

Reducing Post-Operative Obstetric Hemorrhage (An IHI Best Care Always Initiative)

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BACKGROUND

Post-partum hemorrhage (PPH) is the most common cause of maternal mortality & accounts for one-quarter of maternal deaths worldwide. A recent literature review on PPH published by WHO revealed that, to define PPH accurately was difficult due to wide variations in its incidence ranging from as low as 0.55% in Qatar to as high as 17.5% in Honduras.

AIM

To reduce the incidence of Post- operative Obstetric Hemorrhage occurring in the High Dependency Unit (HDU) of Women's Hospital by 50% within 6 months (i.e. November 2013-April 2014).

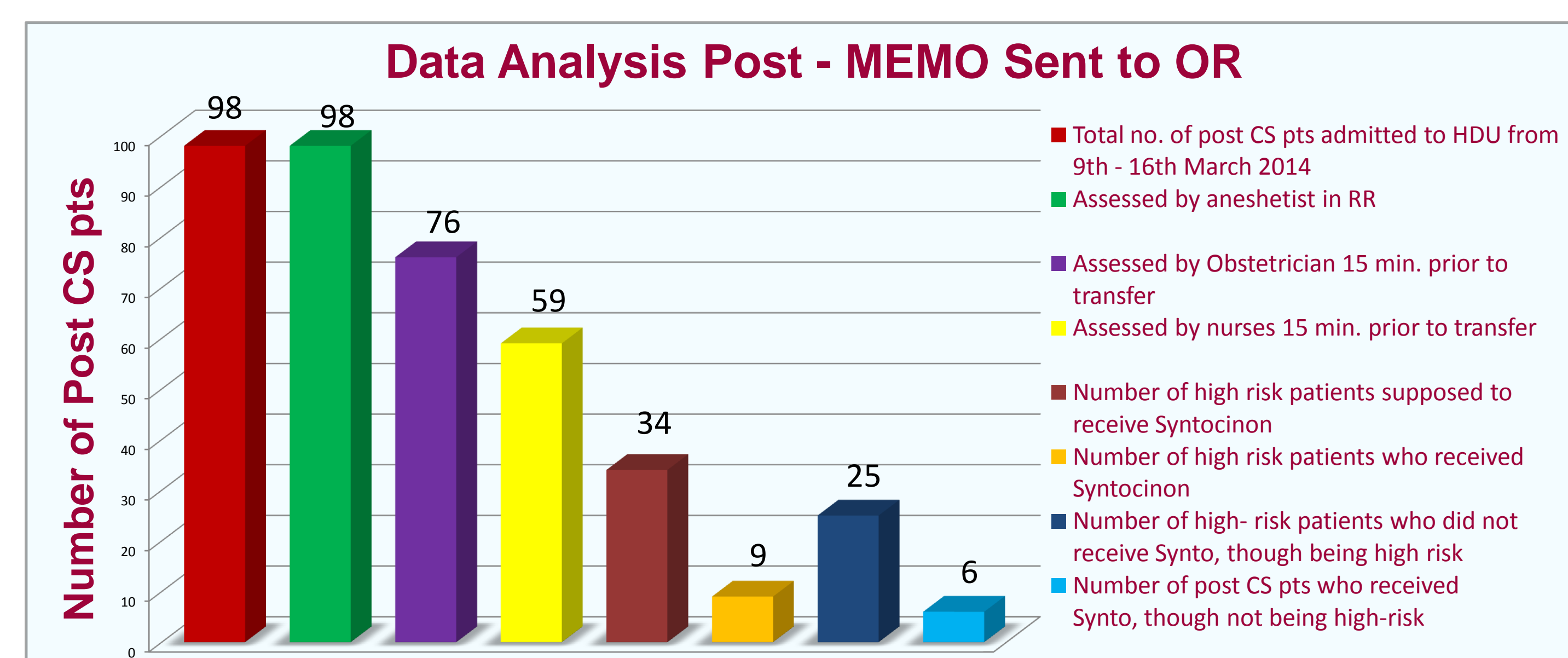
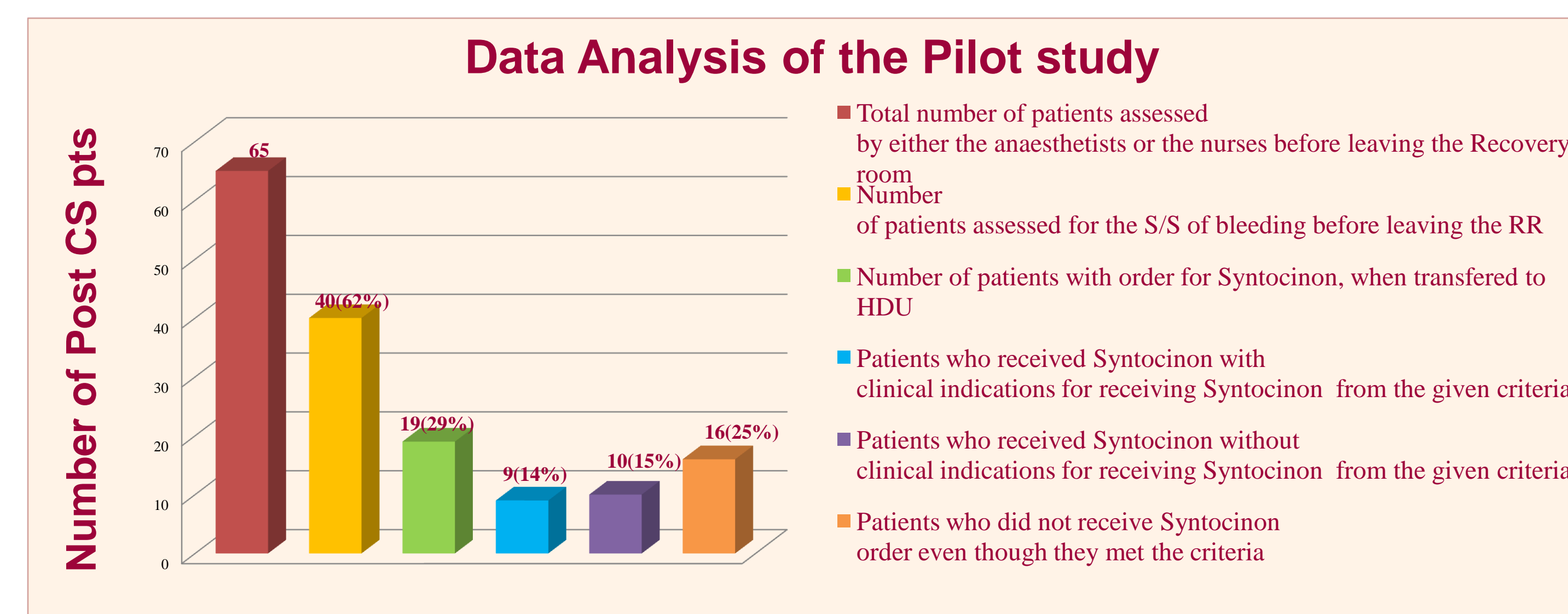
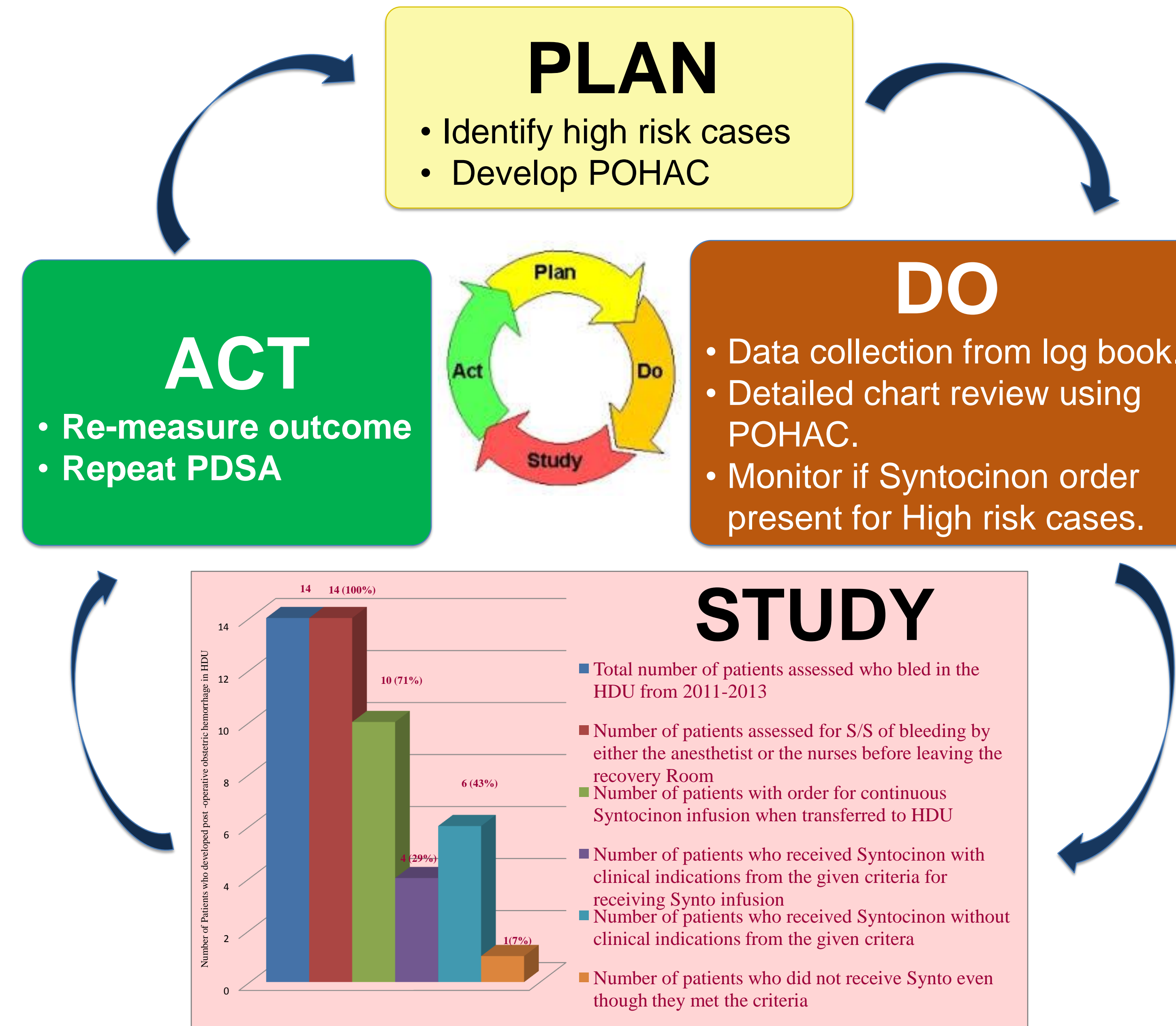
ACTIONS TAKEN

A retrospective chart review of all post C-section patients admitted in the High Dependency Unit of Women's Hospital during 2011- 2013 was done. A Post-Operative Obstetric-Hemorrhage-Assessment-Checklist (POHAC) was developed by literature review and clinical expertise of the team. The indicator measure which was 'the Incidence of Post-Operative Obstetric Hemorrhage' was calculated by

Total Number of Post C-section patients, bled in the HDU

Total Number of Post C-section patients, admitted to the HDU

RESULTS



ACTIONS TAKEN Continued...

A series of tests using the IHI model for improvement – PDSA was done at various stages to reduce variation in practice, in terms of, assessment of all post- CS patients by physicians and nurses (within 15 minutes prior to transfer), administration of Syntocinon Infusion to all high risk cases and reassessment of all post- CS patients by the nurses in the HDU. Five rapid cycles of PDSAs were conducted till date, to test whether the change resulted in an improvement in practice.

CONCLUSION/LESSONS LEARNED

- The incidence of the Post- operative Obstetric-Hemorrhage was reduced to 0% (from 14 cases to 0 cases) within 5 month duration, following the initiation of IHI Best Care Always.
- Tremendous reduction of variation in practice in addition to systematic assessment and consistency in documentation were successfully achieved.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- Dr. Hilal Al Rifai, Medical Director, WH
- Dr. Nishith C Patel, Chief Executive Officer, WH
- Dr. Shwetha Akshaya, AED , Quality & Patient Safety, WH
- Rijoe M. John, HIS Programmer