



Background

In 2022, the medical director of children's anesthesia developed the Perioperative Risk Assessment Coordination Clinic. All patients scheduled for surgery complete a standardized intake process, including phone interviews and surveys, to assess surgical and patient complexity. This categorization guides evidence-based preoperative laboratory and diagnostic testing

Objectives

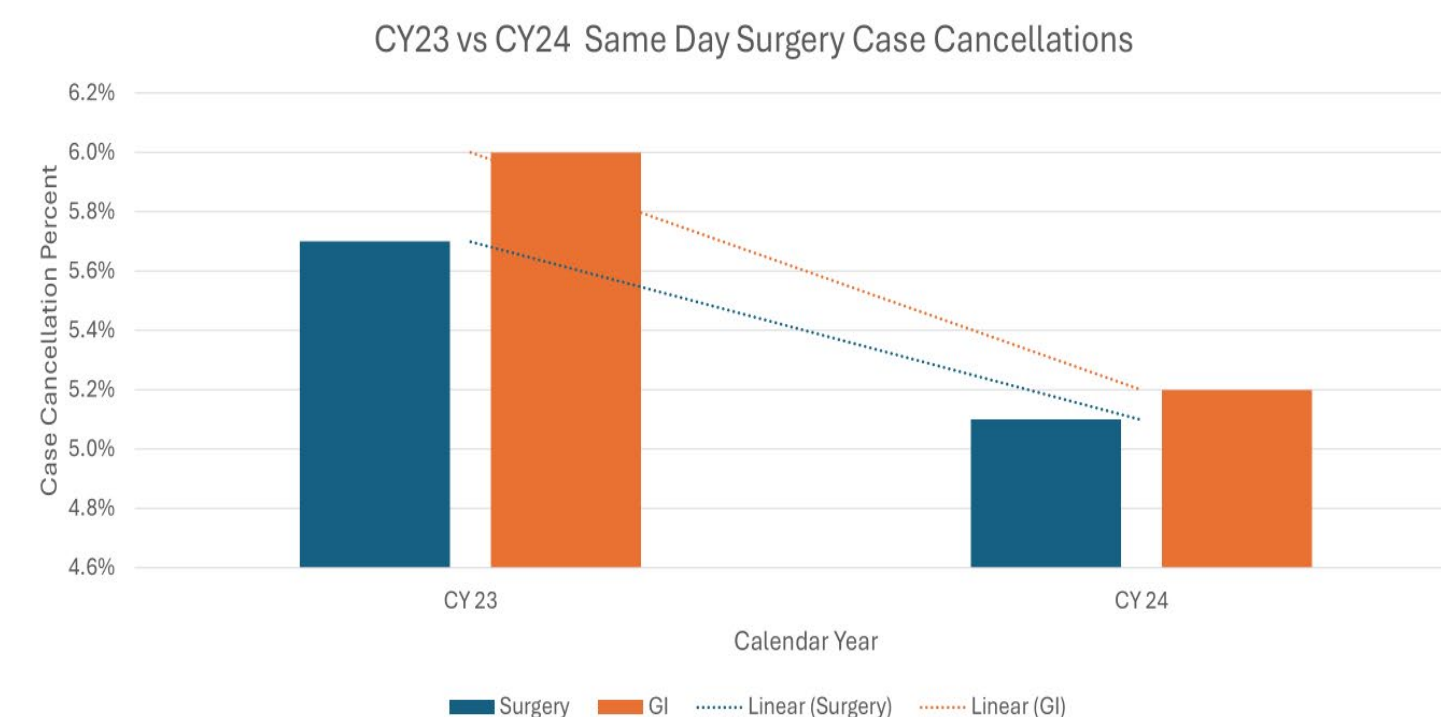
- Increase pre-admission testing volume to ensure appropriate preoperative evaluation.
- Decrease same-day surgery cancellations by improving readiness and communication.
- Enhance patient flow and overall perioperative efficiency.

Implementation

Established standardized guidelines for pre-admission testing workflows to ensure completion before the day of surgery.

- Designated anesthesia team members to conduct chart reviews and coordinate in-person or telephone PAT appointments.
- Updated educational tools, including video guidelines and brochures, to reinforce NPO instructions and medication administration for patients and families

SDSC Decrease



Results

From calendar years 2023–2024, PAT volume increased by 80%, while same-day surgical cancellations decreased by 10.5%, including a 13.3% reduction in same-day GI case cancellations. These outcomes highlight the critical role of peri-anesthesia nurses in improving efficiency, reducing delays, and promoting patient-centered, evidence-based care

Implications for Advancing

By increasing PAT volume and decreasing same day surgery cancellations, these outcomes highlight the critical contribution of peri-anesthesia nurses in enhancing patient care quality, reducing delays, and promoting evidence based, patient centered care.