

# Improving Pain Reassessment Scores in a Teaching Hospital

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## BACKGROUND

In June 2017, following a visit from The Joint Commission (TJC), University Medical Center (UMC) had an **opportunity to improve** in the **pain reassessment** process based on PC.01.02.07 EP3 Reassessment Criteria.

An audit structure was developed and trends and analysis are to be reported to the Quality Committee monthly. An audit tool created in the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) assesses all as needed (PRN) pain medications given to patients and what time the reassessment was completed. The report calculates the hospital score, unit scores, as well as individual nurses scores for compliance.

The Maternal Child Division (MCD) chose Pain Reassessment as one of their quality improvement projects for 2020.

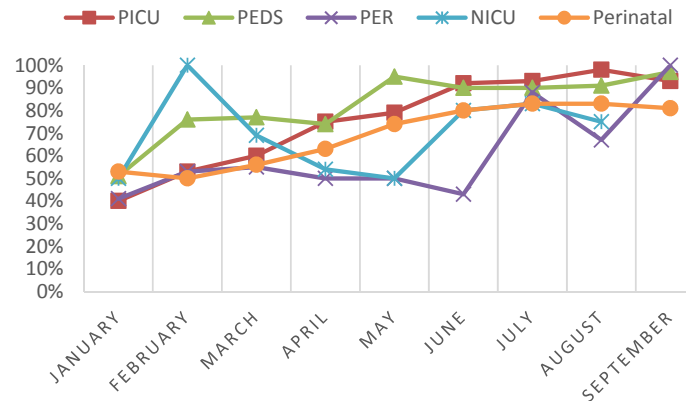
## GOALS

- Improve compliance scores in the Maternal Child Division to 90% by December 2020.
- Display monthly results in a format that is meaningful to the nurse to increase individual RN accountability.
- Share process for improvement with rest of the hospital

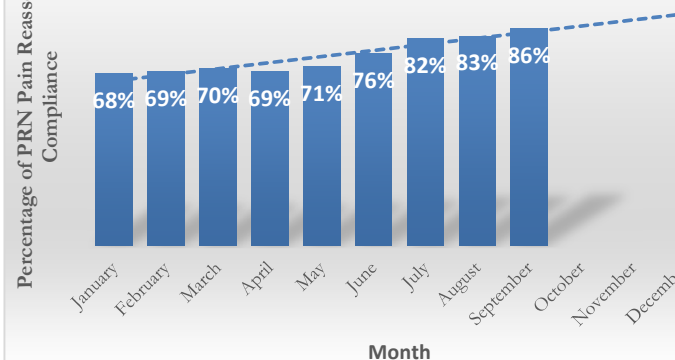
## BARRIERS

- Not all leaders aware of EMR audit tool
- Staff not aware of audit tool
- Monthly results not shared with staff
- Report missing two pain assessment tools used to reassess pain
- Report parameters did not meet the needs for fast acting peak onset of analgesic effects for medications such as fentanyl and butorphanol tartrate

## MATERNAL CHILD DIVISION PAIN REASSESSMENT CY 2020



## UMC PRN Pain Reassessment Compliance CY 2020



## STRATEGIES & INTERVENTIONS

Interventions completed by the MCD included:

- EMR Report updated based on barriers discovered
- Education to Leaders regarding Compliance Report
- Education to staff regarding Compliance Report
- Education to staff regarding Pain Management
- Multiple communication methods used each month for staff who scored less than 90%
- Education to staff regarding pain reassessment for acetaminophen, even if given for a fever.

## OUTCOMES & CONCLUSIONS

- This pilot project and preliminary data was shared with the rest of the hospital in May and June 2020.
- UMC shared governance continues to review the EMR report to ensure all pain medication are being reassessed.
- UMC's mission is to serve our community by providing patient-centered care. Pain reassessment is just one way we will continue to deliver patient-centered care here at UMC.

## REFERENCES

Cline, M. A. (2016). RN increasing RN accountability in professional practice. *Journal of Nursing Administration, 46*(3), 128-131. doi:10.1097/NNA.0000000000000311

Lippincott . (2019). *Pain Management*. Retrieved from <https://procedures.lww.com/lnp/view.do?pld=4971072&disciplineId=8773>

