



Improved Veteran Outcomes Diagnosed with Myocardial Infarction

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PURPOSE

- Perform chart audits on every patient within the inpatient hospital with the following diagnosis
 - ST-elevation myocardial infarction
 - Non-ST elevated myocardial infarction
- Identify key areas of improvement based off reports
- Provide evidence-based care in accordance with the American Heart Association Guidelines for Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)

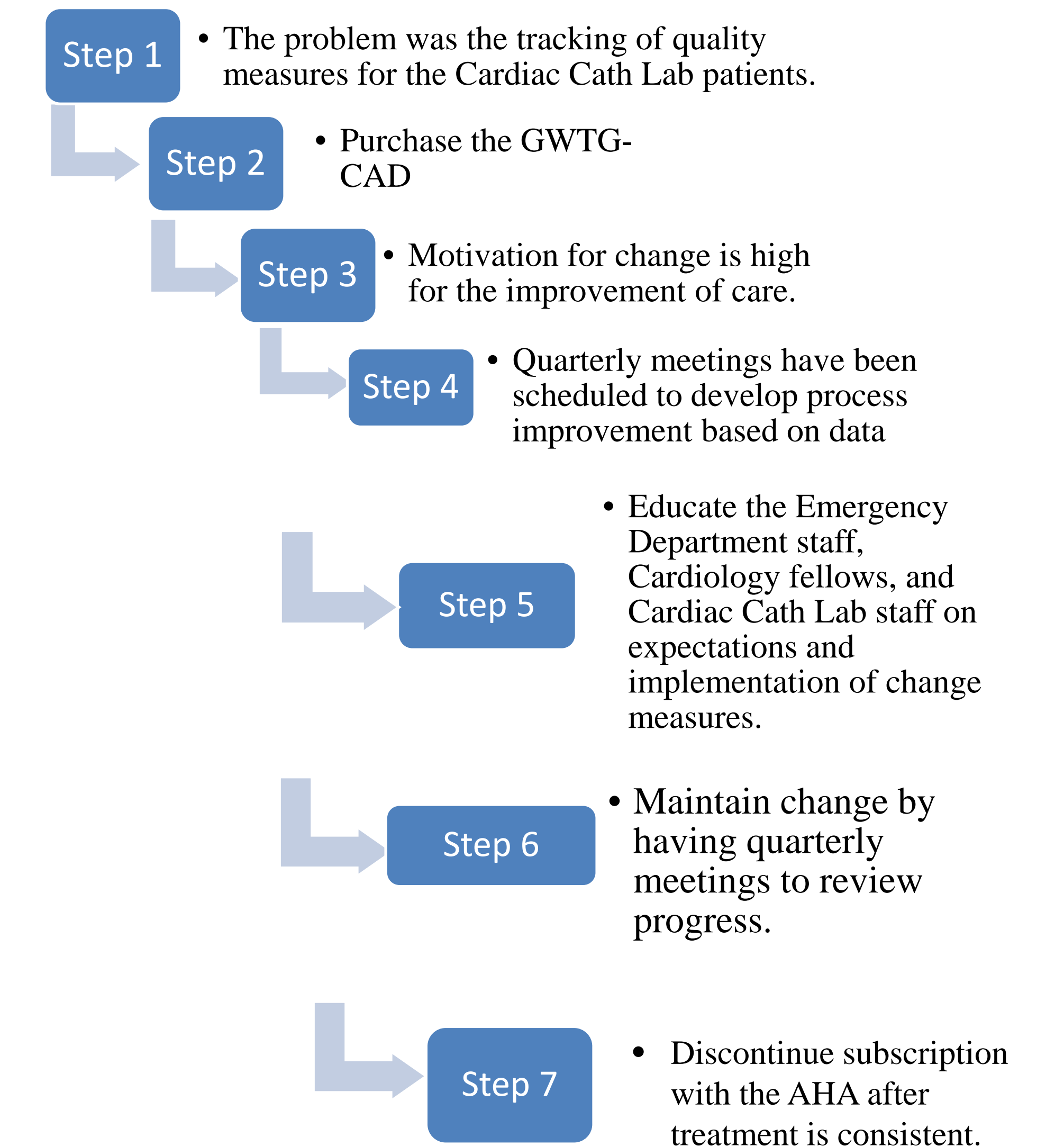
BACKGROUND

- Kentucky's leading cause of death in 2017 was heart disease (CDC/National Center for Health Statistics, 2018)
- Kentucky is ranked 9th for Heart Disease in the United States (CDC/National Center for Health Statistics, 2018)
- Kentucky's veteran population is approximately 295,390 with most veterans being sixty-five years of age or older (National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, 2018)
- This facility has the capability to treat cardiac emergencies with an Emergency Department and Cardiac Catheterization Lab with 24:7 coverage.

METHODS

- Inclusion criteria per AHA includes patients that are eighteen years and older with a confirmed diagnosis of NSTEMI and/or STEMI with signs and symptoms of chest tightness, shortness of breath, and/or chest pain (American Heart Association, 2021)
- Patients meeting the criteria were entered into the GWTG-CAD database to map outcomes
- Key stakeholder quarterly meetings occurred to identify improvement and adapt change strategies.

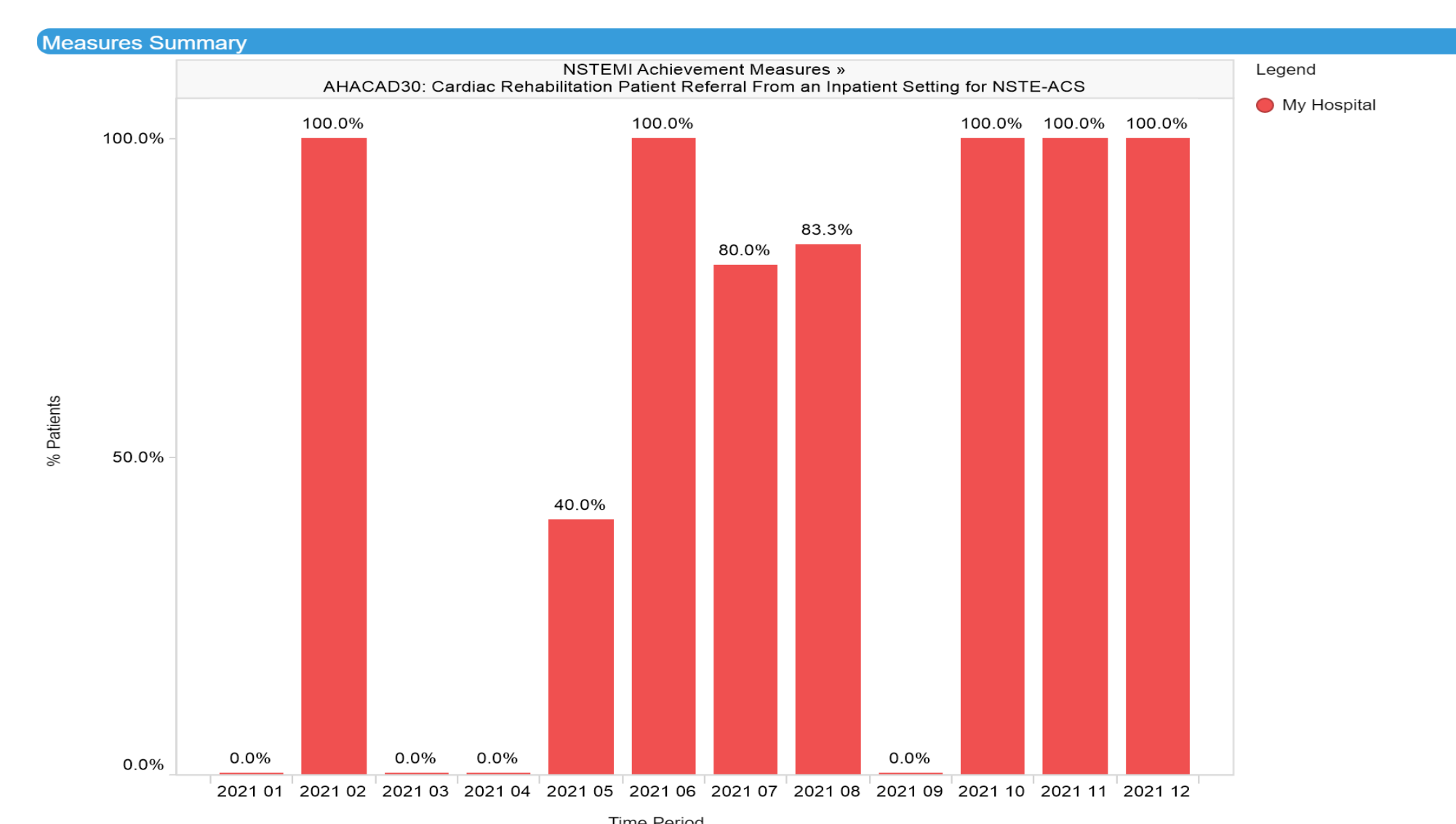
FRAMEWORK



OUTCOMES

- Cardiac Rehabilitation Referral from an inpatient setting
- ACEI/ARB at Discharge (LVEF<40%)
- Left Ventricular Systolic Function Evaluated
- Smoking Cessation Counseling
- Dual Antiplatelet Therapy on Discharge (DAPT)
- ECG within 10 minutes of arrival

Cardiac Rehabilitation Referrals



Cardiac Rehab referrals hit 100% for Quarter 4 earning this facility the Bronze NSTEMI award from the American Heart Association!

CONCLUSIONS

- The areas of improvement are ECG within 10 minutes of arrival and ordering cardiac rehabilitation from the inpatient setting.
- Quarterly meetings took place among key stakeholders to discuss this quality improvement project.
- Education of cardiology fellows, Emergency Department clerks and nurses took place.
- This facility met the hospital recognition criteria for the bronze award in Mission: Lifeline NSTEMI by achieving a score of 85% or greater for 90 consecutive days.

RELEVANCE to NURSING

- Nurses can improve outcomes through collaboration with physicians and across units to achieve best cardiac patient care.
- Nursing leaders promote evidence-based practice application to improve patient outcomes.
- Nurses are the driving force of implementing quality measures.

