

Wound care Walk-in Clinic with the Motto “Illness Prevention and Reduce Readmission” Post Cardiac Surgery.

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PROBLEM

Post cardiac surgery patients after getting discharged home if they develop any signs of wound infection before their initial appointment they are unaware about where to seek health assistance or a see and treat facility.

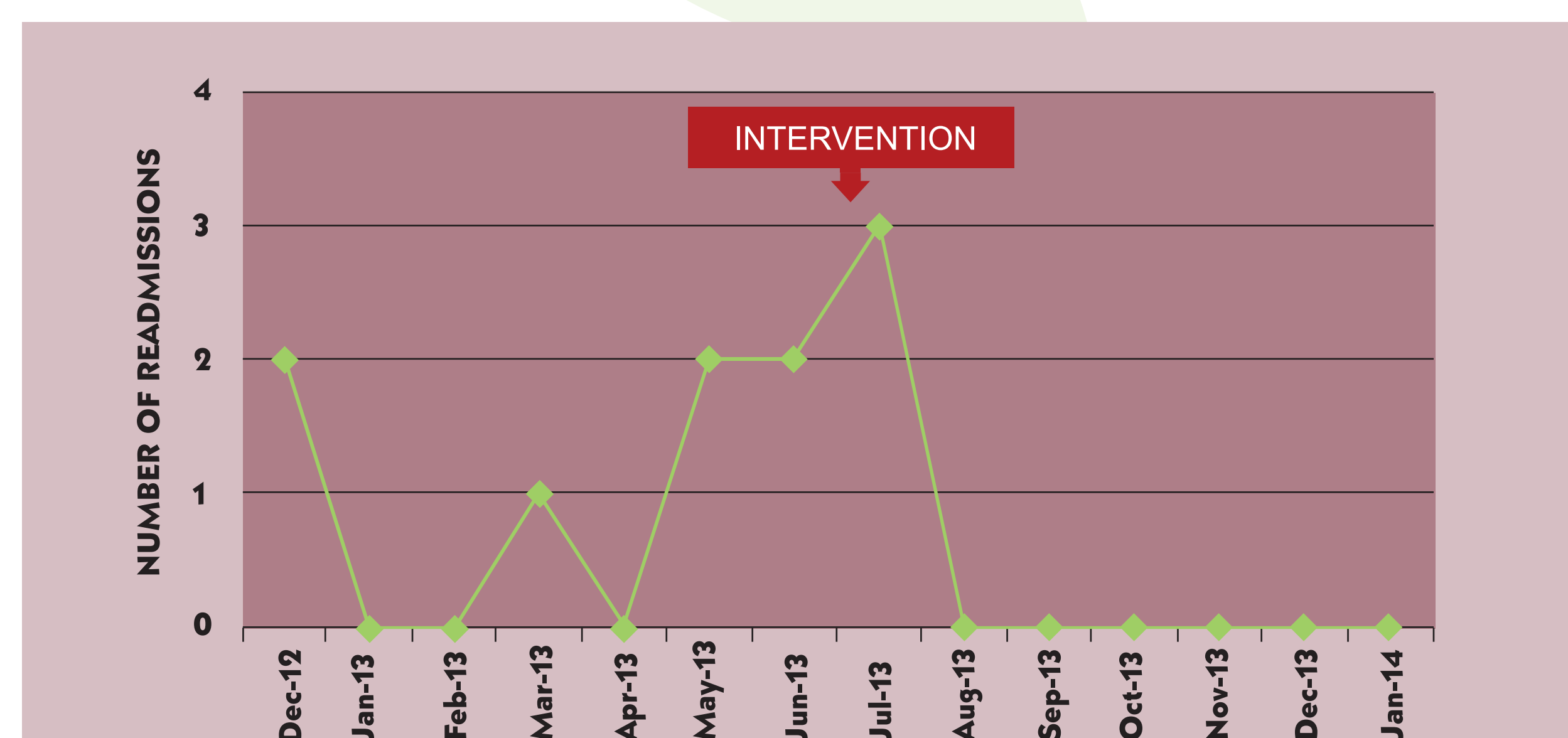
AIM

To facilitate early detection and prevention of post cardiac surgical infection during the time frame of discharge to initial appointment, resulting reduced readmissions and timely treatment.

INTERVENTION

- Instruct the patient upon discharge about the facility of walk-in clinic and this is free of charges.
- Key factor like patient family engagement in the plan of care was focused during discharge teaching.
- 2% chlorhexidine gluconate cloths given to patient during discharge for daily care of the surgical incision.
- Equipped clinic with competent nurses under supervision of cardio- thoracic doctors.
- Minor procedure like debridement,V.A.C dressing, suturing performed in the clinic to reduce the risk of readmission.
- Wound assessment, dressing and treatment in the clinic until wound heals along with regular follow up of consultant.
- A campaign across the continuum of care to increase collaboration among the multidisciplinary teams.

RESULTS: Marked Decline in Readmission Rate Due to Effective Intervention



CONCLUSIONS

- After the implementation of action plan the readmission rate decrease from 3 patients to 'zero' for consecutive six months.
- Early detection of infection contributed towards the reduced percentage of surgical site infection.
- Health teaching and the minor procedure performed in the wound care clinic helped to reach the 'Motto'.

NEXT STEPS

- Focus more on comprehensive discharge planning.
- Provide leaflets to patients which states protection and prevention of infection.

LESSON LEARNED

- Discharge teaching should be more emphasized on how to take care of the wound at home and to recognize the signs of wound infection.
- Sustained elimination of readmission is attainable.
- Consistent monthly feedback of progress to the interdisciplinary team helps to reinforce positive changes.

TEAM

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