

Reduction of Falls Utilizing a Safety Huddle at Night

Gabrielle Lopez BSN, RN
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Gabrielle.Lopez@lvhn.org

Bridget Stein BSN, RN
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Bridget.Stein@lvhn.org

Tara M. Kirk ASN, RN
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Tara_M.Kirk@lvhn.org

Tajlynne King ASN, RN
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Tajlynne.King@lvhn.org

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Gabrielle Lopez BSN, RN, Bridget Stein BSN, RN, Tara Kirk, ASN, RN, TajLynne King, ASN, RN

Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania

BACKGROUND

- Preventing falls is a patient safety initiative at LVHN
- LVHN-M 7T experienced an increase in falls
 - From August 2018 to December 2018, 7T had 11 falls prior to initiating fall huddle

PICO

- **P** Adult inpatient
- **I** Safety huddle at night
- **C** Not doing safety huddles
- **O** Falls

EVIDENCE

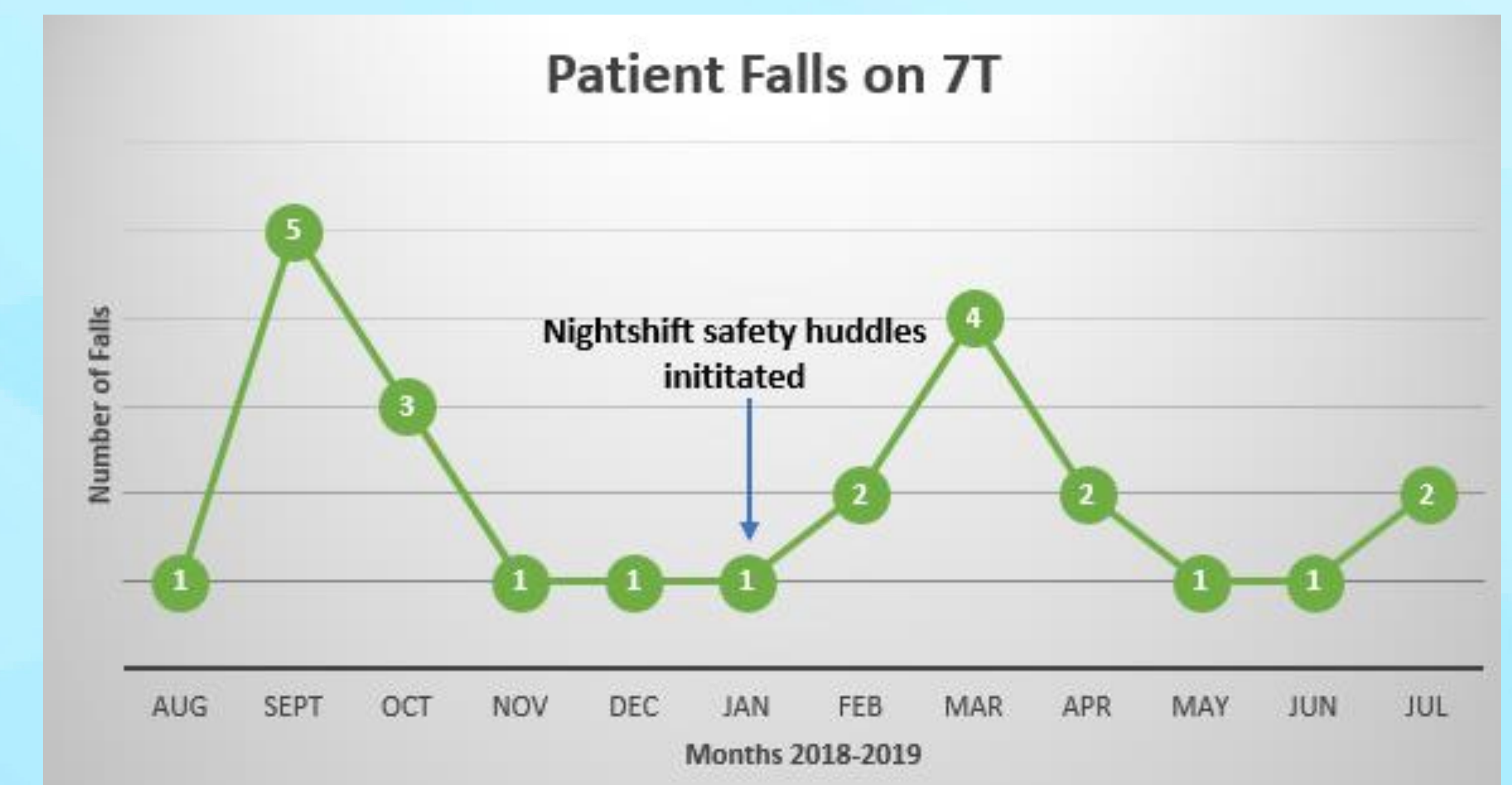
- “The safety huddles were effective as the total fall rates per 1,000 patient days (Table 1) in the second through fourth quarters of 2011 remained lower than presafety huddle levels”. (Leone & Adams, 2015)
- There was a decrease in falls after implementing safety huddles. T2 had six consecutive weeks without a fall. (Lee, 2014)
- A hospital in Boston implemented safety huddles and reduced falls by 43% (Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare)

IMPLEMENTATION

- Safety huddle at night with focus on fall risks
 - Examples
 - Presence of bed check
 - Mental status
 - Challenges bed check
- Safety huddle led by CHURN
- Utilization of a standardized huddle sheet
- Perform bi-weekly audits of huddle sheet
 - The safety huddle was being performed but not consistently – did not occur on nights when there was no CHURN

7T huddle sheet						Shift: DAY NIGHT
Date:	Foley	Central Line	Fall Risk	Skin Issues	1:1/ Restraints	Notes
701			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
702			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
703			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
704			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
705			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
706			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
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718			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
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720			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
721			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
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726			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
727			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
728			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
729			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			
730			Bed ✓ gait belt fall@ home			

OUTCOMES



NEXT STEPS

- Improve consistency of huddle occurrence
- Create alternative huddle initiator if CHURN not available

REFERENCES

Lee, L. (2014). Reducing the Number of Patient Falls Through A Quality Improvement Process In A Community Hospital (Doctoral dissertation, Utica College) ProQuest. (UMI No. 1570362)

Leone, R. M., & Adams, R. J. (2015). Safety Standards: Implementing Fall Prevention Interventions and Sustaining Lower Fall Rates by Promoting the Culture of Safety on an Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit. *Rehabilitation Nursing*, 41(1), 26-32. doi:10.1002/rnj.250

Health Research & Educational Trust (2016, October). Preventing Patient Falls: A Systematic Approach from the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare Project. Retrieved from <http://www.hpoe.org/Reports-HPOE/2016/preventing-patient-falls.pdf>