

Background

- The adult intermediate care unit (IMC), a critical care unit at a large academic hospital in the Mid Atlantic Region, has seen a 20 percent increase in the prevalence of Unit Acquired Pressure Injuries (UAPIs) in 2020 compared to 2019.
- Preventing UAPIs is a nursing strategic priority to promote optimal patient outcomes and control health care costs.
- There is a need for a standardized pressure injury prevention protocol for nursing staff on the IMC to use on patients at risk for a UAPI.

Aim of the Project

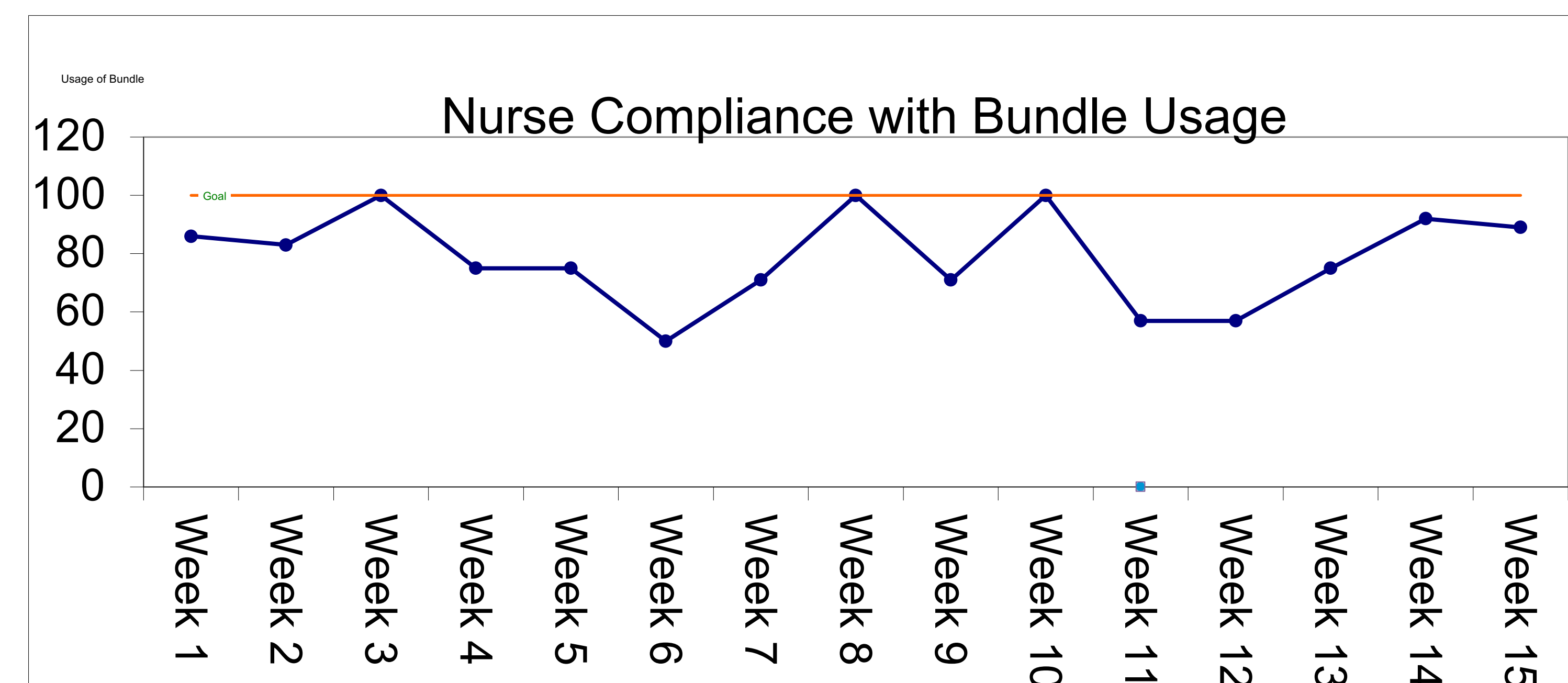
- To implement and evaluate an evidence-based nurse managed practice change to prevent UAPIs among adult critical care patients.
- The practice change will be a nurse managed pressure injury prevention bundle which will be implemented for all adult patients on the IMC who are considered high risk for pressure injury
- Key Goals**
 - 100 percent of IMC patients will be free from any new UAPIs and tissue injuries from medical devices
 - 100 percent utilization of the UAPI prevention bundle for all patients with a documented Braden score of 15 or less

Methods

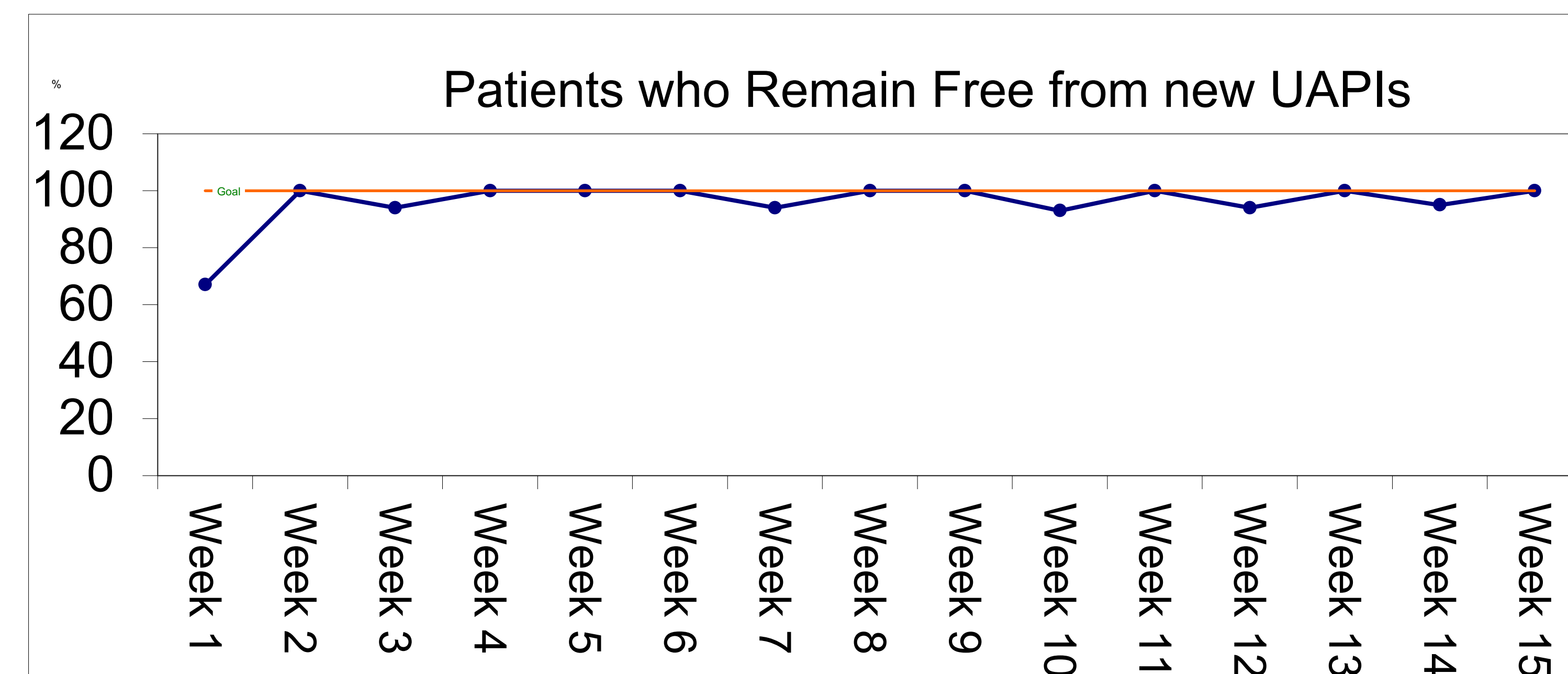
- Setting:** 21 Bed Intermediate care unit at a large academic hospital
- Population:** Adult critical care patients with a Braden score of 15 or less
- Intervention:** Pressure injury prevention bundle consisting of sacral foam dressings, heel protectors, tailored repositioning schedules and protective dressings around medical devices
- Strategies:** Obtain formal commitments from unit's leadership staff and identify project champions to help with compliance of bundle usage
- Data Collection:** Chart audits will be done weekly for 15 weeks to assess usage of bundle and incidence of UAPIs

Results

Percentage of Nurse Compliance with the Bundle



Percentage of Patients who Remain from New UAPIs



Conclusion

- Reduction of UAPIs using a standardized pressure injury prevention bundle may result in decrease length of stay, mortality/morbidity and healthcare costs.
- Implications for Practice**
 - Assessing and evaluating compliance with the prevention bundle is critical to achieve the desired outcome of reduction in UAPIs
- Spread & Sustainability**
 - Involve the department wound care nurses to adopt pressure injury prevention bundle
 - Introduce prevention bundle to other nursing units to implement for patients at risk
 - Discuss with hospital leadership ways to support the prevention bundle as a standard of care for all units
- Next Steps**
 - Continue to identify barriers to nurse compliance and provide solutions

Lessons Learned

- Decreasing UAPIs and sustaining that goal is an ongoing challenge but important for providing high quality care
- Further research such as randomized control trials are needed to increase the evidence on compliance with prevention bundle usage

Discussion

- 79 percent nurse compliance with the utilization of the UAPI prevention bundle for all patients (n = 107) with a Braden score of 15 or less
- 92 percent of IMC patients (n= 107) remained free from any new UAPIs
- Literature suggests that pressure injury prevention bundles are highly effective with excellent nurse compliance
- Although key goals were not met, the data showed a positive association between nurse compliance with bundle usage and patients that remain free from any new UAPIs.
- Barriers**
 - High patient acuity/ heavy work load for nurses, inadequate staffing, shortage in equipment
- Limitations**
 - Short implementation period

References

