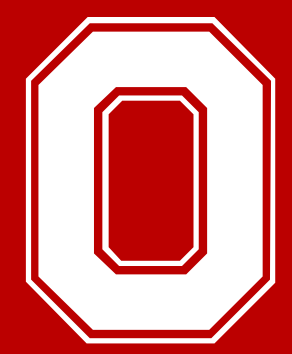


Influenza: A Collaborative Approach to Screening and Vaccinating Hospitalized Patients



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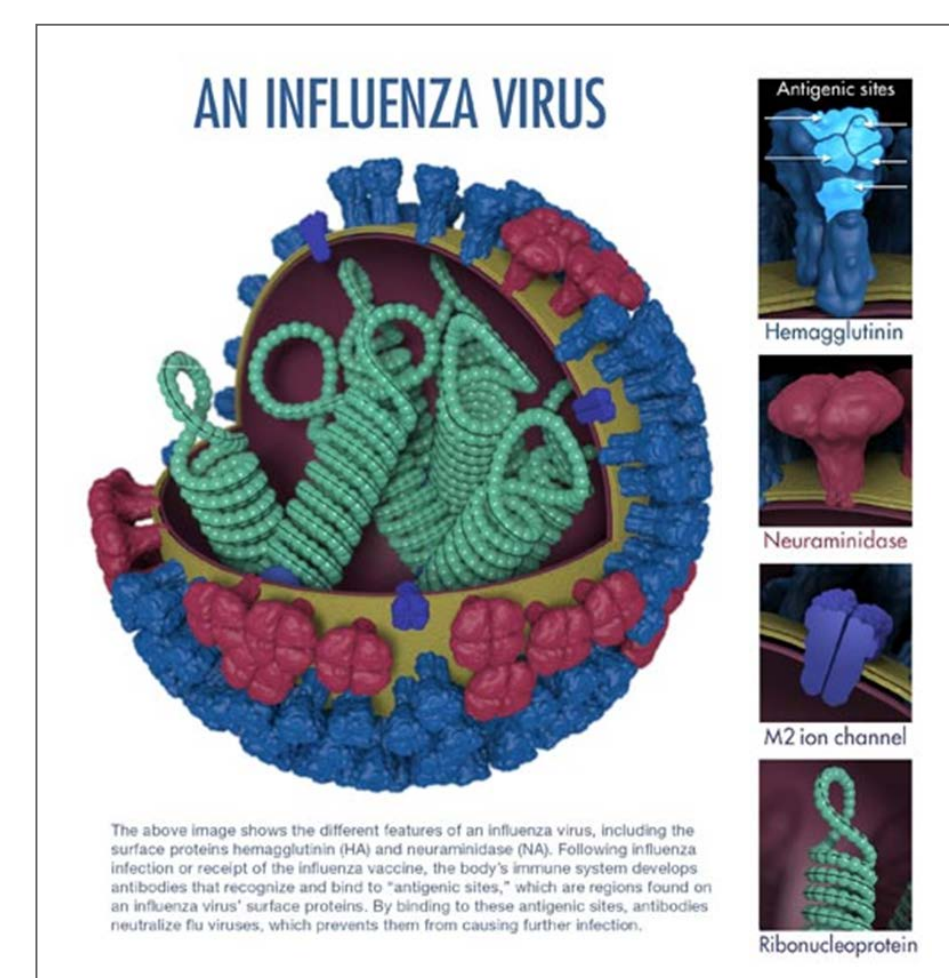
Introduction

Seasonal influenza, commonly known as “the flu,” is caused by viruses that infect the respiratory track (noses, throat, lungs). Unlike the common cold and other respiratory viruses, influenza can cause severe illness and be life-threatening for some individuals¹.

- Flu season in the United States occurs during the fall and winter, with the peak occurring between late November through March.
- Symptoms include a sudden onset of fever, chills, sore throat, body aches and headache.
- Complications of the flu may include bacterial pneumonia, dehydration, and exacerbation of chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, asthma, and/or congestive heart failure.

Background and Significance

- Each year, 24.7 million individuals in the United States get the flu, resulting in 31.4 million outpatient visits⁴.
- Approximately 200,000 of those individuals are hospitalized due to heart- and respiratory-related conditions associated with the influenza virus².
- Influenza-related deaths vary year to year, ranging from 3,000 deaths per year to as high as 49,000 deaths per year³.
- Direct medical costs associated with influenza is \$10.4 billion annually⁴.

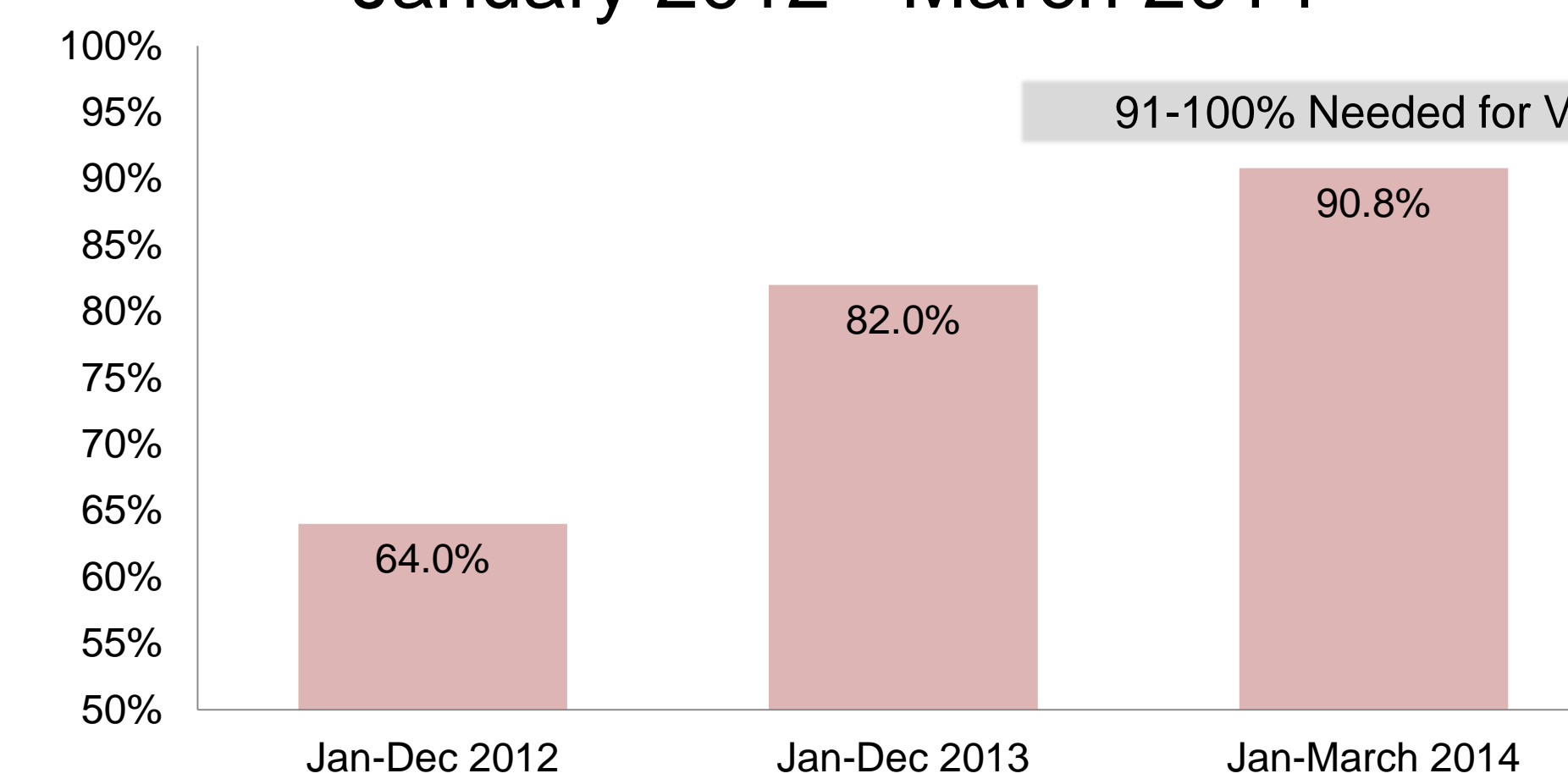


- The Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2010 redesigned healthcare insurance options and delivery/payment systems. The Value-Based Purchasing (VBP) Program is part of payment reform⁵.
- VBP is an incentive program where a % of Medicare payments are withheld and then distributed back to organizations based on performance for various measures. Influenza assessment and vaccination of inpatients is one of the *Clinical Process of Care* VBP measures⁶.

Baseline Performance and Improvement Strategies

Inpatient Influenza Immunization Rates: Baseline Performance*

January 2012 - March 2014



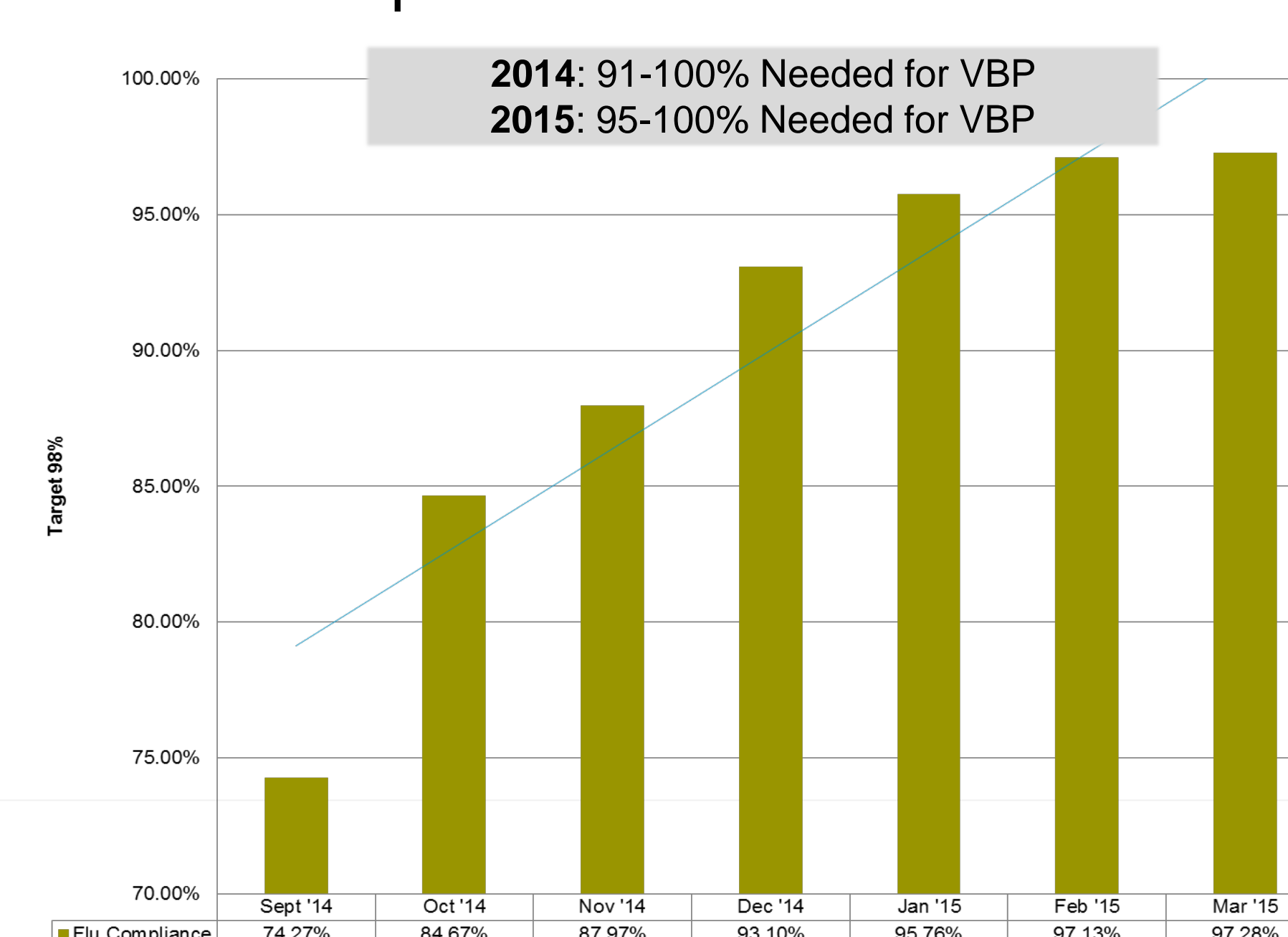
An interdisciplinary team was created, with the purpose of streamlining processes which would enable RNs to practice at the top of license, and increase inpatient flu vaccination administration rates

Strategies Implemented September 2014

- Implemented a Nurse-Driven Vaccination Protocol that authorizes nurses to screen and administer the influenza vaccine
- Vaccine changed to a scheduled one-time order, from “as needed”
- Simplification of the screening process
- A Best Practice Advisory (BPA) was built in the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) to provide decision support to the RN screening the patient
- Education of nursing staff about the importance of vaccination: health and financial implications
- Regular feedback provided to unit managers and staff regarding compliance

Performance After Strategies Implemented

September 2014 - March 2015



Ongoing Metric Monitoring

- Real-time dashboard report available in the EMR system for real-time patient follow-up and vaccination status.
- Information Warehouse generates an automatic bimonthly report indicating individual nursing unit and business unit compliance.
- Nursing Quality emails nursing leadership team bimonthly compliance report and will send nursing leaders list of noncompliant cases for staff follow-up.
- Bimonthly reports posted on Nursing Collaboration Site on the OSUWMC intranet.

Project Team Members

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- John Plant, Legal Services
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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015). Seasonal influenza Q&A. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/disease.htm> ¹

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (2015). Hospital value-based purchasing. Retrieved from <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/hospital> ⁶

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