

Standardizing Outpatient Joint Replacement Discharge Process in the PACU



Department of Nursing

NYU Langone Orthopedic Hospital, New York, NY

Team members: Michael Tagadaya, RN, S. Director, Analissa Chavez, RN, NP, Seth Creel, ANM, Nicholas Cona, NM, Linede Kraemer, RN, S. Director, PACU NPs, Vergie Javier, RN, Amelita Fabello, RN, PACU Staff, PT, OT

Background

In May 2020, the PACU adopted outpatient total hip arthroplasty (THA) and total knee arthroplasty (TKA) as outlined by the new CMS payment policy, signaling a shift in the PACU workflow post pandemic deployment.

Identification of the Problem

The discharge process of outpatient total joint is not well defined and standardized.

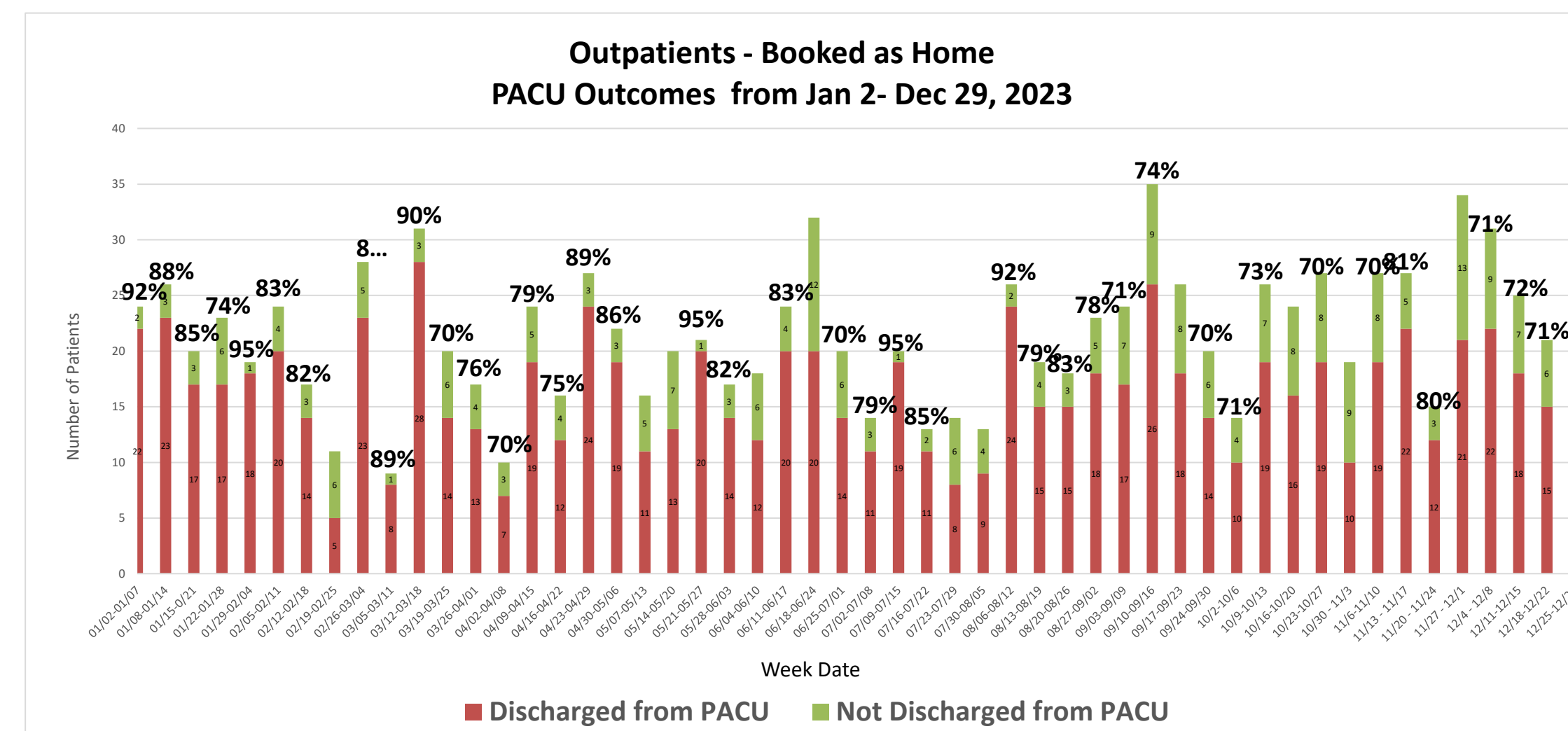
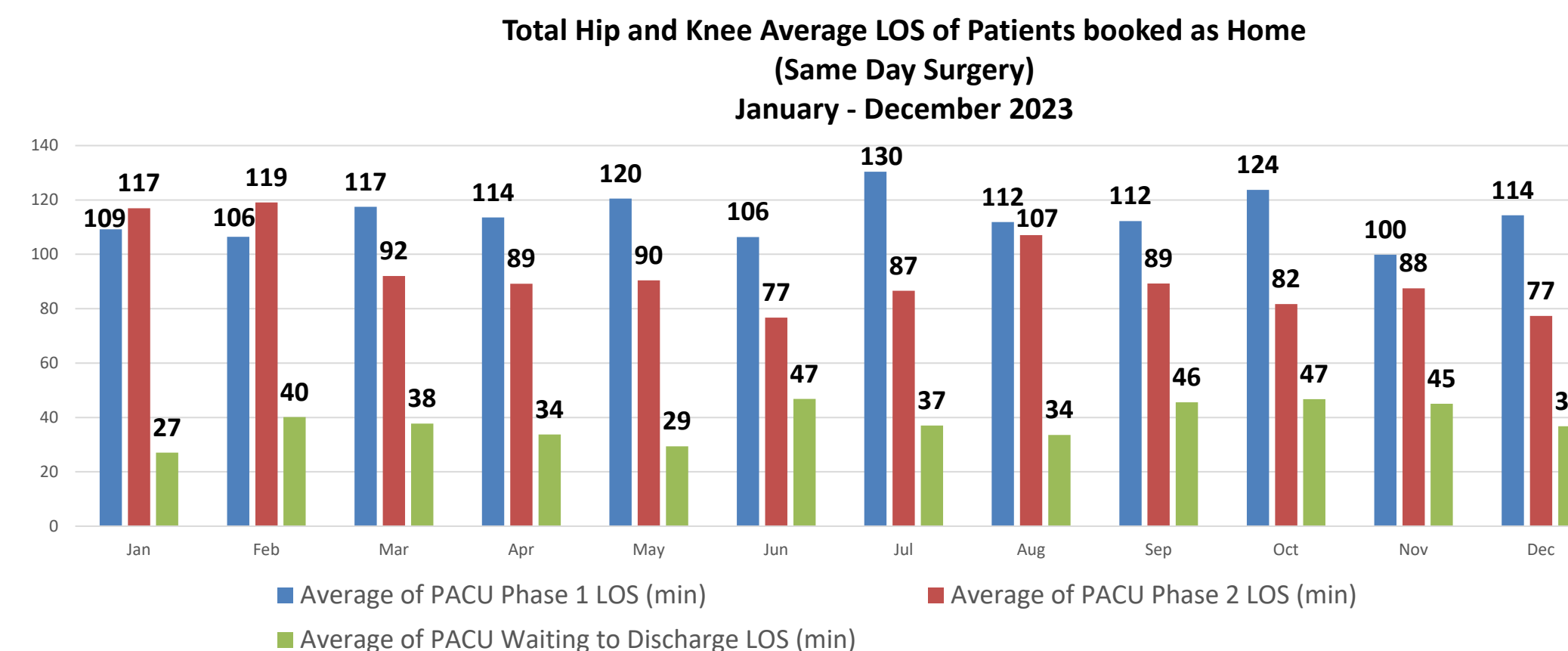
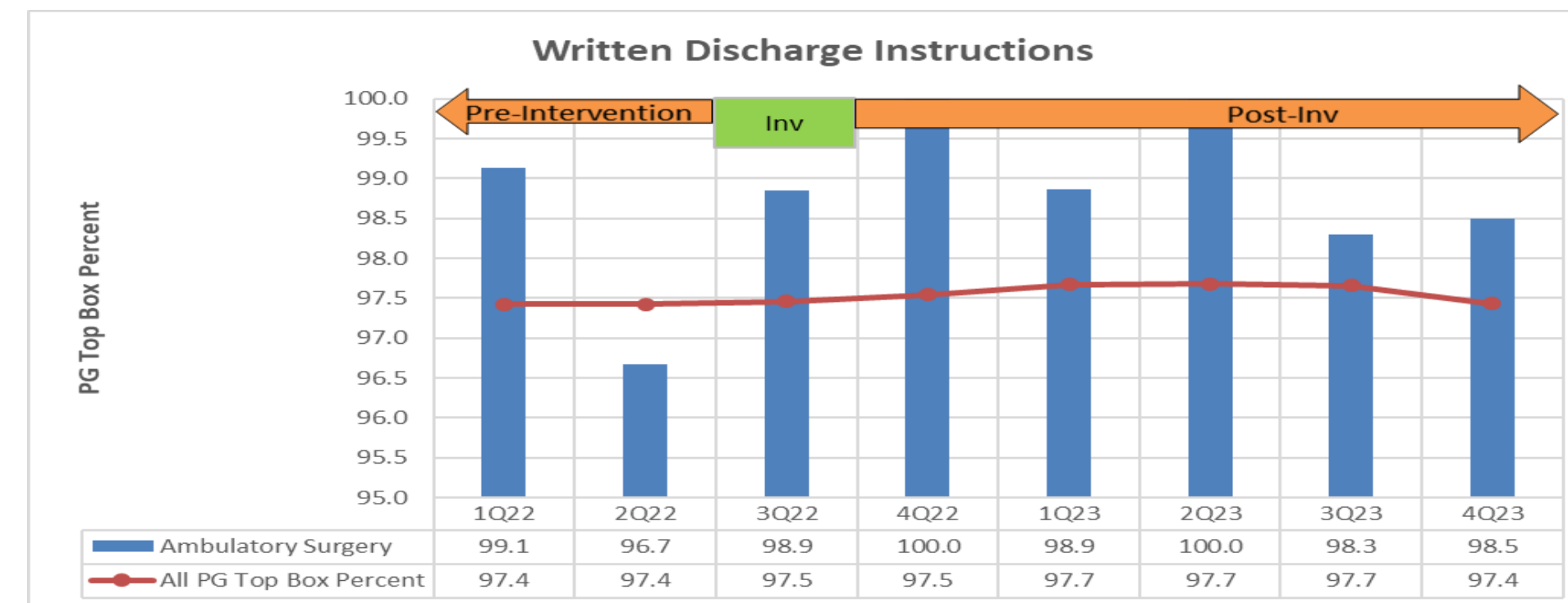
Purpose

To standardize the process of managing same day discharges from the PACU over 12 months to 75% of all outpatient cases of the of total hip arthroplasty (THA) and total knee arthroplasty (TKA) procedures. To establish a standardized discharge process for outpatient total joint.

Interventions

- Design Workflow Process and algorithm (5/20)
- Create Outpatient Joint order set under "Post-Op in PACU" (6/20)
- Updating PACU Discharge Checklist (6/20)
- DME Equipment Par Level (7/20)
- We Learn - PT/OT Outpatient Total Joint Education (7/20)
- We Learn - CCC Discharge Process (7/20)
- Utilizing and maximizing Epic notification of family/escort/coach (8/20)
- Implementing Epic Secure Chat (9/20)
- PT Extended Hours Coverage to 9pm ; OT coverage to 8pm – lead person implemented (9/22)
- Establishing new HRO Aims (11/22)
- Leadership Escalation Pathways (12/23)
- Weekly Review of Overnight Cases

Outcomes



Discussion

Identifying barriers to patient care and staff education allowed the opportunity to transform the outpatient total joint discharge from the PACU. Reviewing quality metrics and PSIs identified obstacles/trends related to patient centered care.

Conclusion

The standardized discharge process for total joints has a significant impact in achieving positive patient outcomes, enhancing nursing communication and interprofessional collaboration.

In addition, the collective efforts of multiple disciplines especially nursing is essential to patient safety and operational efficiency.

Implications for Perianesthesia Nurses and Future Research

The role of nurses is critical in designing high quality and safe healthcare delivery system.

This workflow is a template for best practices for similar settings within the hospital system and ambulatory care settings.

Project Contact: Michael Tagadaya, MS, RN, NEA-BC
Michael.Tagadaya@nyulangone.org

Analissa Chavez, MS, FNP-BC, CCRN, CPAN, PMGT-BC
Analissa.Chavez@nyulangone.org

