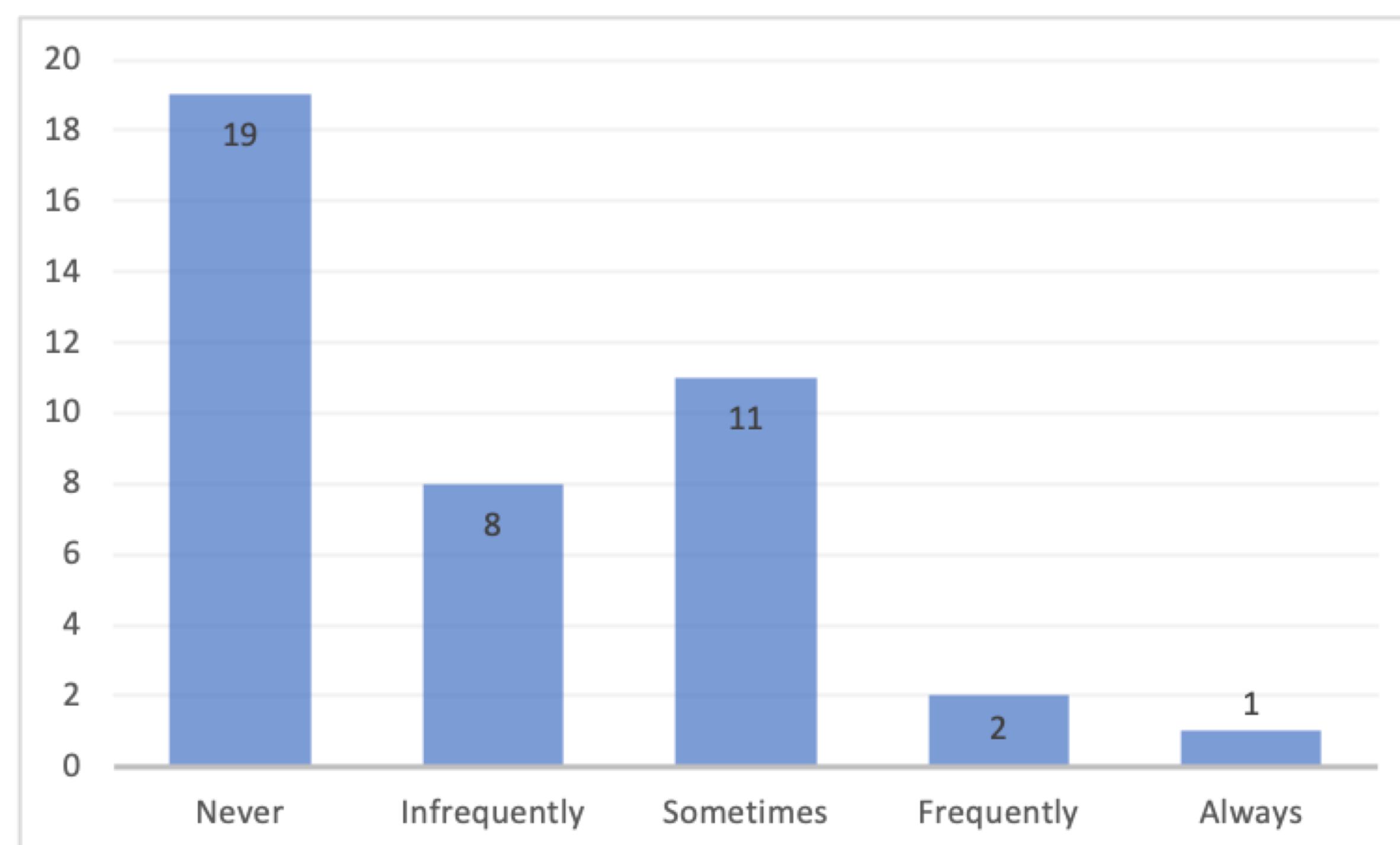


Problem Definition

Surgery not only requires an advanced level of anatomic knowledge, spatial awareness and precise dexterity, but necessitates the concerted efforts of nurses, technicians, and anesthesiologist to optimize patient safety. Although a formal time out process has been ubiquitously adopted at the start of each surgical case, a standardized debriefing session is seldom performed in the neurosurgical operating rooms (ORs) at TJUH.

Figure 1. Pre-initiative OR Team Debrief Participation.



Aims For Improvement

Effective and clear communication in the operating room is a necessary aspect of any surgery. Every member of the operative team is integral in fostering an environment focused on patient safety. As such, the institution of a postoperative debrief session may allow for feedback from every member of the team that will ultimately aid in improving a patient's experience.

Intervention

We introduced operating room staff to the SHARP debrief model proposed by Ahmed et al and enlisted neurosurgery residents to lead the initiative in neurosurgical cases at the time of wound closure during the months of April and May 2020.¹ Study participants included 40 team members composed of neurosurgery residents, nurse practitioners, anesthesiologists, nurse anesthetists, nursing circulators, and technologists. Prior to and following the initiative, an anonymous survey was conducted regarding impact on interprofessional communication, patient safety, and operating room efficiency.

Figure 2. SHARP Debrief Model

Set Learning objectives: What would you like to get out of this case?

After the Case

How did it go?

Address concerns: What did not go well and why?

Review learning points: were your learning objectives met in this case?

Plan ahead: What actions can you take to improve your future practice?

Measurement and Results

Results from a post-initiative survey revealed

- 60% of the participants noted improved communication among the OR team
- 80% regularly participated in OR debriefs
- All participants strongly agreed debriefing was a valuable tool with the potential for improving operative skills, interpersonal communication and OR efficiency.



Next Steps and Lessons Learned

Future plans for instituting a formalized debriefing process in the Jefferson ORs would include extending the initiative to other departments, making use of the electronic medical record to document the debrief by nursing staff during skin closure, and collaborating with the Jefferson DICE group to research digital solutions to enhance OR staff participation in the initiative.

Reference List

1. Ahmed M, Aurora S, Russ S, Darzi A, Vincent C, Sevdalis N. Operation debrief: A SHARP Improvement in Performance Feedback in the Operating Room. *Ann Surg.* 2013; 258:958-963.