

# Wear Your Whites to Work: Nurse Leaders Collaborating with Frontline Nurses to Facilitate Patient Safety and Infection Control

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## Background

### Transformation of Culture Through Collaboration

- Significant pressures are being put on health care leaders to improve patient care outcomes.
- Our nurse leaders recognized the importance of being visible and set out to round in all hospital units.
- The goals and objectives include:
  - Reducing restraint use
  - Reducing CLABSI's
  - CAUTI/peri-care compliance
  - White board compliance

## Methodology

- There are many studies that support the role of leaders being visible and accessible to staff. No literature was found that supported the nurse leader wearing white to create a unified front with bedside nurses.
- Transformation of culture occurs when nurse leaders step outside of their offices:
  - Nurses and nurse leaders are working hand in hand.
  - Enables nurse leaders to step back into the everyday role of the frontline nurses.
  - The image of the nurse leader in a white uniform represents a unified front.

## Tool

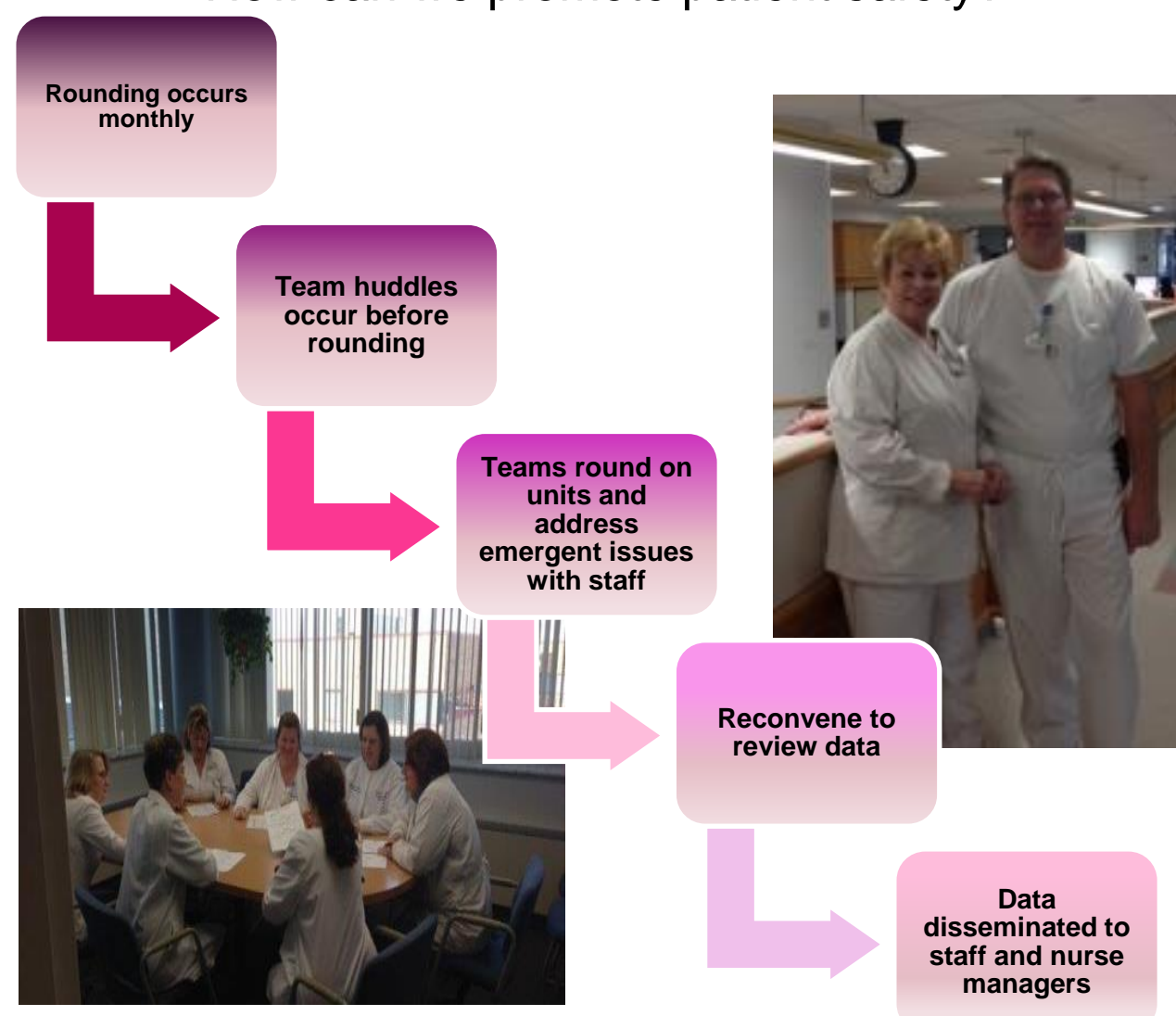
Restraints						Foley Catheter Maintenance Audit Form					
Room	Type of Restraint (Spec)	Date Collected (Nurse/Unit)	Reason for Restraint (Spec)	Monitoring and Documentation (Nurse/Unit)	Comments	Patient Name / MRN	Unit Audited	Date of Audit	Metric	Response	Comment
									Type of catheter	Standard    2-way    3-way    Non-occlusive    Other	
									Foley system intact	Seal intact    Seal broken - Bladder Pressure Monitoring    Seal broken - Clouse    Seal broken - Reason known    Seal broken - Reason unknown	
									Foley secured	Yes    No	
									Pericare documented in the last 24 hours	Yes    No    N/A	
									Position of patient	In bed    In chair    Ambulating    On cart	
									Collection bag below level of bladder	Yes    No	
									Collection bag off floor	Yes    No	
									Urine with free flow (no dependent loops)	Yes    No	
									Graduate with patient identifier	Yes    No    N/A	

Other initiatives identified during rounds include:

- Completion of the White Board
- Ticket-to-Ride for patient transportation
- Nurses using workstations on wheels when passing medications.

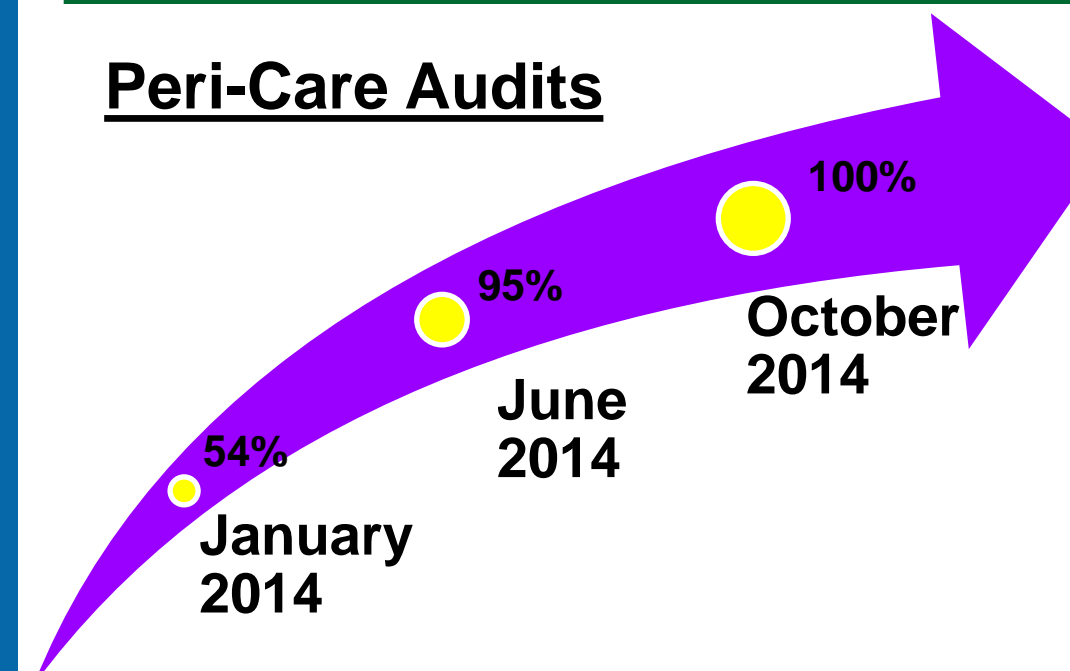
## Communication and Process

- Nurse leaders are encouraged to create a dialogue with the nurses.
  - Any barriers or challenges?
  - Do you have any recommendations?
  - How can we promote patient safety?

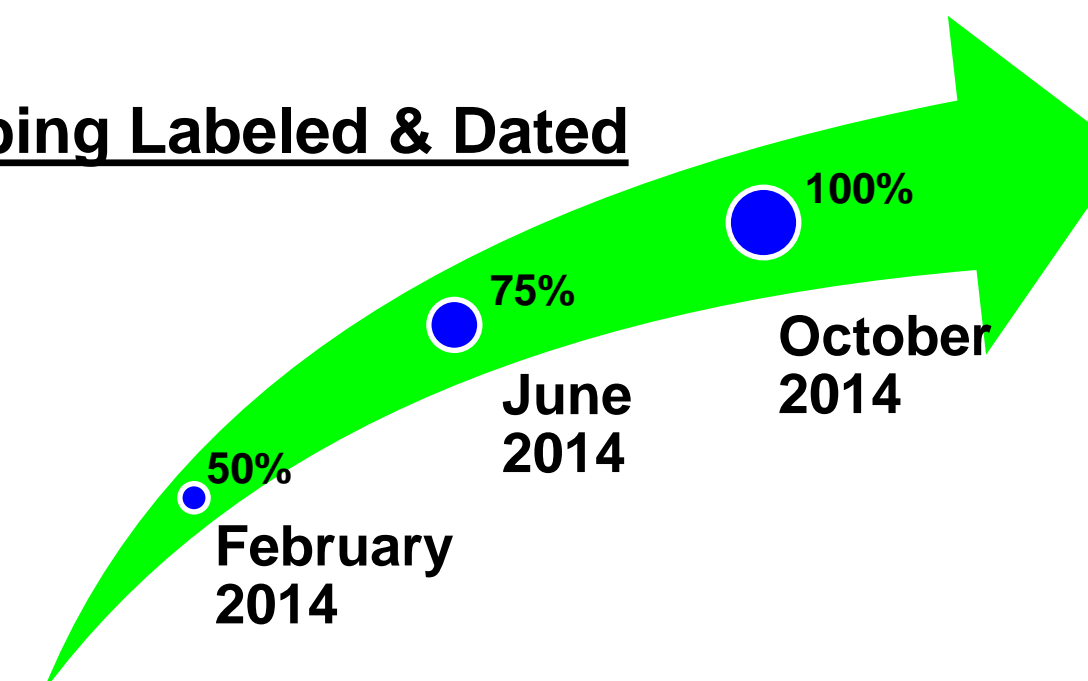


## Data

### Peri-Care Audits



### IV Tubing Labeled & Dated



- After 6 months of rounding, improvements were seen in:
  - Documentation of peri-care
  - Use of a biopatch with a central line
  - Documentation of a CHG bath
  - IV tubing labeled and dated

## Conclusions

### Benefits of Collaborative Rounding

- Nurse leaders utilize this time to:
  - Address concerns
  - Reward best practices
  - Build relationships
  - Scan the environment for potential safety concerns
  - Step back into the everyday role of the nurse
  - Advocate for patients and nurses

Frontline nurses view this collaboration as:

- A time to bond and engage with leaders
- Share concerns
- Discuss problem resolution

## Recommendations

- Welcome suggestions
- Provide feedback and concurrent education
- Transparency with results
- Remain active listeners
- Recognize and reward staff for their valuable input.

## Contact Information

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