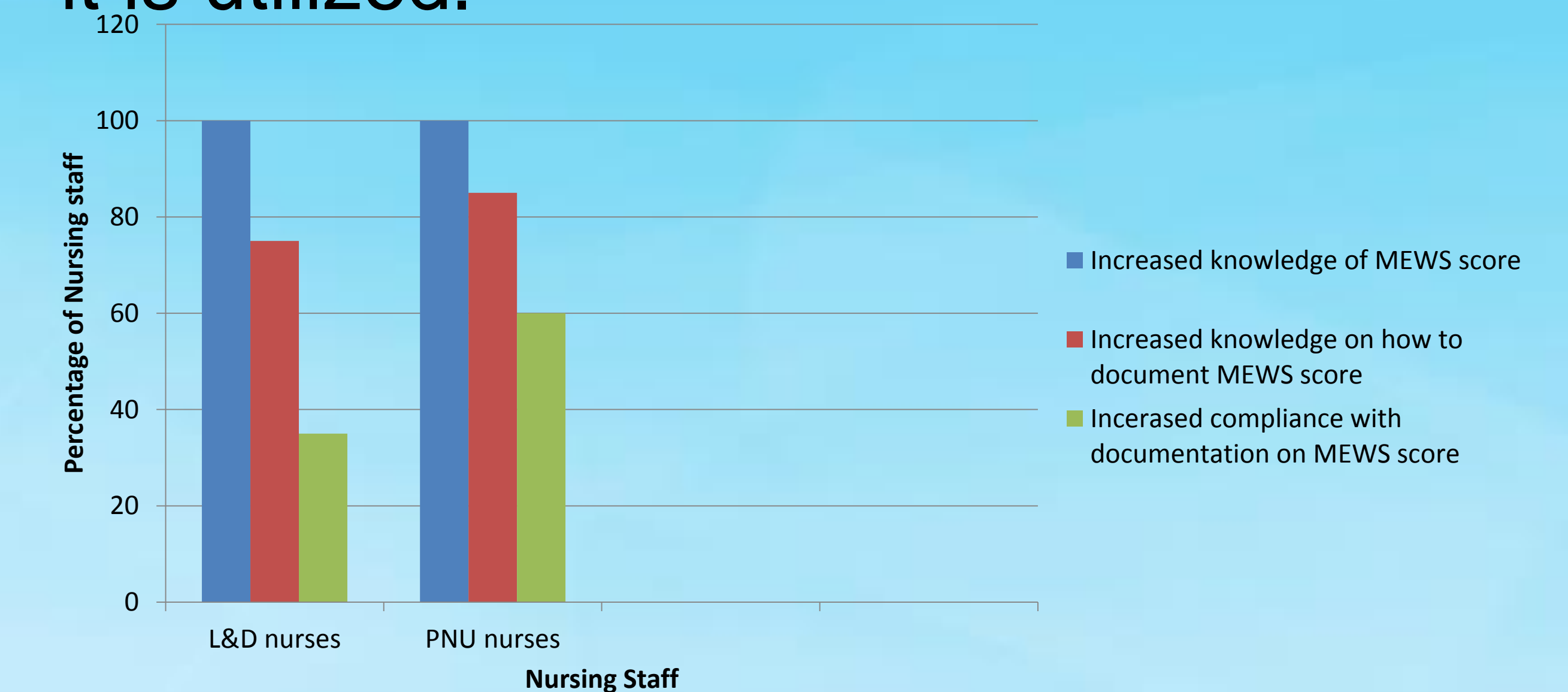
Implementation:

- TLC was assigned to 85 RNs on Labor and Delivery/PNU at 100% completion.
- Post – education survey was completed to assess the knowledge gained .
- Charge nurses helped to promote the utilization of the MEWS score.
- Reminders were given at daily staff huddle to utilize the MEWS score unit wide.
- Post education chart audits times 7 days to ensure proper utilization and documentation of the MEWS score.

Outcomes

- L&D/PNU RNs acknowledged a greater understanding of the MEWS score and why it is utilized.

Conclusion

- L&D/PNU collectively have shown an increased knowledge on the MEWS score and how to properly utilize and document on it.
- L&D/PNU nurses have shown improved documentation on the MEWS score.

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