

## Splash zone rollout decreases CLABSI rates in high acuity ICU

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ONRQC Presentation  
April 14, 2025

# Objectives

- Initial concern and project rollout
- What is a splash zone?
- Connection to CLABSIs
- Offer strategies to minimize risk
- Successes and pain points



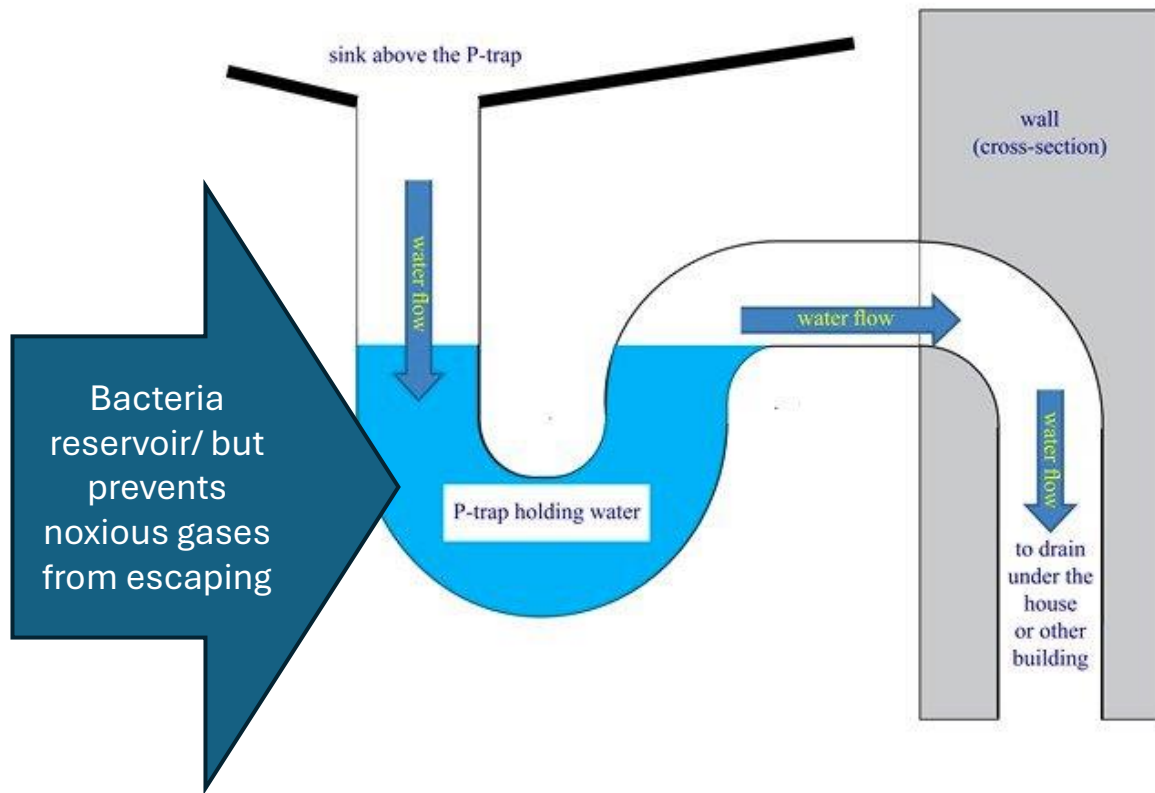
# What started it all?

- In 2019, an OHSU oncology unit had an outbreak of resistant *Pseudomonas* bacteremia
- VERY high risk of mortality
- After much investigation it was deemed this was coming from the hospital environment related to water
  - Several interventions were done- ice machine replaced, faucet aerators removed, strengthened the CLABSI bundle etc.
  - Yet did not change the outbreak issue
  - ***Suspected source were the drains based on literature***



# What is the Splash Zone?

With mixing of patient biomatter & medications, antibiotic-resistant bacteria can grow & persist creating biofilm



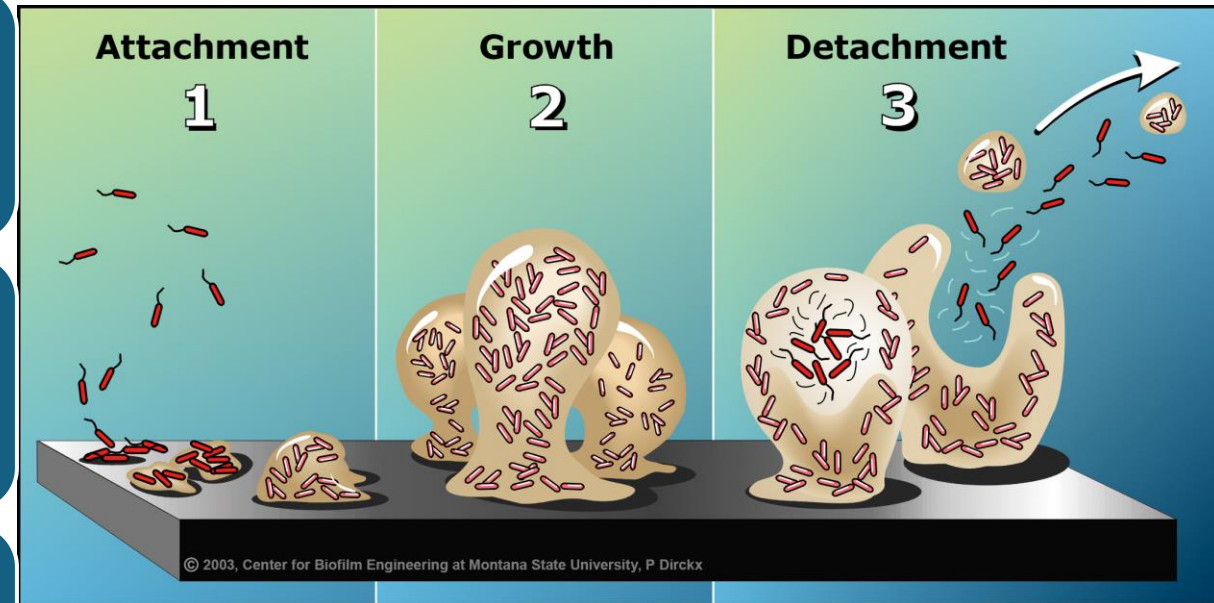


# Biofilms

Matrix of cells adhering to a surface

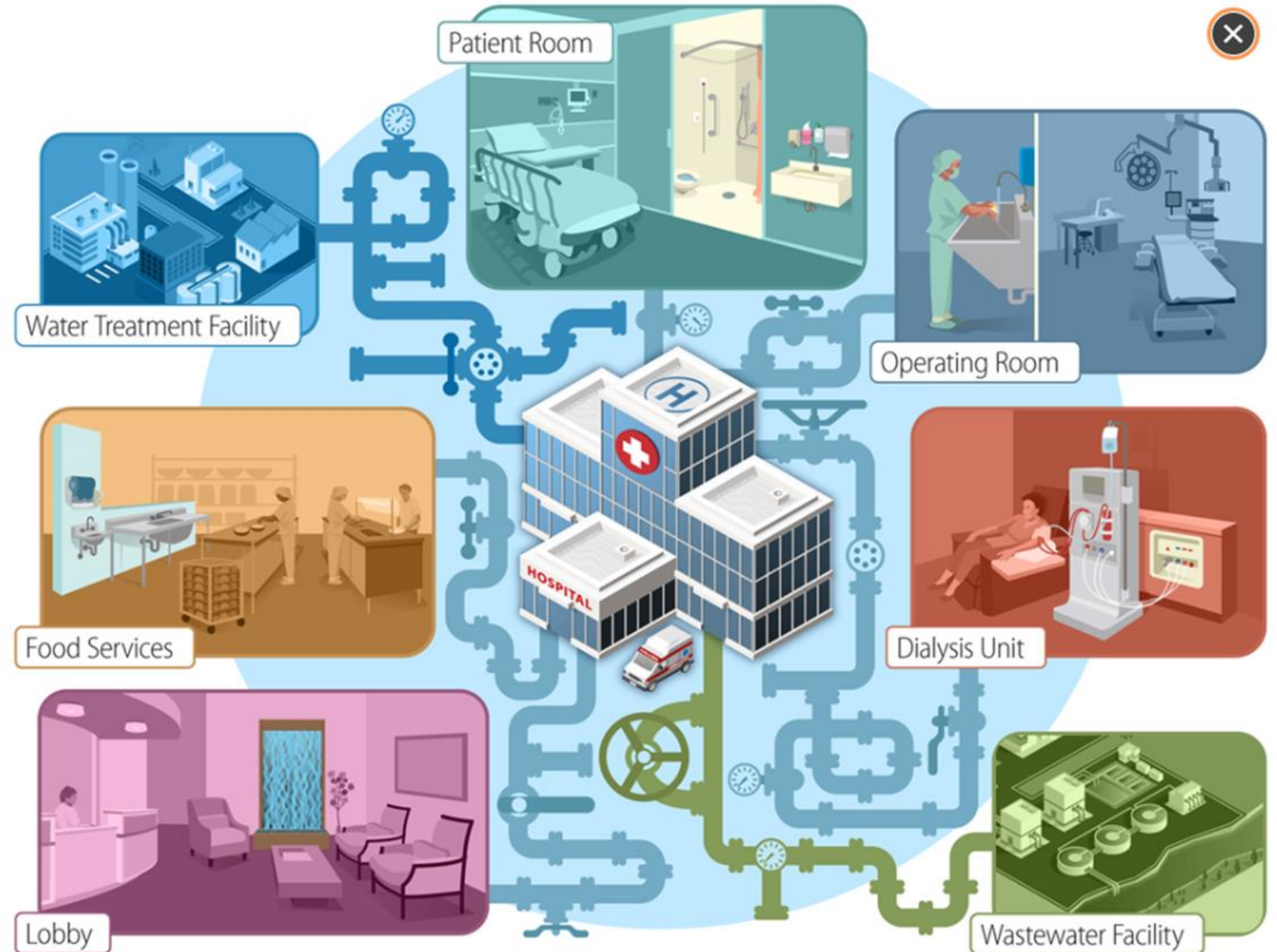
Can occur in plumbing (hot or cold), indwelling devices, IV lines, cooling tanks, sinks, aerators, shower heads and more.

Can break off to form new colonies elsewhere in the water system



## CDC- Considerations for Reducing Risk: Water in Healthcare Facilities

- Avoid placement of patient care items or personal items on counters next to sinks.
- Handwashing sinks should be close by & accessible
- Preparing medications: avoid storing med or preparing meds near sinks unless barriers are in place to prevent splashing





## Are you healthy? Not to worry...

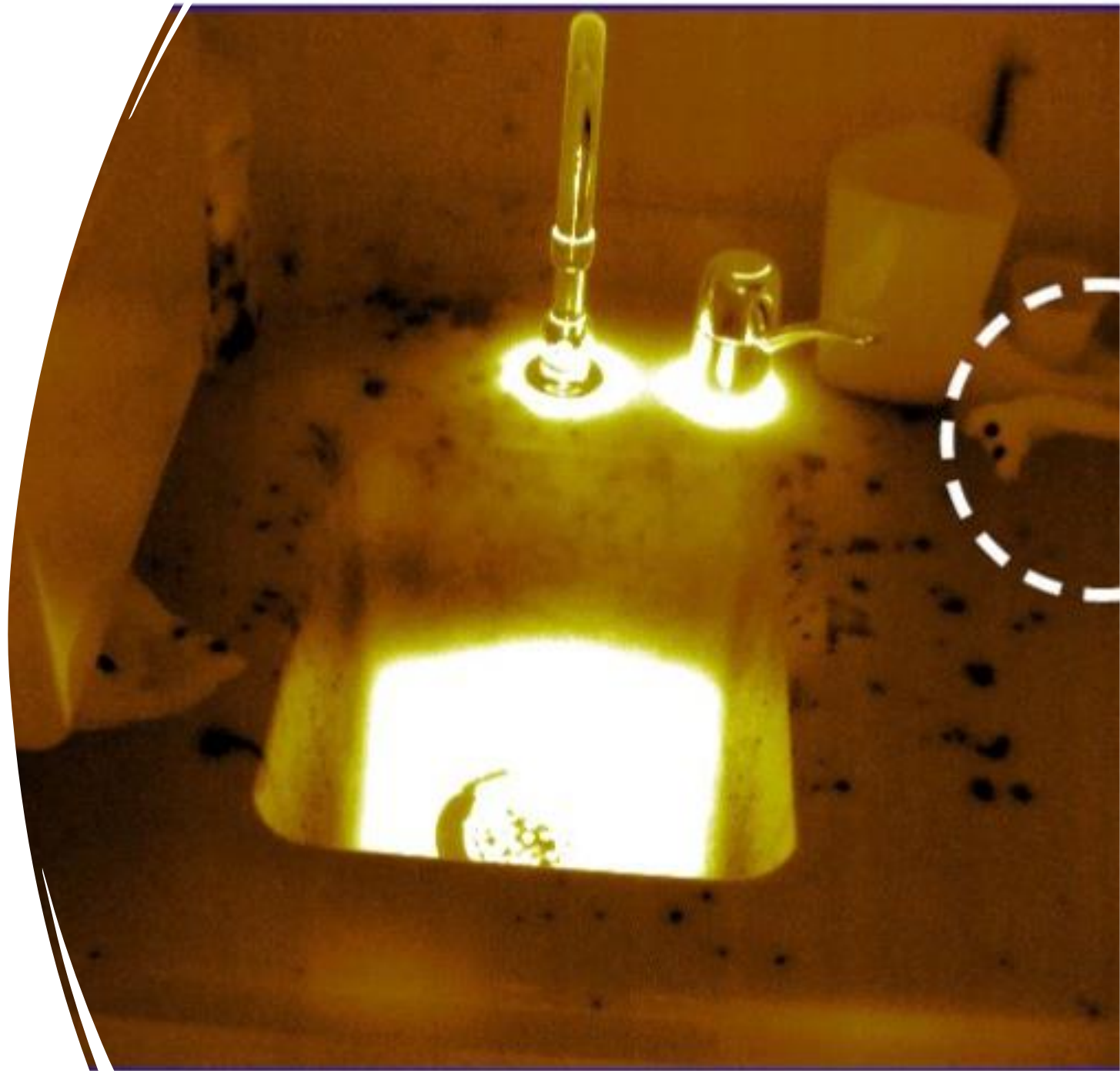
- For typical household uses such as washing, bathing, drinking and food preparation, these microbes rarely pose a serious health risk.
- Yet in healthcare settings, the way we use water can be different & patients are more susceptible to infections



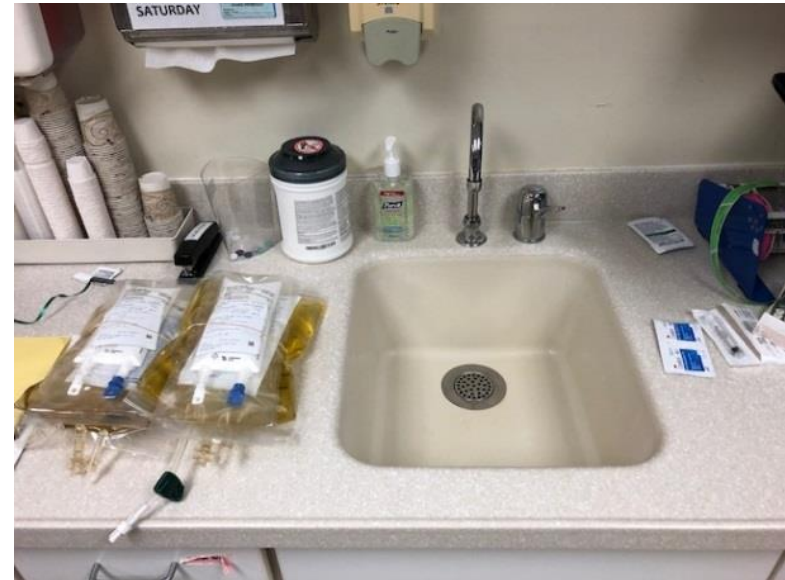
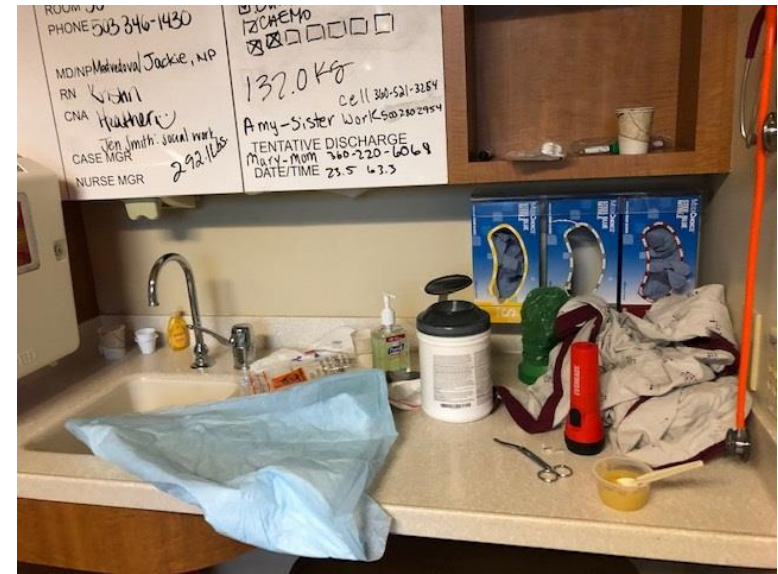
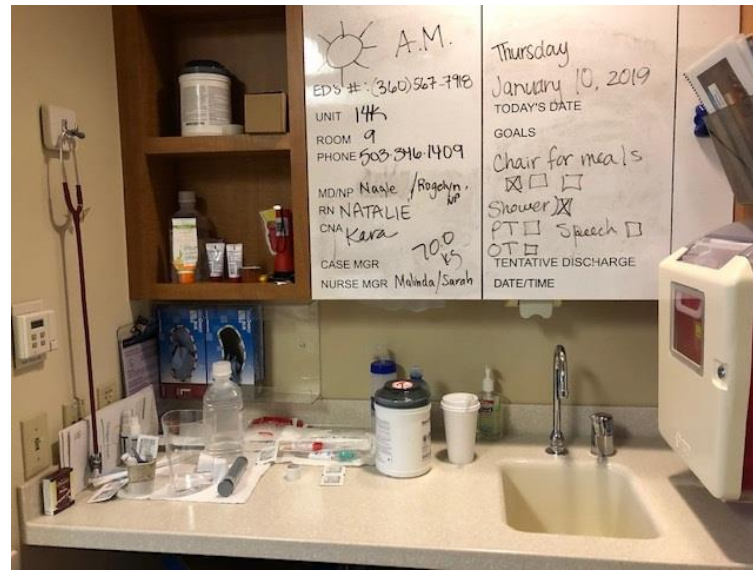
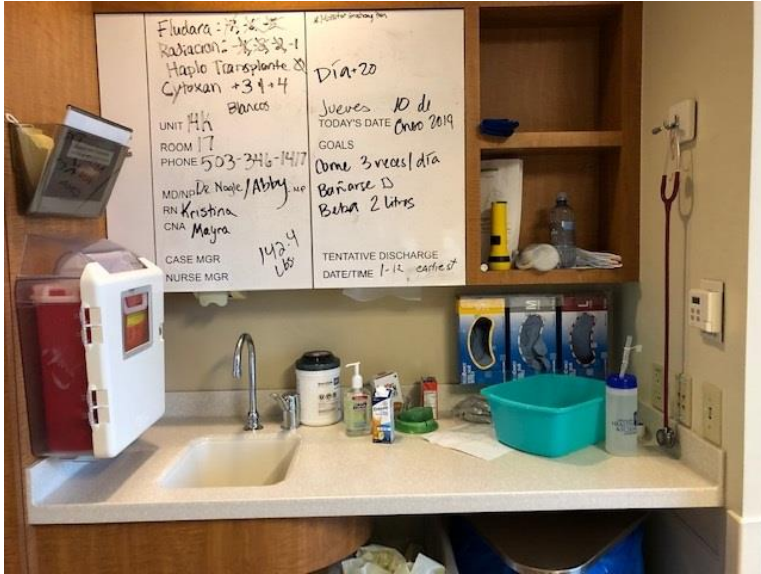
# Splash zone and patient risk

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- The area around any sink or toilet that could be potentially contaminated by wastewater that sprays up or out of the drain when used.
- 3-foot length comes from most heavy droplets (splash from sinks) fall by 3 feet
- It is not so much the faucet- IT IS THE DRAIN (Lewis et al., 2018)







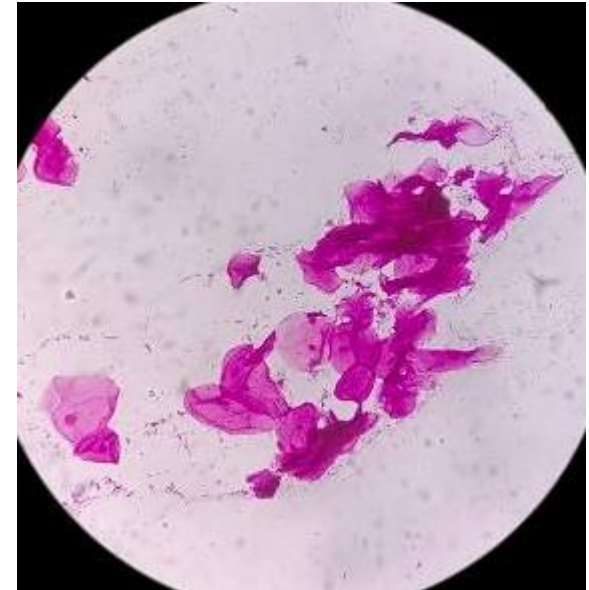
# Opportunistic Pathogens in Plumbing -CDC

## Gram negative bacteria

- *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
- *Pseudomonas putida*-*P. fluorescens*
- *Burkholderia cepacia* complex (*B. cepacia*, *B. cenocepacia*, at least 8 other genomospecies)
- *Cupriavidus (Ralstonia) pauculus*
- *Herbaspirillum*
- *Methylobacterium* spp
- *Ralstonia pickettii*, *Ralstonia mannitolilytica*
- *Sphingomonas paucimobilis*, *Sphingomonas mucosissima*, other *Sphingomonas* spp
- *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia*
- *Acinetobacter baumannii*, complex *A. calcoaceticus*
- *Alcaligenes xylosoxidans*, *A. faecalis*
- *Aeromonas hydrophila*, *Aeromonas* spp
- *Elizabethkingia anophelis*, *E. meningosepticum*
- *Legionella pneumophila*

## Non-fecal coliforms

- *Enterobacter cloacae*
- *Klebsiella* spp
- *Pantoea agglomerans*
- *Rahnella aquatilis*
- *Serratia liquifaciens*, *Serratia marcescens*



# Opportunistic Pathogens in Plumbing

## Nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM) or Environmental Mycobacteria

- *Mycobacterium. abscessus* clade (*M. abscessus*, *M. boletii*, *M. massiliense*)
- *M. chelonae*
- *M. mucogenicum* clade (*M. mucogenicum*, *M. phociacum*)
- *M. fortuitum* clade (*M. fortuitum*, *M. cosmeticum*, *mageritiense*, *M. porcinum*, *M. septicum*)
- *M. immunogenum*
- *M. smegmatis* clade (*M. goodii*, *M. wolinskyi*)
- *M. aurum*
- *M. simiae*
- *M. avium* complex (*M. avium*, *M. intracellulare*, *M. chimaera*, *M. avium* ss *hominissuis*, *M. columbiense*)
- *M. scrofulaceum* A. *calcoaceticus*
- *M. parascrofulaceum*
- *M. xenopi*
- *M. arupense*
- *M. kansasii*
- *M. haemophilum*
- *M. nonchromogenicum* clade (*M. nonchromogenicum*, *M. triviale*, *M. terrae*)
- *M. gordonae* (only among patients with severe immune deficiency)

## Other bacteria/actinomyces

- *Microbacterium* spp
- *Tsukamurella* spp
- *Rhodococcus equi*, *Rhodococcus* spp
- *Gordoniae* spp

## Fungi

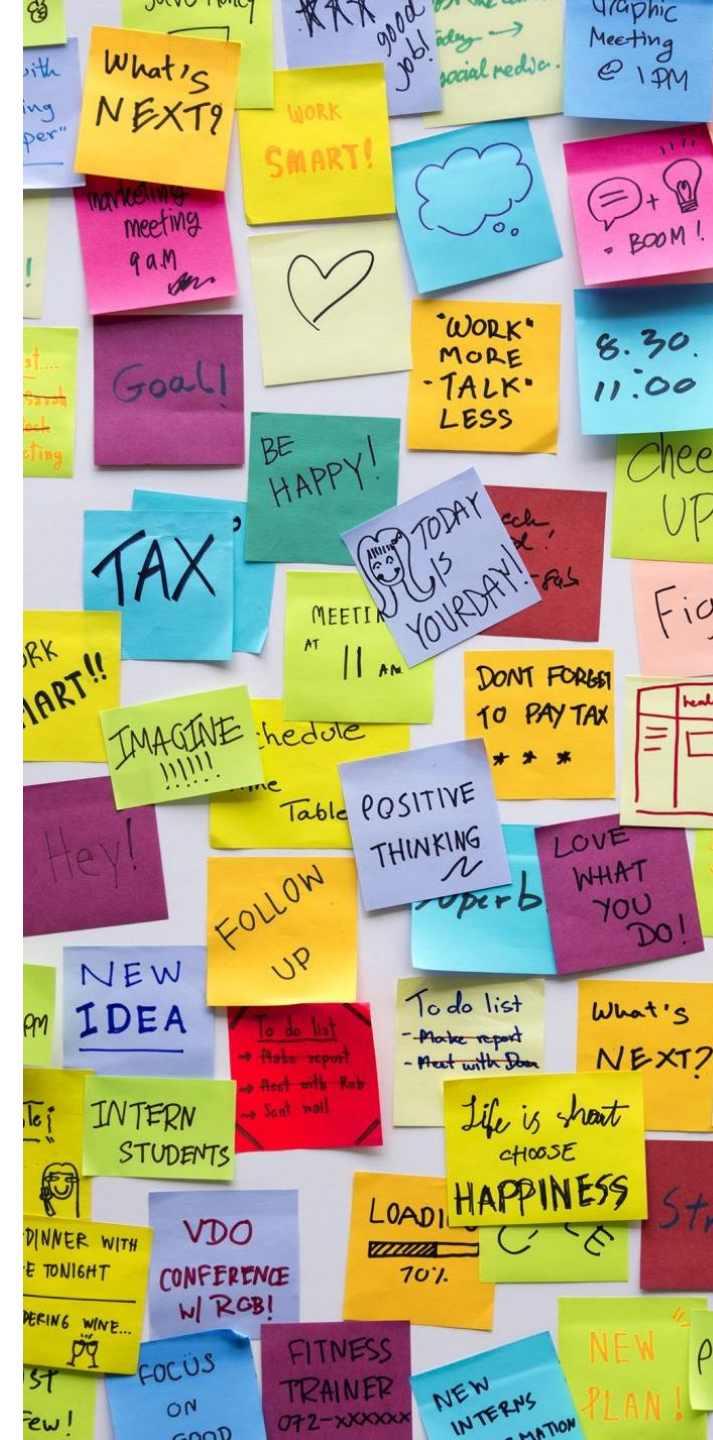
- Yeasts (eg. *Candida parapsilosis*, *C. tropicalis*)
- *Aspergillus fumigatus*, *A. niger*
- *Fusarium* spp
- *Exophiala* spp





# A large quality improvement project started

- Oncology unit leadership collaborated with Infection prevention, Infectious Disease, Environmental Services, nursing, Provider leadership, Facilities, & Nursing
  - Created a 'sink hygiene bundle'
  - Literature reviews done; CDC contacted.
  - Lean Model used
    - MESSES board used and led by Charge RNs
    - Large RN collaboration on workflows





# Sink hygiene bundle – interventions

- Remove all patient care/hygiene items from the “splash zone”
    - Alternative staging sites -- new workstations if needed
    - Alteration of the physical environment
      - Glove boxes, IV bags/tubing, oral care supplies, wound care supplies, stethoscopes, and flashlights.
  - Patient/visitor/staff member education re: avoiding the “splash zone”
  - Limit use of sinks (for example -- not for priming IV lines, disposing of biologic waste, no sink water for face washcloths etc.)
-

# More interventions...

- Facilities to offset faucet from drain and assess flow
  - Goal: water should not flow directly into the drain causing splash
- Patients should NOT be using tap water for any oral care, including tooth brushing.
  - Not be performed at the sinks.
  - Use kitchen **filtered** water and a kidney basins were be used then discarded.
- Environmental Services (EVS) trained on room cleans – to include cleaning the faucet taps FIRST with a clean washcloth then the sink basin



## Check It Out!

### What was found?



- With effort and reiterations, the Oncology unit had less patients colonized with pseudomonas!

*Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology* (2024), **45**, 847–855  
doi:[10.1017/ice.2023.288](https://doi.org/10.1017/ice.2023.288)



### Original Article

The impact of an intervention to reduce dispersal from wastewater drain sites on carbapenem-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* colonization and bloodstream infection on a hematopoietic cell transplant and hematologic malignancy unit

Lauren Fontana DO<sup>1</sup> , Morgan Hakki MD<sup>2</sup>, Egon A. Ozer MD, PhD<sup>3,4</sup>, Amy Laird PhD<sup>5</sup> and Lynne Strasfeld MD<sup>2,6</sup> 

# Practice Leader saw a need to update practices/align with oncology unit

Not just immunocompromised at risk

Any incision site

- NSICU moved practice to not use tap water near incisions or above mid chest for EVD & crani patients

Open wounds

Central lines



# Connection between splash zone & CLABSI

Multidrug resistant bacteria are linked to mortality of several ICU populations including immunosuppressed (Fontana et al., 2024).

#1 MOST IMPORTANT CONCERN

Many of these patients have central lines

Central lines= risk of CLABSI



Impacts:

Staffing

Operations

Finances

Public image



Average CLABSI rate FROM 2018-2022 in the MICU was 1.32 per 1000 central line days.

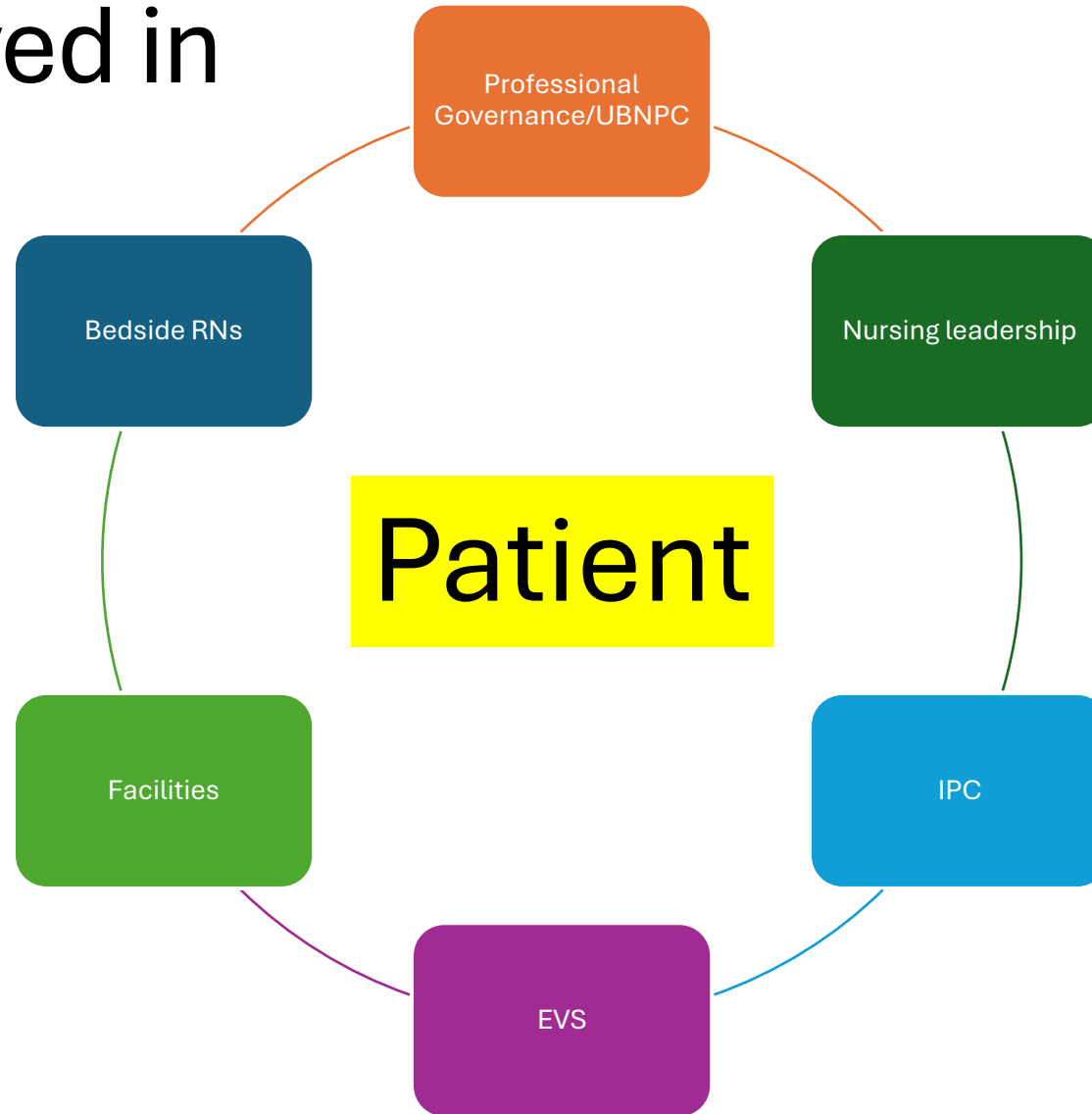


# Cost of CLABSIs

- Internal audit done for 2019-2020 pulling Diagnosis-Related Group (DRG), actual cost of care, and length of stays (in and out of ICU) for those with CLABSI and without.
- # of cases in 2019-2020: 29
- Direct cost WITH infection \$152,239
- Direct cost WITHOUT infection \$42,133

Average cost per case \$110,107

# Areas involved in this change



# Preparation for rollout: 2020-2023

Fall of 2020 went to UBNPC to start the conversation with bedside champions/leaders

Coordinated with stakeholders

Followed workflow/protocols established from original pilot

Virtual education on the why?

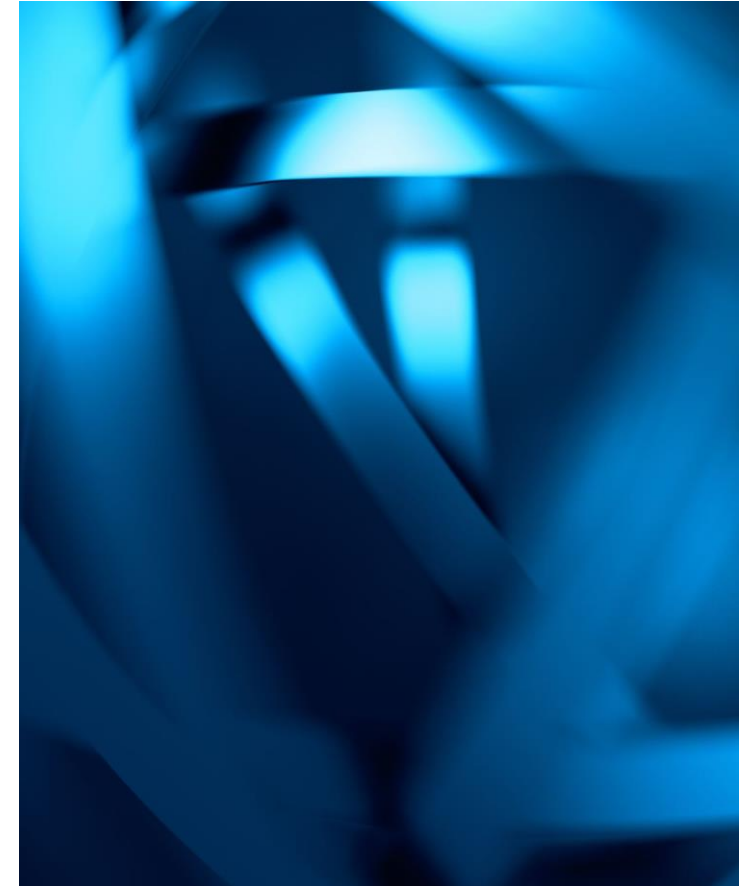
- Collaborated with MICU RNs, Oncology Practice Leader, IPC, & Infectious Disease provider

Discussed what we could do at that time (what was in our control)

- Rolled out the sink hygiene bundle concepts

Address questions and concerns

Used PDSA model & the Daily Management Systems board to highlight changes (Formal rollout date January 2023)





# In our control at roll out

- Splash Zone signs at bedside (English & Spanish)
- Implemented the Sink Hygiene bundle
  - Filtered water
  - Limited sink use
  - Moved all items out of splash zone
  - No sink washcloths, toothbrushing at sink
- Facilities evaluated water flow and offset faucets
- Covered sinks in medication room and kitchen
- Trained EVS on practices
- Embedded Splash zone education into onboarding education for new hires

3 feet AROUND the sink must remain clear of ALL personal care items, as well as patient-care supplies.

This sink should **ONLY** be used for hand washing with soap and water. Do **NOT** pour medications, body fluids, beverages or other liquids down the drain OR USE THE WATER FOR PATIENT CARE. Thank you.



3 pies ALREDEDOR del fregadero deben permanecer libres de TODO artículos de cuidado personal, así como suministros para el cuidado del paciente.

Este fregadero SÓLO debe usarse para lavarse las manos

con agua y jabón. NO vierta medicamentos, fluidos corporales, bebidas u otros líquidos por el desagüe O USAR EL AGUA PARA EL CUIDADO DEL PACIENTE. Gracias.



# Long term adaptations- occurred summer of 2024

- Moved gloves from supply cart & splash zone for more workable space
- Removed hooks from above sinks
- Delineated a line on the wall for where the splash zone ends





No patient items

No patient care items



# Pain Points?

- **Yes!**
  - Connecting the why to workflows
    - Need RN accountability and buy-in
  - What was working/needed a process
    - How do you get a warm washcloth for a patient's face?
    - Adjusting to filtered water for tube feeds & complying with IPC recommendations
    - More workable space
  - Continuing educating families, all staff members & consulting teams, float RNs
    - Not dumping sodas down drain
    - Or leaving items in the splash zone when done with them
- All areas workspaces look different

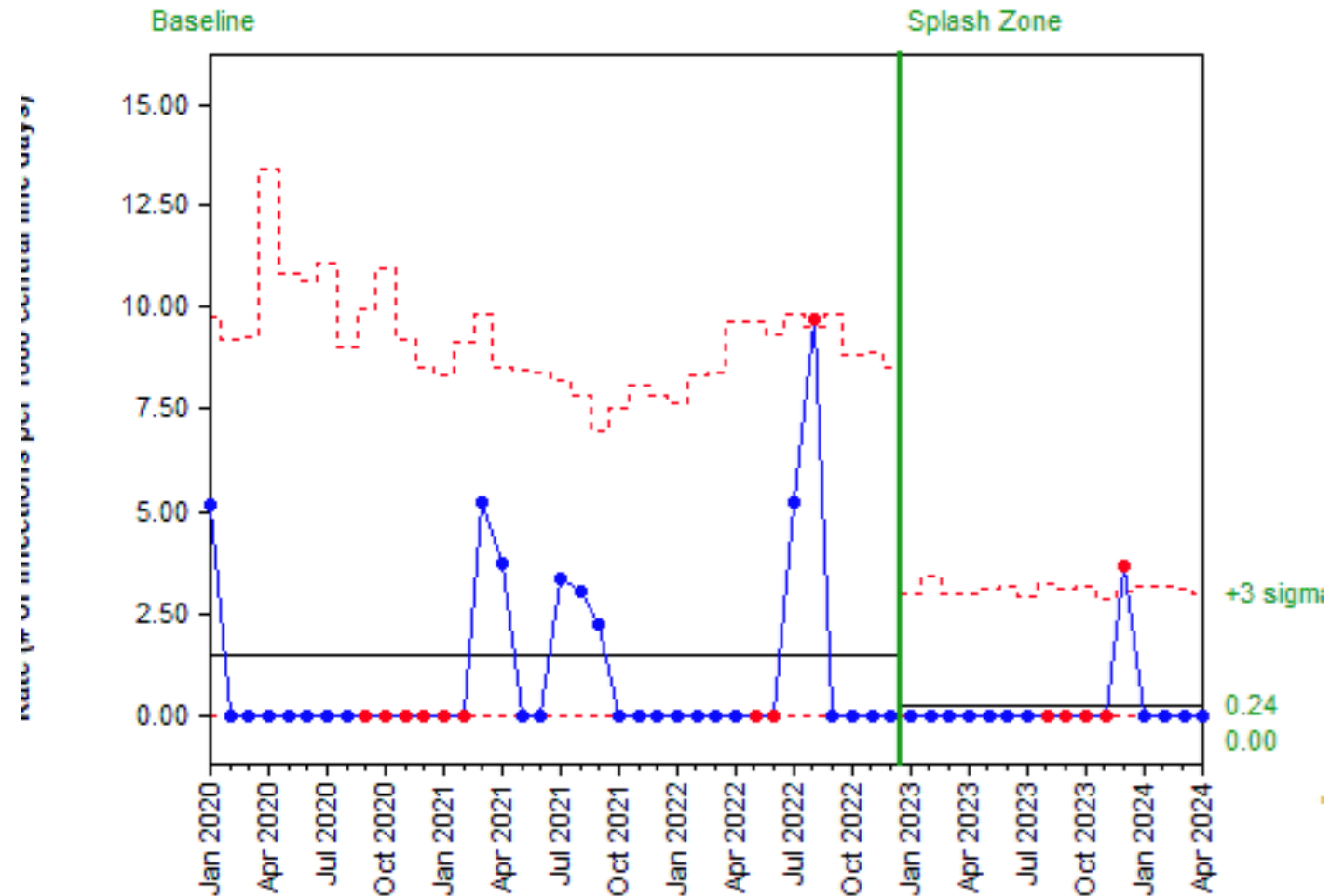


## Data

- Prior to implementation, the average CLABSI rate was 1.32 per 1000 central line days.
- Post-intervention rates dropped to 0.24 per 1000 central line days.

## Central Line-Associated Bloodstream Infection Rate (7A MICU)

Sum



# In conclusion



Positive results have caught the attention of hospital executives



Goal is to expand across the organization

Vista Pavillion had splash zone in mind during construction!

# References

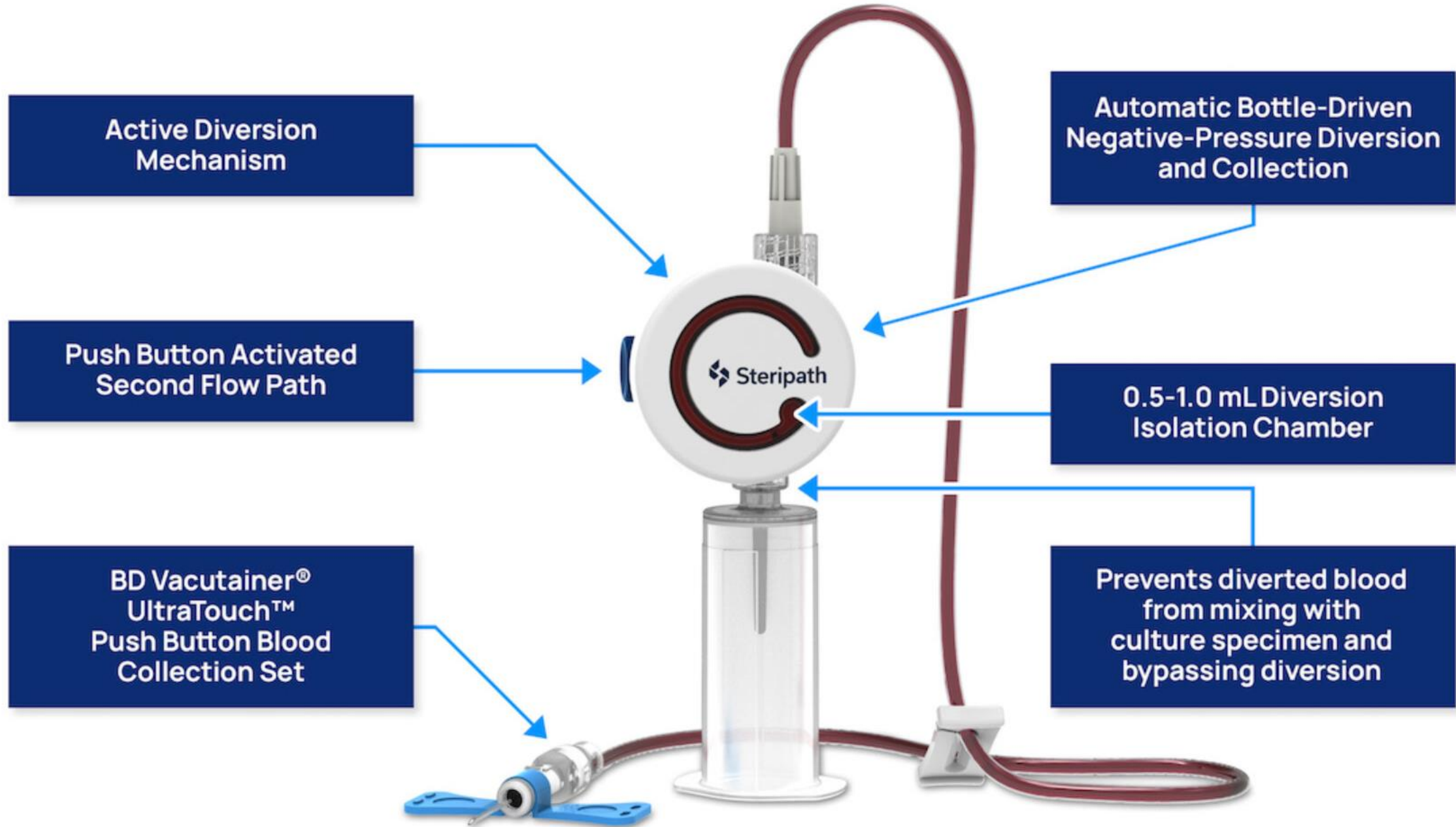
- *Considerations for reducing risk: water in healthcare facilities.* (2024, April 8). Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAIs). <https://www.cdc.gov/healthcare-associated-infections/php/toolkit/water-management.html>
- Fontana, L., Hakki, M., Ozer, E. A., Laird, A., & Strasfeld, L. (2024). The impact of an intervention to reduce dispersal from wastewater drain sites on carbapenem-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* colonization and bloodstream infection on a hematopoietic cell transplant and hematologic malignancy unit. *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*, 1–9. <https://doi.org/10.1017/ice.2023.288>
- Lewis, S. S., Smith, B. A., Sickbert-Bennett, E. E., & Weber, D. J. (2018). Water as a source for colonization and infection with multidrug-resistant pathogens: Focus on sinks. *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*, 39(12), 1463–1466. <https://doi.org/10.1017/ice.2018.273>

# Use of a Diversion Device to Decrease Blood Culture Contamination

Christina Lee RN, BSN  
Jamie Twyman RN, BSN









**Steripath**.Micro

Initial Specimen Diversion Device®

# Clinical Results

Table of Data

MMT Name  
Portland VA Medical Center

Department  
All

Collection Start Date  
4/1/2024 to 8/31/2024  
and Null values

MMT Name	Department	Department Baseline Number	Department Baseline BCx Rate	Collection Start Date	Collection End Date	Total Draws	Total Contaminants	Blend Rate	Total Steripath Draws	Total Steripath Contaminants	Steripath Rate	Total Non-Steripath Draws	Total Non-Steripath Contaminants	Non-Steripath Rate	Projected FP at Baseline BCx Rate	False Positives Avoided	Cost Savings	False Positives Avoided at 100% Steripath	Cost Savings (100%)
Portland VA Medical Center	ED	3,000	3.30%	4/1/2024	4/30/2024	226	2	0.88%	158	0	0.00%	68	2	2.94%	7	5	\$22,716	7	\$31,040
				5/1/2024	5/30/2024	214	0	0.00%	142	0	0.00%	72	0	0.00%	7	7	\$29,392	7	\$29,392
				6/1/2024	6/30/2024	208	1	0.48%	91	0	0.00%	117	1	0.85%	7	6	\$24,406	7	\$28,568
				7/1/2024	7/31/2024	231	4	1.73%	178	1	0.56%	53	3	5.66%	8	4	\$15,079	6	\$26,326
				8/1/2024	8/31/2024	210	1	0.48%	153	0	0.00%	57	1	1.75%	7	6	\$24,681	7	\$28,843

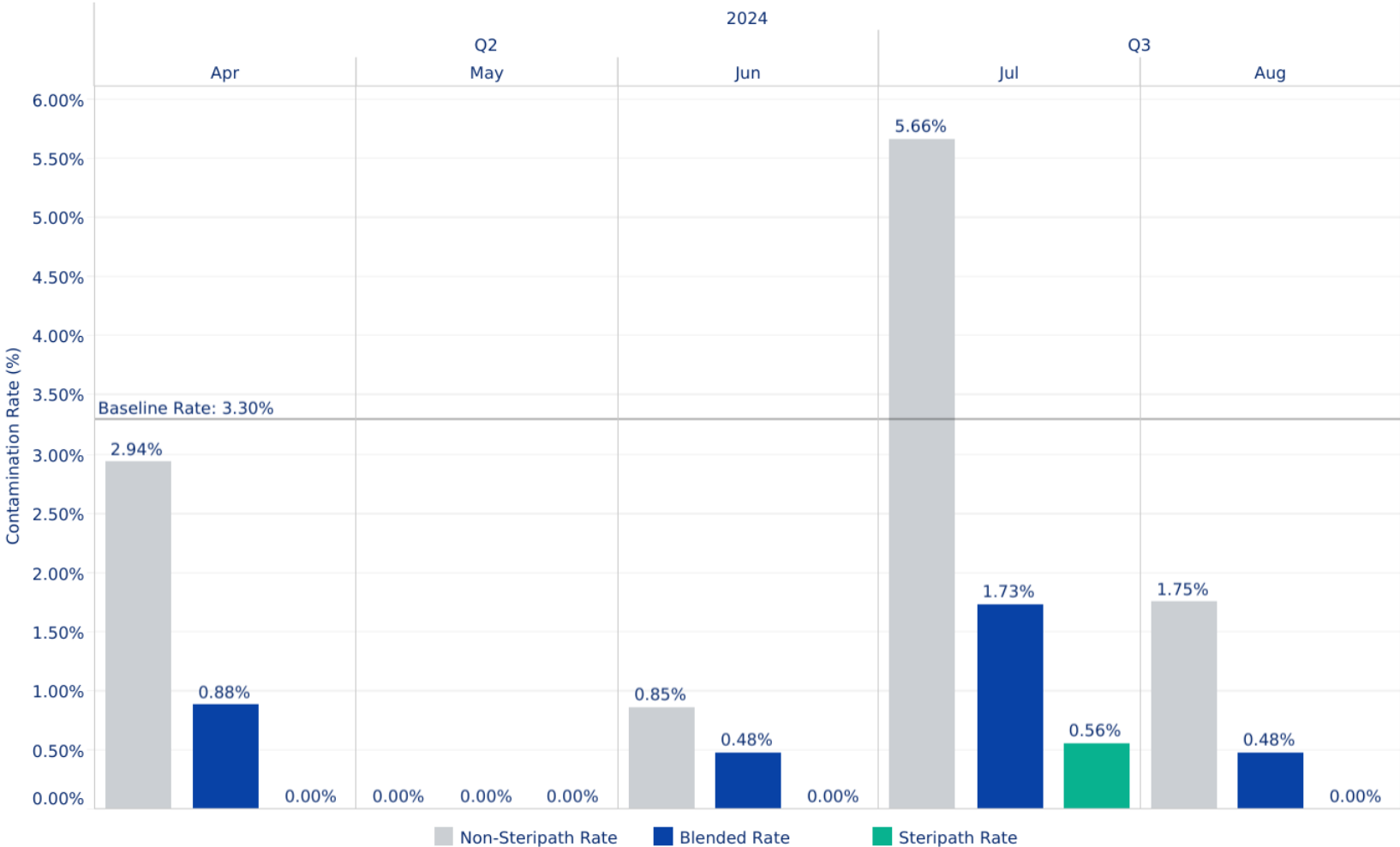
# Blood Culture Contamination Rates

Reduction in Contamination Rate since Steripath Implementation

MMT Name  
Portland VA Medical Center

Department  
All

Collection Start Date  
4/1/2024 to 8/31/2024  
and Null values



### Pre-Steripath Baseline Rate

3.30%

Non-Steripath Rate

Non-Steripath Rate Change from Baseline

1.91%

-42.20%

Blended Rate

Blended Rate Change from Baseline

0.73%

-77.74%

Steripath Rate

Steripath Rate Change from Baseline

0.14%

-95.80%



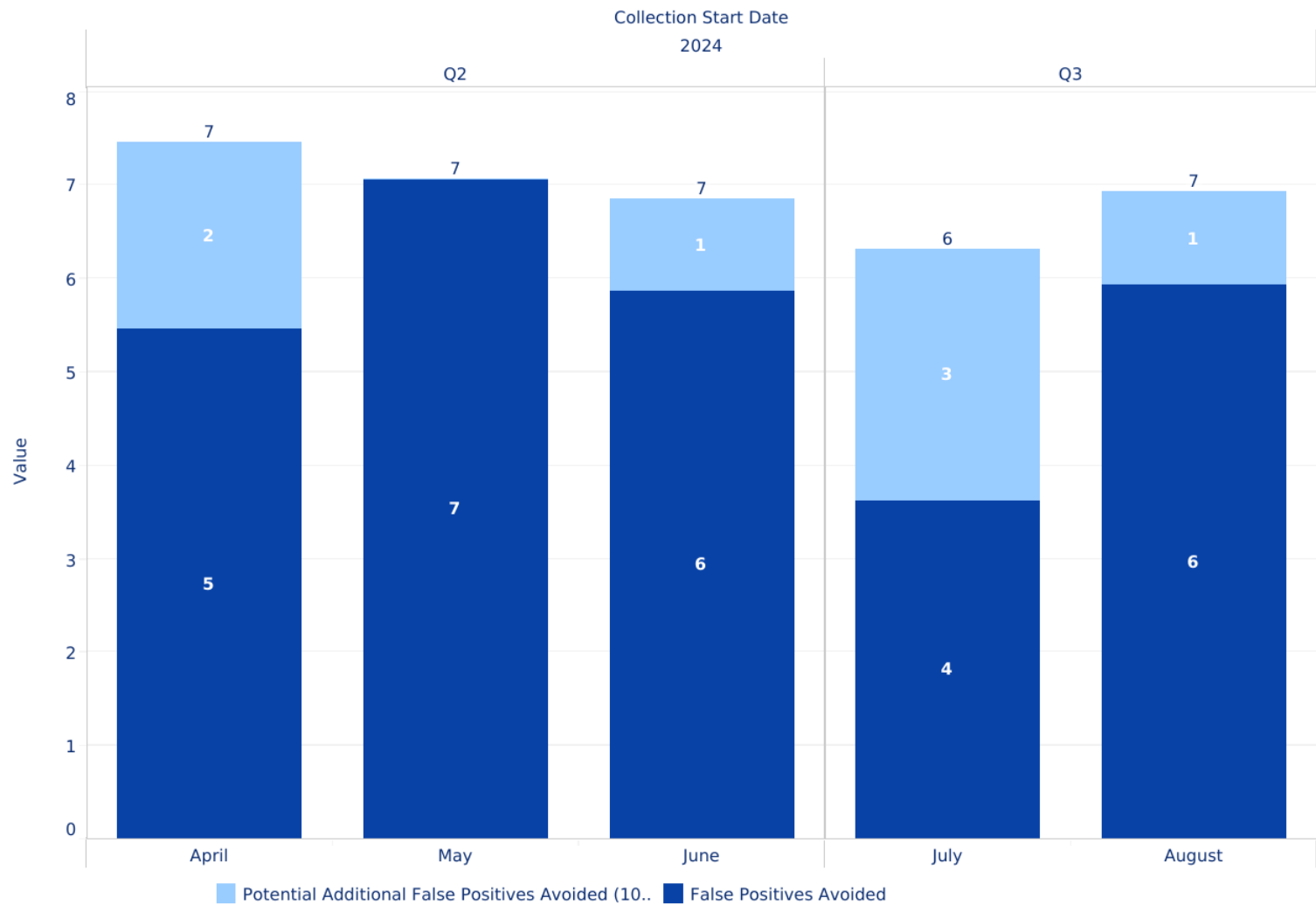
# Patient Impact

False Positives (FP) Avoided since Steripath Implementation

MMT Name  
Portland VA Medical Center

Department  
All

Collection Start Date  
4/1/2024 to 8/31/2024  
and Null values



## Projected # of False Positives at Baseline Rate(s)

36

### False Positives Avoided Post-Steripath

28

## Reduction in False Positives Post-Steripath

78%

### Potential Additional False Positives Avoided with Steripath at 100% Utilization

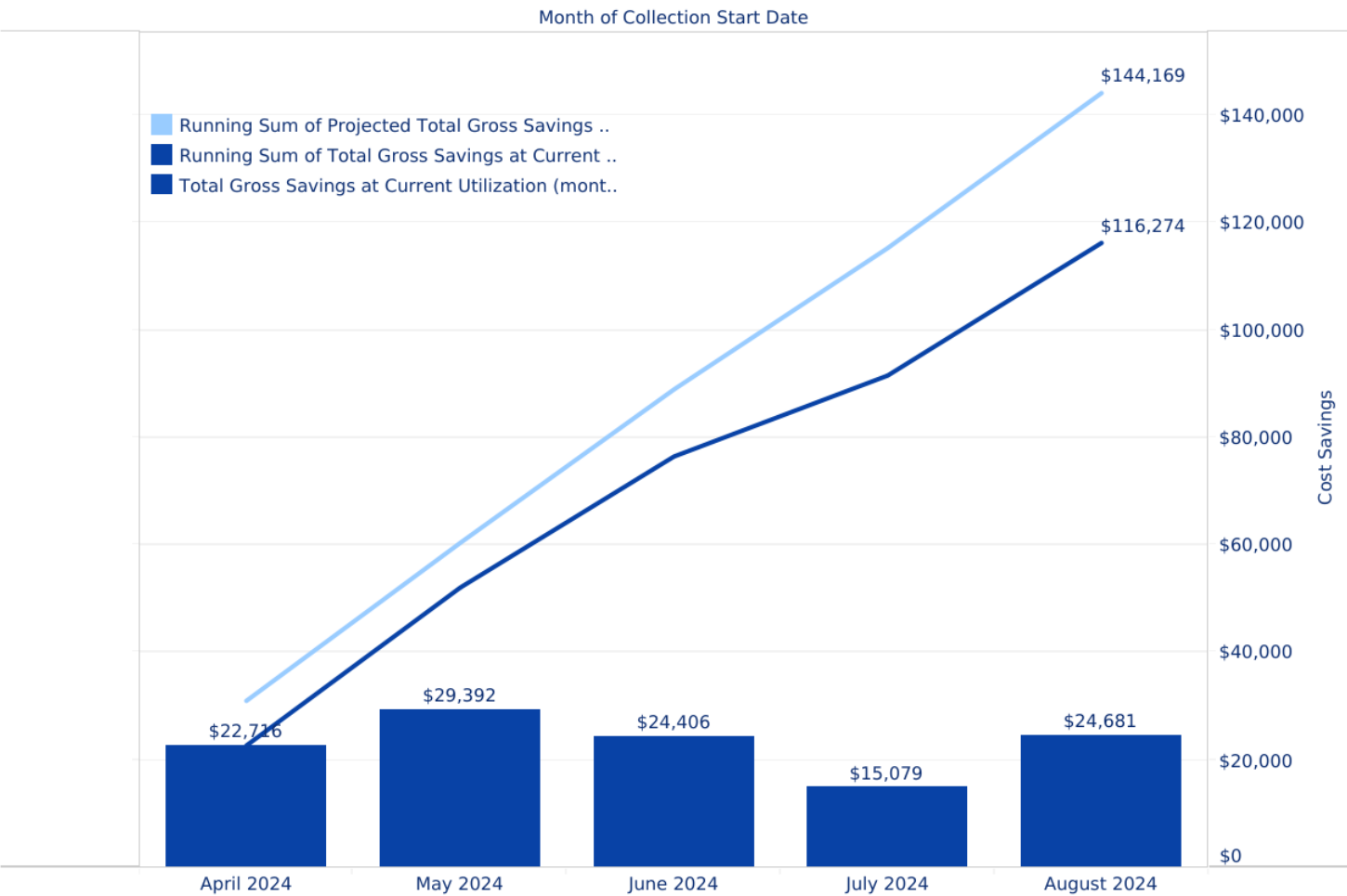
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## Potential Reduction in False Positives with Steripath at 100% Utilization

96%

# Financial Impact

Cost Savings due to False Positives Avoided



MMT Name  
Portland VA Medical Center

Department  
All

Collection Start Date  
4/1/2024 to 8/31/2024  
and Null values

**Total Gross Savings at Current Utilization**

\$116,274

**Total Steripath Spend**

\$15,278

**Total Net Savings**

\$100,996

**Cost per False Posi..**

\$4,162

**Projected Total Gross Savings at 100% Utilization**

\$144,169

**Total Steripath Spend (100%)**

\$23,043

**Total Net Savings (100%)**

\$121,125

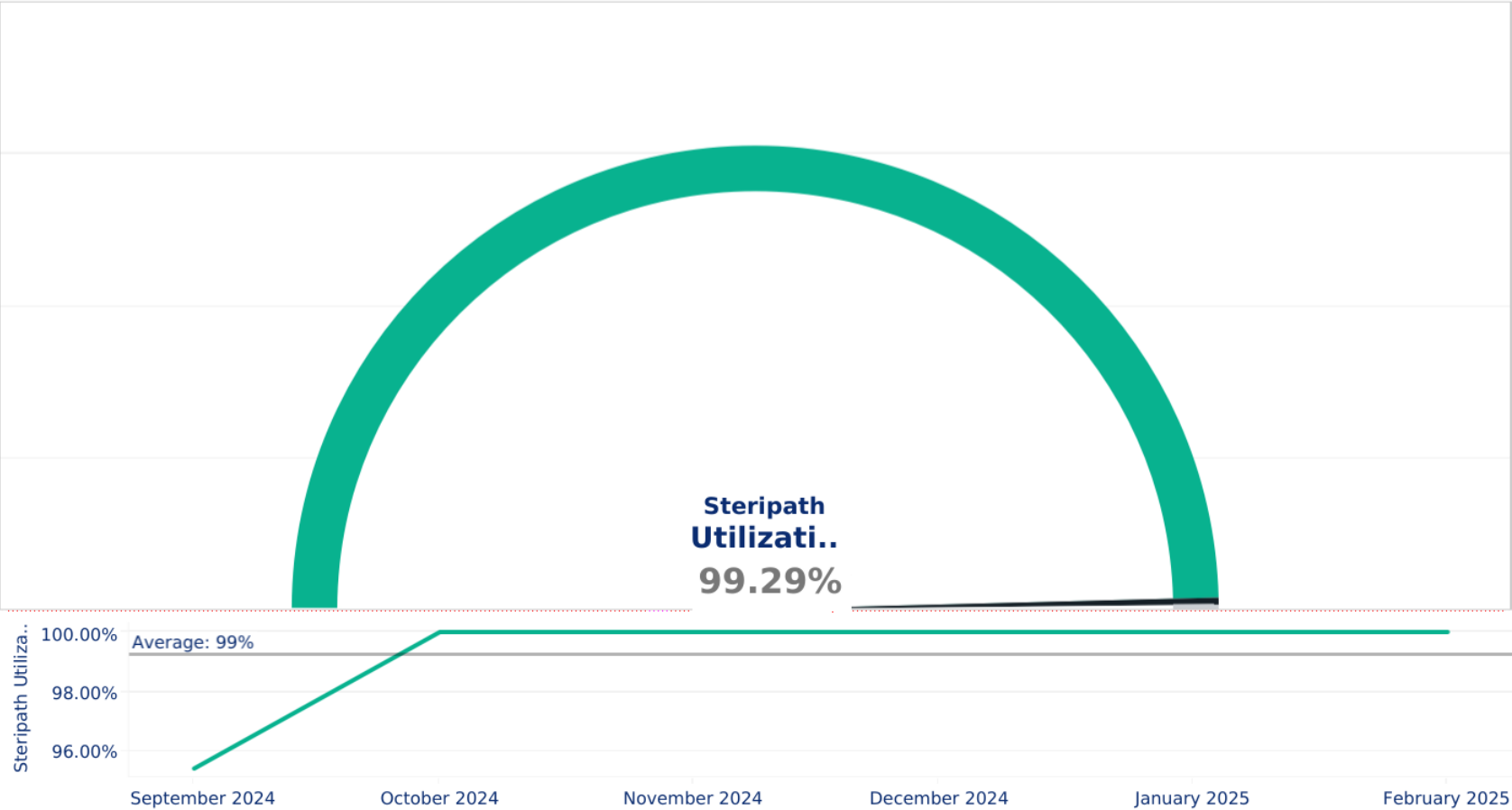
# Steripath Utilization

How often is Steripath being used?

MMT Name  
Portland VA Medical Center

Department  
ED

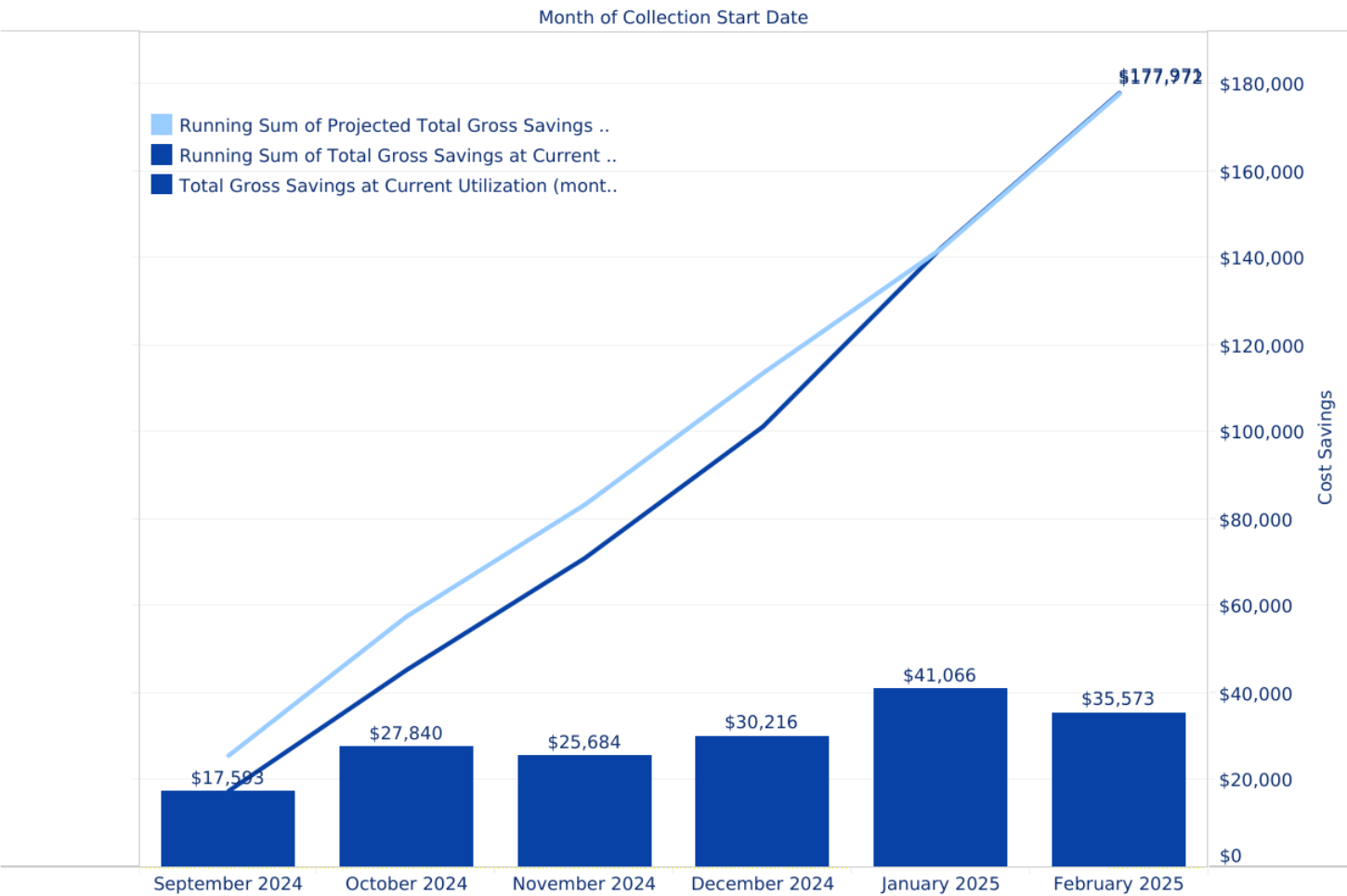
Collection Start Date  
9/1/2024 to 2/1/2025



- Steripath  
1,407
- Non-Steripath  
10
- Total Draws  
1,417

# Financial Impact

Cost Savings due to False Positives Avoided



MMT Name  
Portland VA Medical Center

Department  
ED

Collection Start Date  
9/1/2024 to 2/1/2025

**Total Gross Savings at Current Utilization**

\$177,971

**Total Steripath Spend**

\$29,772

**Total Net Savings**

\$148,199

**Cost per False Posi..**

\$4,162

**Projected Total Gross Savings at 100% Utilization**

\$177,772

**Total Steripath Spend (100%)**

\$29,984

**Total Net Savings (100%)**

\$147,788



# SteriPath Blood Culture Diversion Device and Culture Contamination Rates in the Emergency Department

Christina Lee RN, Jamie J. Twyman RN, BSN  
VA Portland Health Care System, Portland OR



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health  
Administration  
VA Portland  
Health Care System



## Introduction

Emergency Departments (ED) consistently report elevated blood culture contamination rates as compared to other departments (Sacchetti et al., 2022). As of August 2024, more than 60% of VA facilities reported contamination rates above the American Hospital Association (AHA) recommended benchmark of 1% (Power BI, 2024). Culture contamination can lead to increase hospital length of stay, facility cost, and is a significant contributing factor to patient mortality (CDC, 2024).

## Objectives

To decrease and maintain blood culture contamination rates in the Emergency Department below the AHA 1% benchmark using SteriPath Micro blood culture diversion devices for IV and Venipuncture sites and to utilize SteriPath Micro for 80% or more of culture specimen collections.

## Methods

Pilot process for culture collection with SteriPath Micro developed using American Hospital Association and Magnolia Medical Technologies recommendations. Emergency Department nursing staff educated on SteriPath Micro collection and pilot process. Unique staff identification numbers randomly assigned to all staff to allow for education and remediation on all contaminated specimens. Collaboration with Microbiology Lab staff for tracking of SteriPath usage. Blood culture specimens tracked for both traditional and SteriPath collection methods from May 2024 through August 2024. All contaminated specimens followed up with 1:1 nurse remediation education for identified staff of contaminated culture.

## Results

A total of 653 Blood Cultures were drawn in the ED, from 5/1-7/31/ 2024, the VA Portland **decreased BCC rate by 95.8%** since SteriPath was implemented, resulting in an **average combined BCC rate of 0.73 %**, with a **SteriPath rate of 0.14 %**. During this period, the VA has **saved 28 patients** from misdiagnosis and patient harm due to false positive results. With the cost of SteriPath included, VA Portland ED has **saved the Portland VA Medical Center \$121,125** over 4 months.

## Discussion

Contamination rates, patient safety, and cost savings could be further improved by increased utilization of SteriPath Micro within the ED and by adopting standardization of use throughout the facility.

## Conclusions

Use of the SteriPath Micro blood culture diversion device is an effective tool to decrease blood culture contamination in the Emergency Department to levels well below the 1% national benchmark.

## References

Sacchetti, B., Travis, J., Steed, L. L., & Webb, G. (2022). Identification of the main contributors to blood culture contamination at a tertiary care academic medical center. *Infection Prevention in Practice*, 4(3), 100219. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infpi.2022.100219>

Power BI. (2024). Powerbigov.us. <https://app.powerbigov.us/groups/me/apps/6b308bd1-d1e6-49df-8c3c-8be506052940/reports/d2049f9a-b3ab-4160-8b48-bc33fe2ae078?ctid=e95f1b23-abaf-45ee-821d-b7ab251ab3bf>

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## Acknowledgements

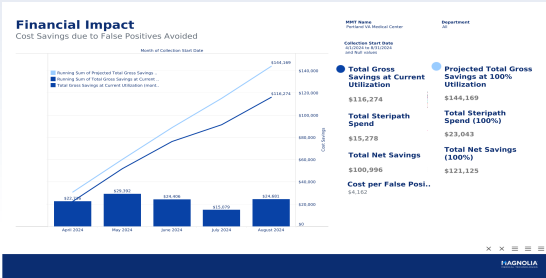
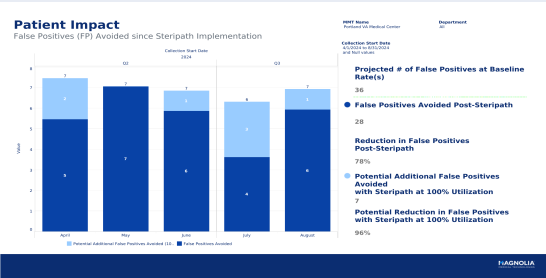
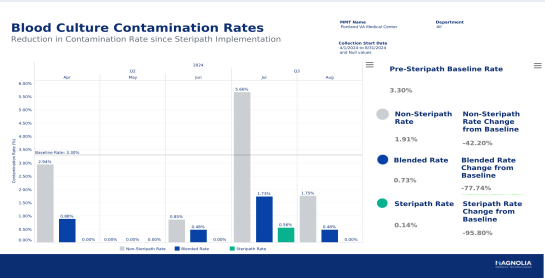
This material is the result of work supported with resources and the use of facilities at the VA Portland Health Care System.

This project was reviewed by the VA Portland Health Care System Research and Development Service and it was determined to not be research. No further research approvals were required.

The contents of this presentation do not represent the views of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or the United States Government.

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April 14, 2025

# **Nursing Workflow Refresh: Reducing Falls and Improving Patient Care Efficiency**

Alex Ogren, Evelyn Schill, Karla Theer, Kevin Richey





# About PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center

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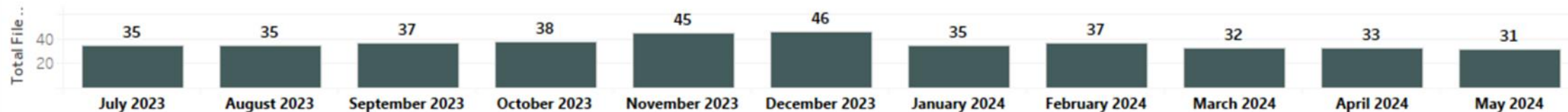


- ▶ Founded in 1858 by Sister Joseph of the Sacred Heart, PeaceHealth Southwest is the Pacific Northwest's first hospital.
- ▶ Located in Vancouver, WA
- ▶ Total Licensed Beds: 450
- ▶ Average Daily Census: 279
- ▶ Caregivers: 3,901

# Situation:

- We observed a high occurrence of patient falls on our medical-surgical units—296 falls in FY24.
- This placed PHSW in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for patient falls nationwide per NDNQI data.
- In May 2024, a sub-committee was formed to develop interventions based on hourly rounding.

Falls Only - Total Variances By Month  
For 7/1/2023 to 5/31/2024



# Background:

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The initial intervention was a refresh of purposeful interval rounding. For this, the group utilized learnings from multiple sources:

- ▶ **Nurse Manager Immersion Week:** For one week, all nurse managers shadowed different disciplines on their units.
- ▶ **Time Studies:** Bedside nurses were shadowed during their shifts to learn their current workflow and barriers to completing tasks.
- ▶ **Referencing Best Practice:** What were other units and hospitals already doing that has been proven to work?





# Part of a larger issue...



"Human error is like an iceberg. The part above the water represents the active failures, but the larger part beneath the surface represents the latent conditions that contribute to those failures."

— James Reason

# Assessment:

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- ▶ **Shifts are disorganized.** The start of shift has many delays, including considerable time printing documents and receiving report.
- ▶ **Lack of communication and collaboration between disciplines.** CNAs are receiving report from other CNAs instead of nurses.
- ▶ **Long gaps of time are occurring between each patient rounding,** both due to a lack of coordination between staff members and nursing having an inefficient workflow.



# Our iceberg is deep.

Rather than focus on purposeful rounding alone, the subcommittee expanded the scope of the refresh to reflect the underlying issues.

A multi-phase refresh was developed in alignment with PHSW's Back-to-Basics focus.



# Recommendation:

- Working through all elements of the shift, refresh standard work and set expectations for a typical workday.
- Optimize outdated workflows.
- Train staff on scope of practice and delegation.
- Be consistent throughout all med-surg units in training and tracking of metrics.







## A Multi-Phase Approach

- **7/24: Phase One** optimized nursing assignments, report sheets, and use of equipment.
- **10/24: Phase Two** refined bedside shift report and RN-to-CNA handoff.
- **12/24: Phase Three** refreshed purposeful interval rounding and accountability measures.



# Support for Caregivers and Leaders:

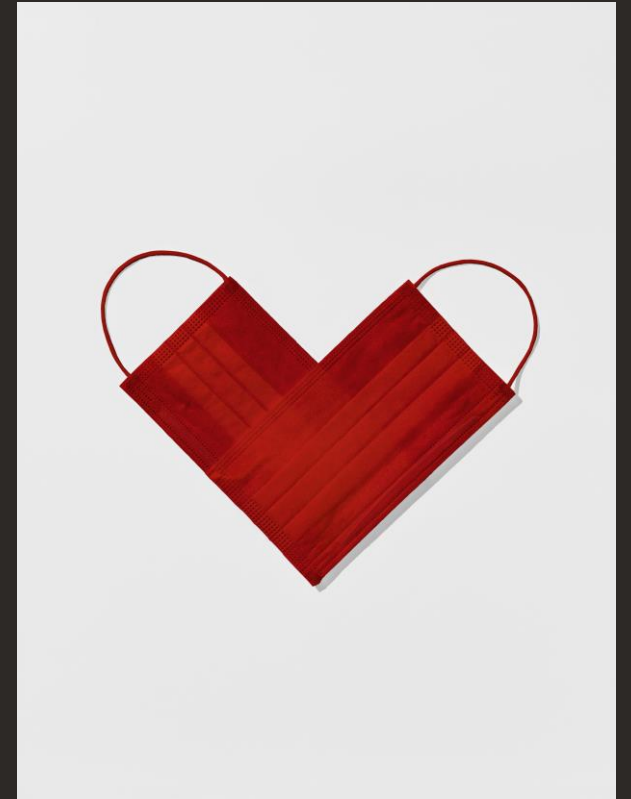
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## Training and Development:

- Manager Lunch and Learns
- Training Documents and Tip Sheets
- Staff and Charge Meetings
- Mandatory Reads

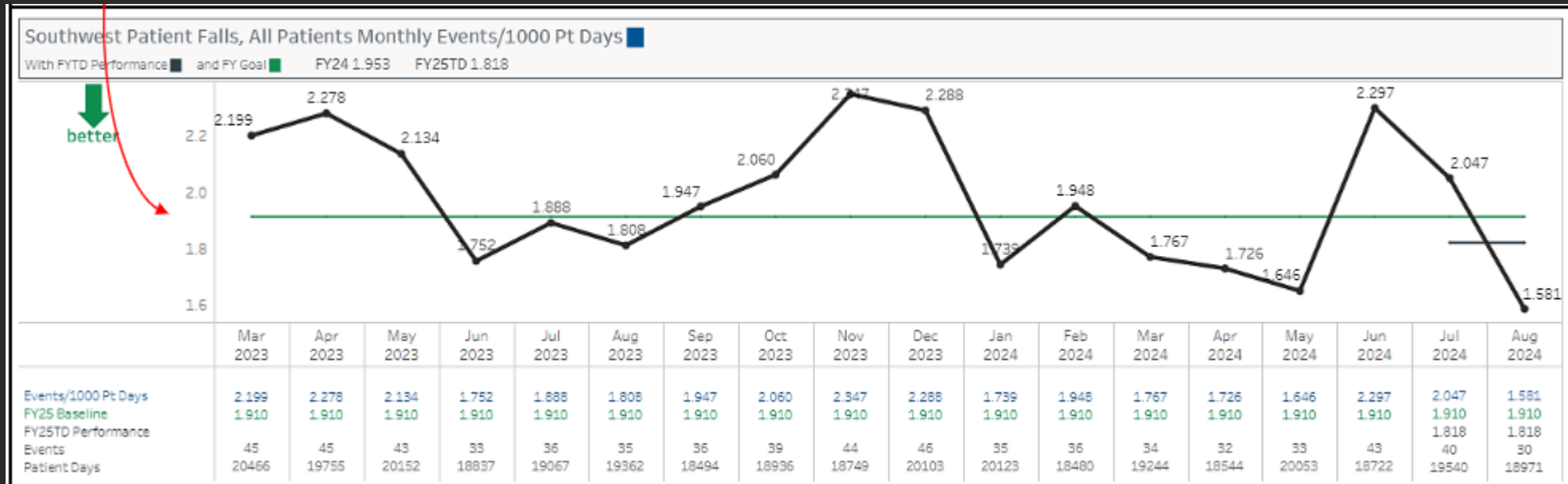
## Caregiver Engagement:

- Multiple surveys to gain feedback from nursing and other disciplines.
- Immersion experience for RNs with full patient care assignment to learn CNA roles.
- Newsletter with project summary and survey results
- Roadshow Presentation



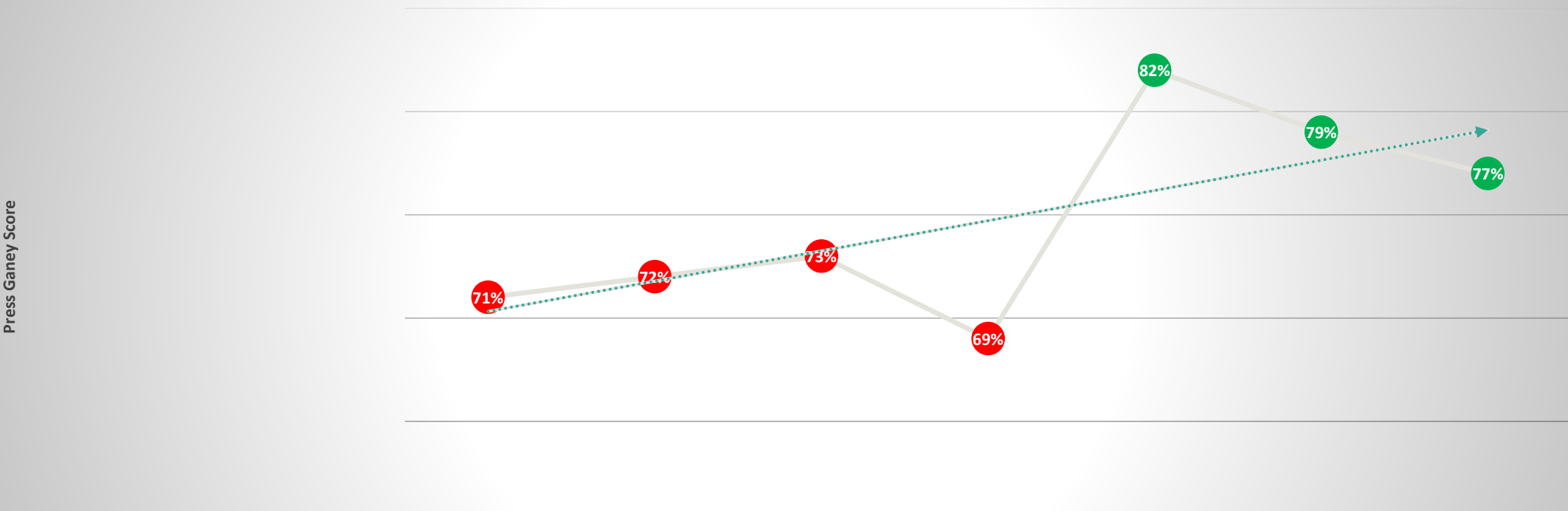
# Review of Progress:

- Phase One launched July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Falls in June were 2.297 per 1000 patient days.
- PHSW's fall rate decreased to 1.581 per patient days and sustained at or better than the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile per NDNQI.
- Staff feedback highlighted enhanced efficiency and stronger collaboration.



# Press Ganey Scores Improved:

While awake, caregiver checked every hour: Goal 75%



	August	September	October	November	December	January	February
While awake, caregiver checked every hour: Goal 75%	71%	72%	73%	69%	82%	79%	77%

FY25 Month

# Key Learnings

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- ▶ Allow leaders to have access to all materials beforehand and allow an opportunity to ask questions before training staff.
- ▶ Have materials ready for leaders to share, including email templates, training documents, and accountability tools.
- ▶ Offer a way for front-line caregivers to give feedback to refine the process and make improvements.
- ▶ Verify process changes through direct observations.

Questions or comments?

# Using an Evidence-Based Tiered Orientation Model for Ambulatory Staff Across a Regional Healthcare System

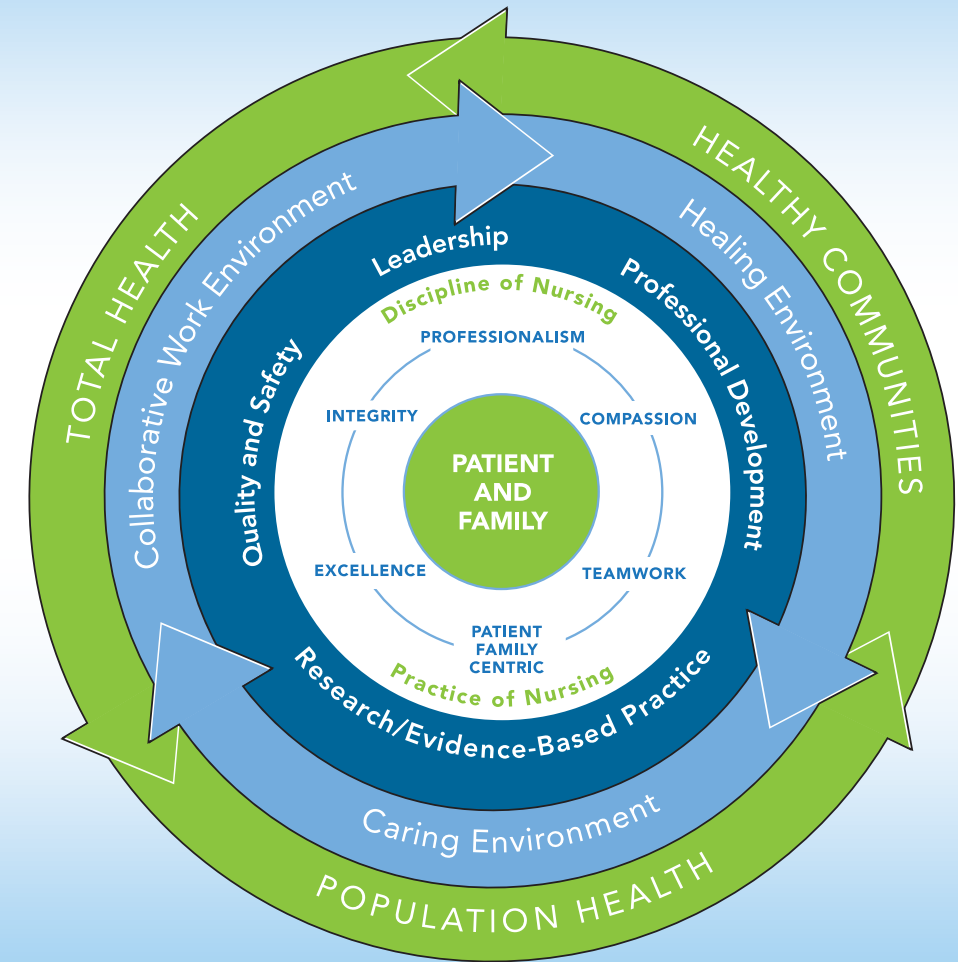
De Ann Parsell MSN, RN

Ky Lee Gibson MBA, BSN, RN

Brandy Plemmons BS, LSSGB

Stevannie Pass BSN, RN

*April 14, 2025*







# BACKGROUND & PURPOSE



# BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

33 Medical Offices  
40 Departments  
Eugene-Longview

RN-905  
LPN-324  
MA-875

Manager/Department  
Variability

Inconsistent Patient  
Care/Tools

Preceptor/Validator  
Overload

High Voluntary  
Turnover Rates

# BACKGROUND & PURPOSE



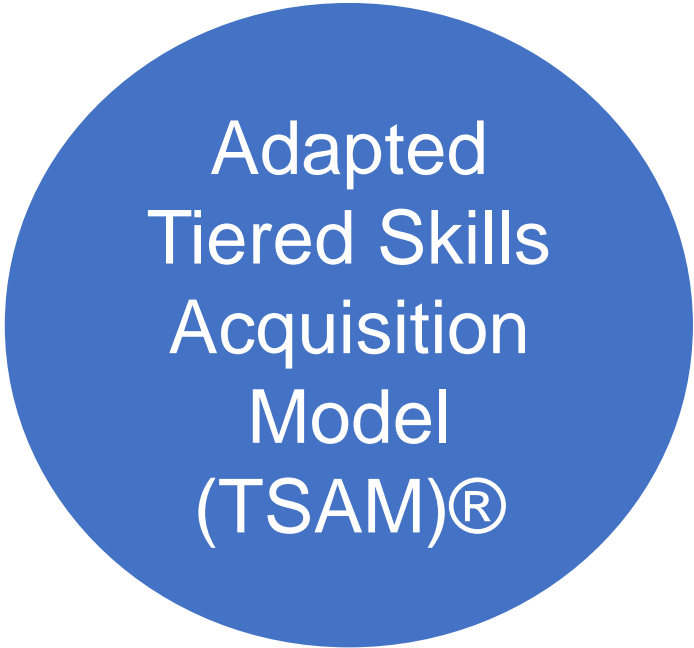
Design



Implement

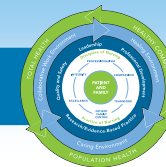


Evaluate



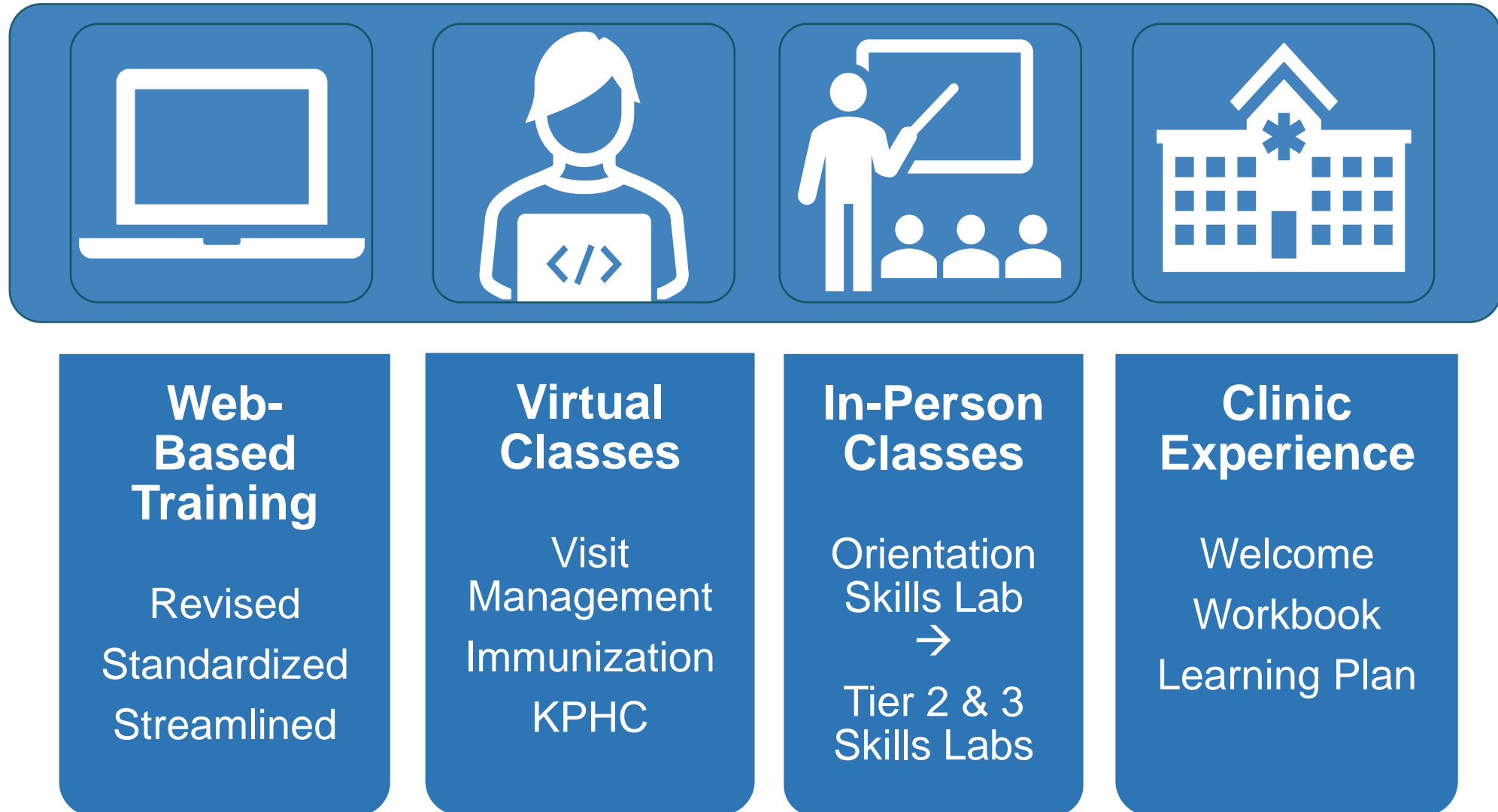


# STRATEGIES



Department	Role	Responsibilities
Ambulatory Care	Senior Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sponsorship</li> </ul>
Ambulatory Care Service Line	Service Line Leads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alignment of MA/LPN onboarding process and scheduling</li> </ul>
Ambulatory	Clinic Managers RN/LPN/MA Team Leads Preceptors Validators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring appropriate time given for online learning and classes is given</li> <li>Ensure learning is being completed via Tiered Orientation approach</li> </ul>
Union Representatives	SEIU Steward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring contract agreement is met</li> </ul>
Ambulatory Nursing & Optimization Professional Development Consultant	Trainers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Orientation workbooks were re-created</li> <li>Visit Management, Immunization, Tier 2, and Tier 3 class creation and maintenance</li> </ul>





## Tiered Approach & Orientation Timeline



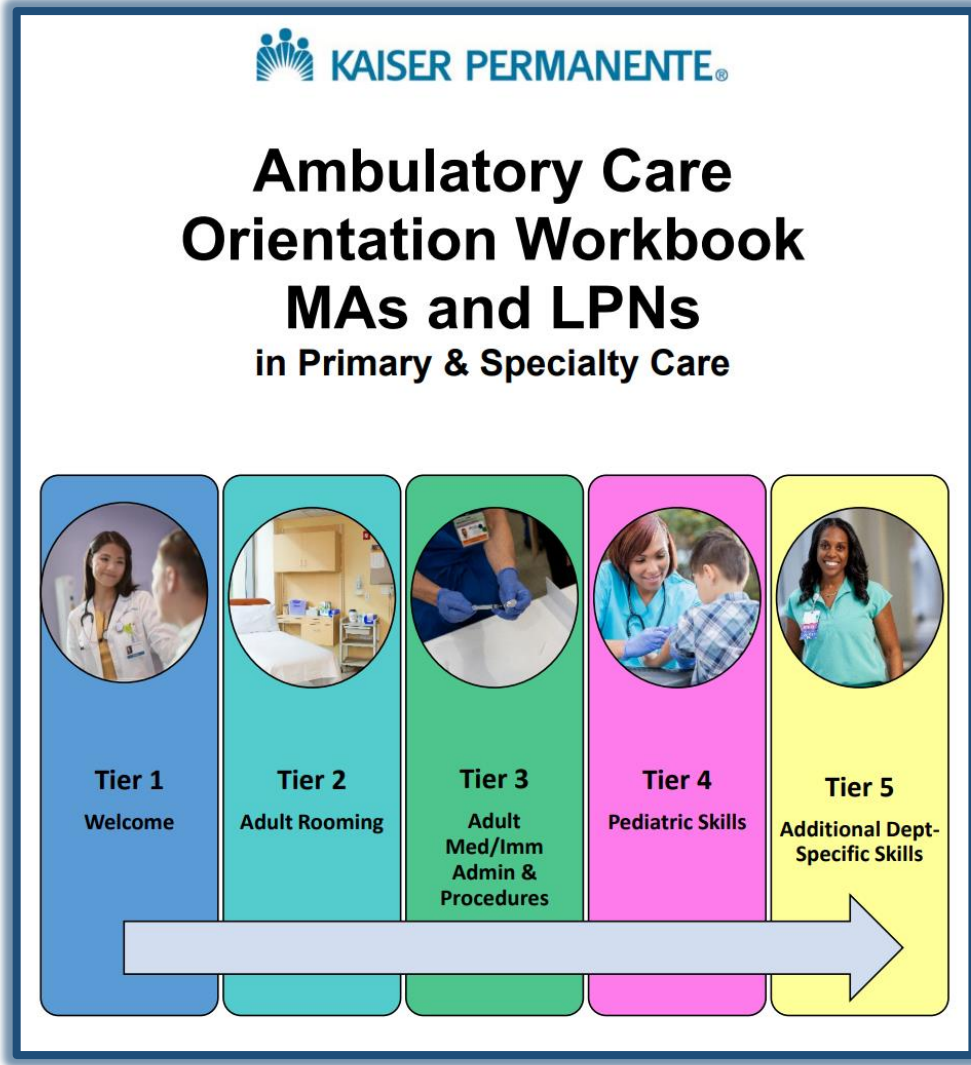
Each orientee may require more or less time in any one tier due to their previous experience and individual learning needs.								
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9-12
<b>Tier 1:</b> Welcome to KPNW & Department								
	<b>Tier 2:</b> Simple Adult Rooming							
		<b>Tier 3:</b> Adult Medication Administration & Procedures						
				<b>Tier 4:</b> Pediatric Rooming & Procedures				
						<b>Tier 5:</b> Additional Skills Tier 5 Addendum		
								<b>Independence</b>

***Tier 4 can be done at any point to meet department/operational needs***

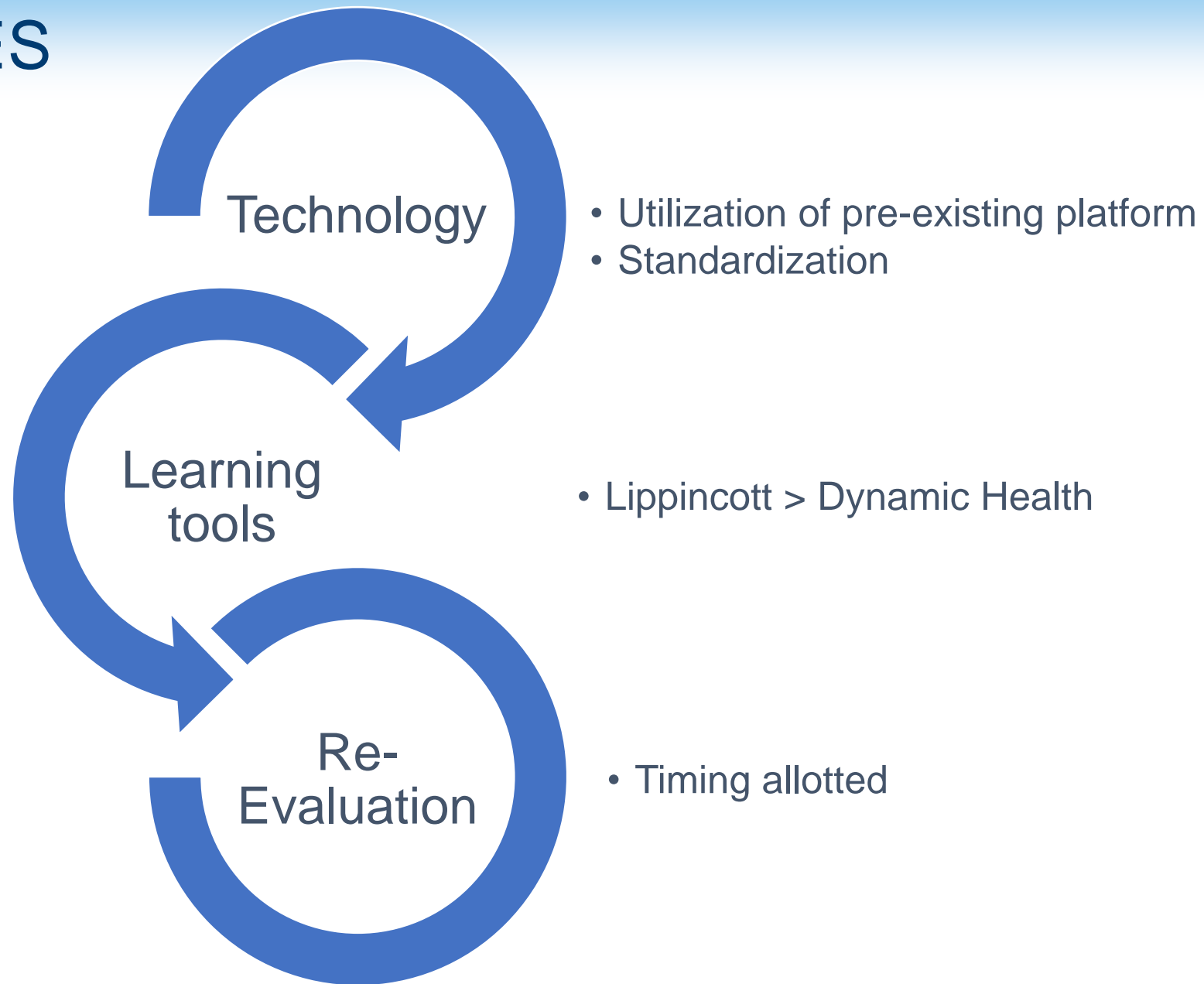


## MA/LPN Orientation Workbook

- Updated format
- More user friendly
- 8 pages (down from 20+)
- Base book
- Tier 5 Addendum
- Copy of the workbook sent in the *New Hire email*
- Posted on the Ambulatory Nursing SharePoint

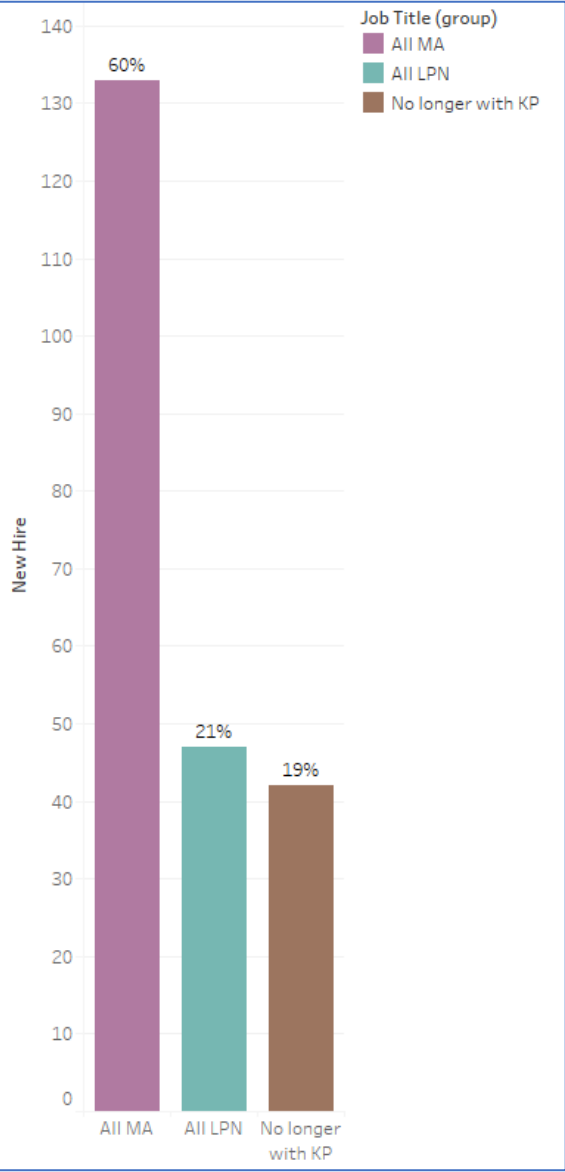


# STRATEGIES





# RESULTS



## 2024 Attendees

### 1-year Voluntary Termination Turnover Rate (% of employees hired who voluntarily terminated within the first year)

Role	January rate	December rate
MA	30.4%	17.3%
LPN	42.4%	46.4%

### Standardization of Assigned Courses

Example Foundational Course	2023 New Hires Completed	2024 New Hires Completed
Assisting with Sterile Procedure	25	211
Medication Administration – Intramuscular	15	205
Medication Administration – Subcutaneous	9	202



Survey Question	30-day Manager Average Score	60-day Manager Average Score
Has the Tiered Orientation structure <b>reduced the training effort on department validators?</b> (1-did not reduce, 2-partially reduced, 3-notably reduced)	2.14	2.15
Are your new hires able to <b>room patients independently?</b> (1-none, 2-some, 3-most, 4-all)	3.41	3.72
Are your new hires <b>progressing</b> through orientation as expected? (1-not progressing, 2-partially progressing, 3-progressing as expected)	2.85	2.92
Please rate the <b>overall satisfaction</b> with the ANO Tiered Orientation process. (1-dissatisfied to 5-very satisfied)	3.92	4.31

# RESULTS

## Tier 2 & Tier 3 New Hire Eval

A Culture of  
Excellence



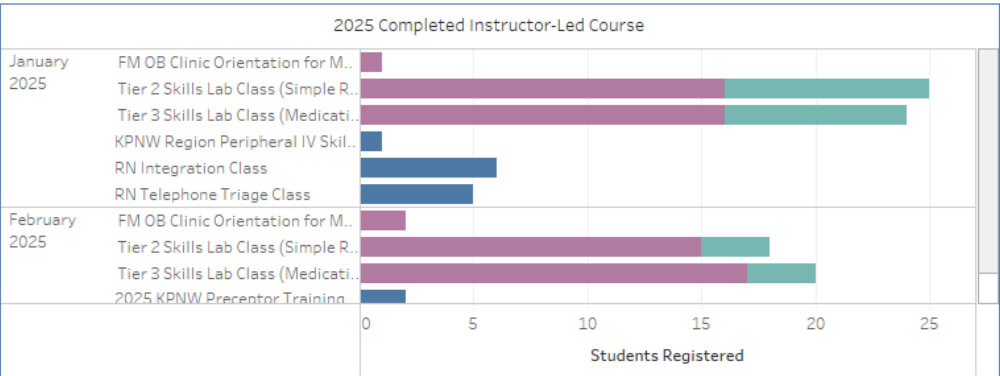
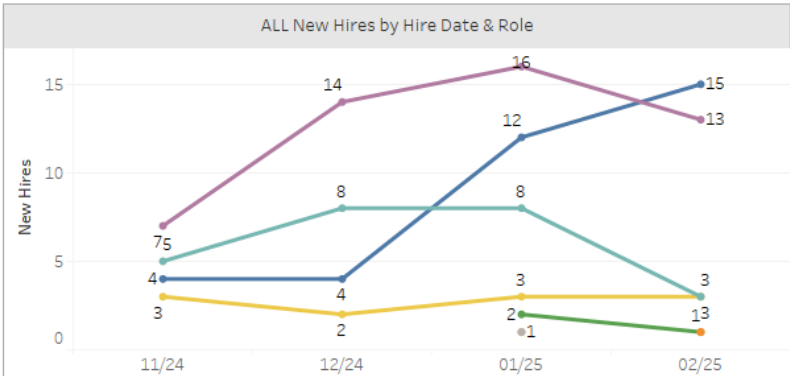
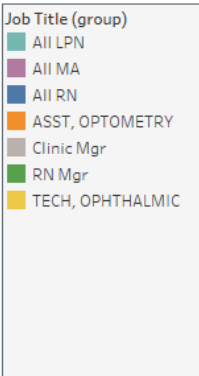
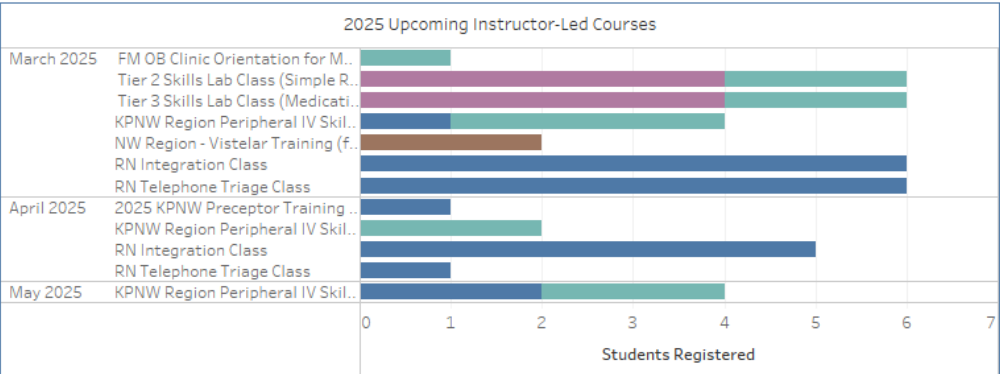
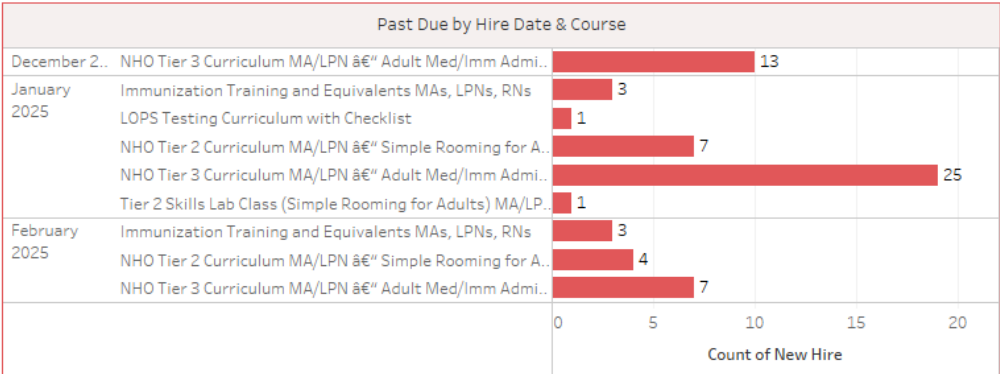
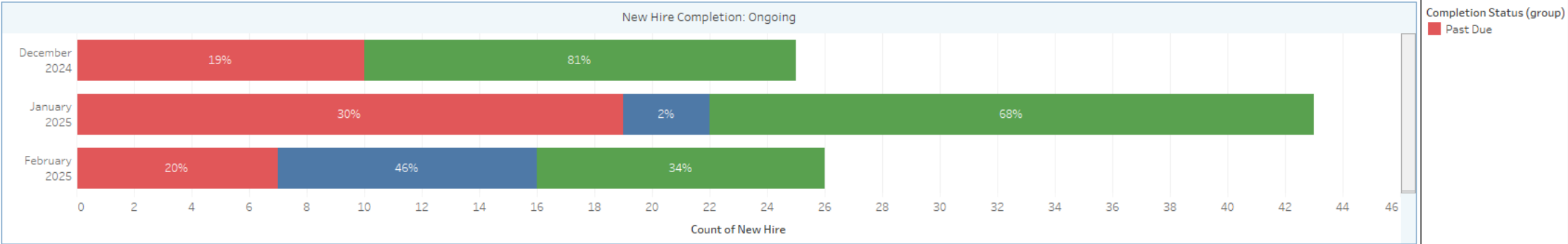
Survey Question	Tier 2 Average Score	Tier 3 Average Score
Instructors were <b>knowledgeable and well prepared</b> . (1-I disagree with statement, 2-neutral, 3-I agree with statement)	2.95	2.97
The <b>classroom environment</b> was conducive to learning. (1-I disagree with statement, 2-neutral, 3-I agree with statement)	2.93	2.96
Please rate the <b>overall satisfaction</b> with class. (1-dissatisfied to 5-very satisfied)	4.87	4.90

# RESULTS

A Culture of  
Excellence



ANO New Hire Data: Updated 3/5/25





# FINDINGS



The Tiered Orientation approach met what we were striving to achieve.



Increase skill competency  
from simple to complex



Flexibility to meet the  
learner's needs



Minimal cost





## Future State

### Meaningful Orientation MA & LPN

- We will continue to check and adjust to provide meaningful orientation

### Registered Nurse & Team Lead

- We look forward to implementing a similar model for our RN and RN Team Lead orientations

### Technology Advancements

- Engagement
- Articulate

# REFERENCES



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Joswiak, M. E., Wolfe, S. M., & Nelson, D. M. (2024). Multisite implementation of the tiered skills acquisition model for orientation: Review and analysis. *The Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing*, 55(3), 130–136. doi: 10.3928/00220124-20231130-02.

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QUESTIONS?