

Making a Checklist and Checking it Twice: Implementing a Strategy to Meet Stroke Center Monitoring Guidelines.

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Making a Checklist and Checking it Twice: Implementing a Strategy to Meet Stroke Center Monitoring Guidelines

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ABSTRACT

The sudden, devastating injury of ischemic stroke requires emergent decision making to administer recombinant tissue plasminogen activator (rtPA). Once the decision is made, the clock for clinical nurses accelerates. Vital signs and neurological status are monitored at scheduled intervals. Staff within the LVHN neuroscience intensive care unit (NSICU) implemented a process which includes a checklist for mapping out the times of monitoring parameters. Leadership team members review in real time as a second pair of eyes, verifying documentation compliance. Clinical nurses care for the complex stroke patient confident that charting is audited for completeness. Compared to pre-implementation of the check-list and double checks, post-implementation compliance with the American Stroke Association guidelines for patient monitoring was improved. This poster reviews the guidelines for caring and monitoring ischemic stroke patients and details a care strategy which achieves both the patient's needs and regulatory requirements.

INTRODUCTION

Opportunities existed to improve documentation of assessment and care delivery associated with American Stroke Association guidelines for monitoring patients who have received rtPA post ischemic stroke.

OBJECTIVES

- Review the American Stroke Association guidelines for monitoring patients who have received rtPA.
- Detail the documentation checklist utilized to map out times of required actions and associated documentation.
- Gain knowledge of outcome data related to compliance with regulatory and institutional documentation requirements.

METHODS

American Stroke Association Recommendations for Monitoring Patients Who Have Received rtPA

- Get with the Guidelines (GWTG) Stroke
 - Includes patient management and data collection tool
- Specialized Stroke Units
 - Recommend initial and ongoing stroke-specific education requirements for clinical staff
- Standard Order Sets
 - Outline vital sign and neurological exam monitoring
 - Identifies target heart rate & blood pressure
- Patient Monitoring Parameters
 - > *Hemodynamic vital signs monitored and documented*
 - q 15 minutes during infusion, then
 - q 15 minutes x 1 hour after infusion, then
 - q 30 minutes x 6 hours, then
 - q hour x 16 hours
 - > *Neurological examination monitored and documented*
 - q 15 minutes during infusion, then
 - q 30 minutes x 6 hours, then
 - q hour x 16 hours
 - > *Peripheral Vascular Assessment*
 - q 15 minutes x 1 hour, then
 - q 30 minutes x 2 hours
 - q 60 minutes x 5 hours

Reperfusion Checklist

Reperfusion Checklist																
Patient Initials		MRN		Admit Date		Management Notified										
IV TPA TPA Start Time																
IR Intervention including IV/IA TPA, IA TPA, Mechanical Intervention -- All Cases																
Time Patient on Unit																
Neuro Check HR, BP, RR VALIDATED every 15 minutes for 2 hours from IV TPA start time THEN Neuro Check HR, BP, RR VALIDATED every 30 minutes for the next 6 hours (Hour 3-8) THEN Neuro Check HR, BP, RR VALIDATED Every hour																
Time	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Q15																
Time																
Q30																
Time																
Q1h																
Interventional Radiology Patients -- Groin Check including Pulse, Color, Temperature and Sensation -- Checks begin when patient reaches the unit																
Time Patient Arrived on Unit																
Groin Check Validated Every 15 Minutes for 4 checks Every 30 Minutes X 4 checks Every 60 Minutes X 5 hours or until Sheath removed																
Time	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Q15																
Time																
Q30																
Time																
Q1h																
Not a Permanent Part of Patient Chart																

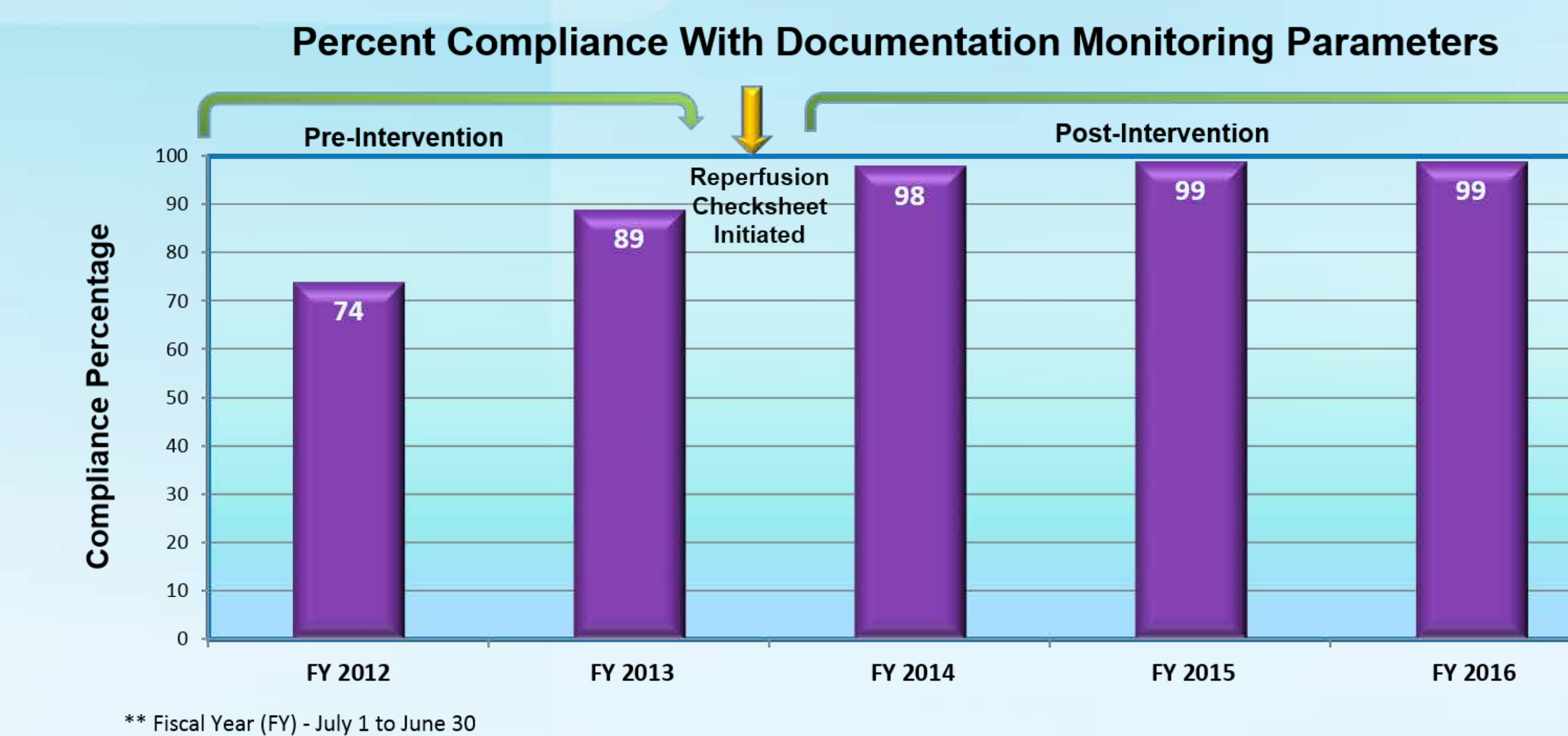
EVALUATION RESULTS

Stroke Audit Process

Page sent to Management Team when ptient arrives on unit

Management team member reviews real-time documentation and provides feedback

Spreadsheet developed for record-keeping and analysis purposes



CONCLUSIONS

- Checklist eases complex timing of assessments.
- Checklist increased staff accountability for documentation.
- Real-time monitoring and data transparency improves documentation compliance.

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