

Who's Who in the PACU? Role Designation During Emergencies

Background

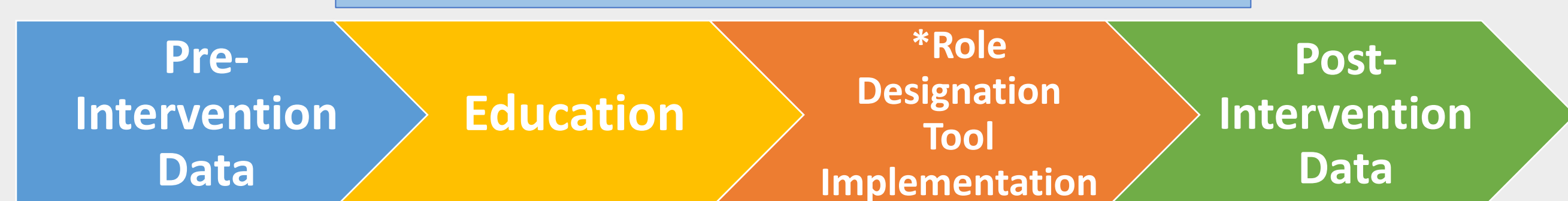
- During PACU emergencies, our team identified:
 - Unclear roles
 - Knowledge gaps within roles
 - Lack of confidence in emergency skills
- Synthesized findings show poor team dynamics and communication breakdown contribute to preventable errors
- Lack of role designation may lead to adverse patient outcomes during emergency events

PICO: Does role designation strategy impact PACU staff team dynamics during emergency situations?

Purpose

Implement and evaluate the effectiveness of a **role designation strategy** for PACU staff during emergency situations to **improve staff confidence, staff knowledge, and team dynamics** while maintaining positive outcomes.

Methods



Pre-Intervention/Post-Intervention Data Collection:

- Team Dynamics measured via *Mayo High Performance Scale* during unit emergencies or mock events
- Staff confidence and knowledge measured via survey sent to PACU staff pre and post implementation

Education:

- Information on Role Response Team and emergency skills/concepts provided prior to implementation

Education

Introduced education as mini-session skill stations to provide hands on practice and familiarity with emergency skills and concepts. Utilized facilitator guides to maintain consistent education for each skill station.



Skill Station Topics:

- Airway Management
- Medication Administration
- Crash Cart Review
- Compressions
- Documentation
- Role Designation Tool

Role Designation Tool

PACU Staff Response Team

Medication Nurse (PACU Med RN): _____

Compressions (PACU AP): _____

PACU PCT: _____

- Bring crash cart to slot, obtain supplies, compression relief

PACU Staff leader: _____

- Crowd control, ensure all roles are filled, designate RN to document, support Provider who is leading

PACU Medical Receptionist: _____

- Notify manager, Pharmacy, Administrative Coordinator (AC)

PACU CRNA/Anesthesiologist: _____

PACU Co-Charge Nurse: _____

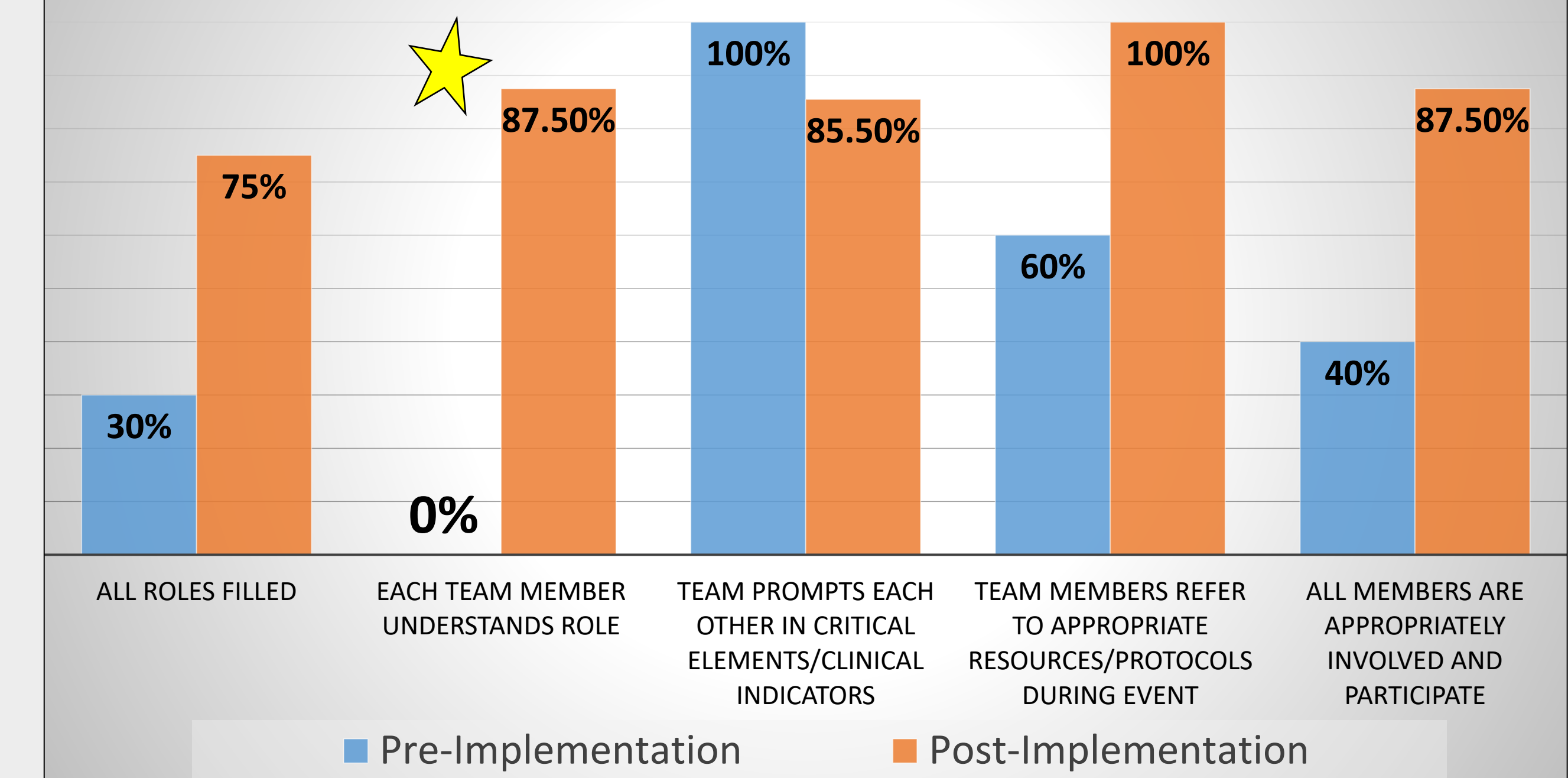
- Manage unit flow, fill in as Med RN

Bedside RN is responsible for:

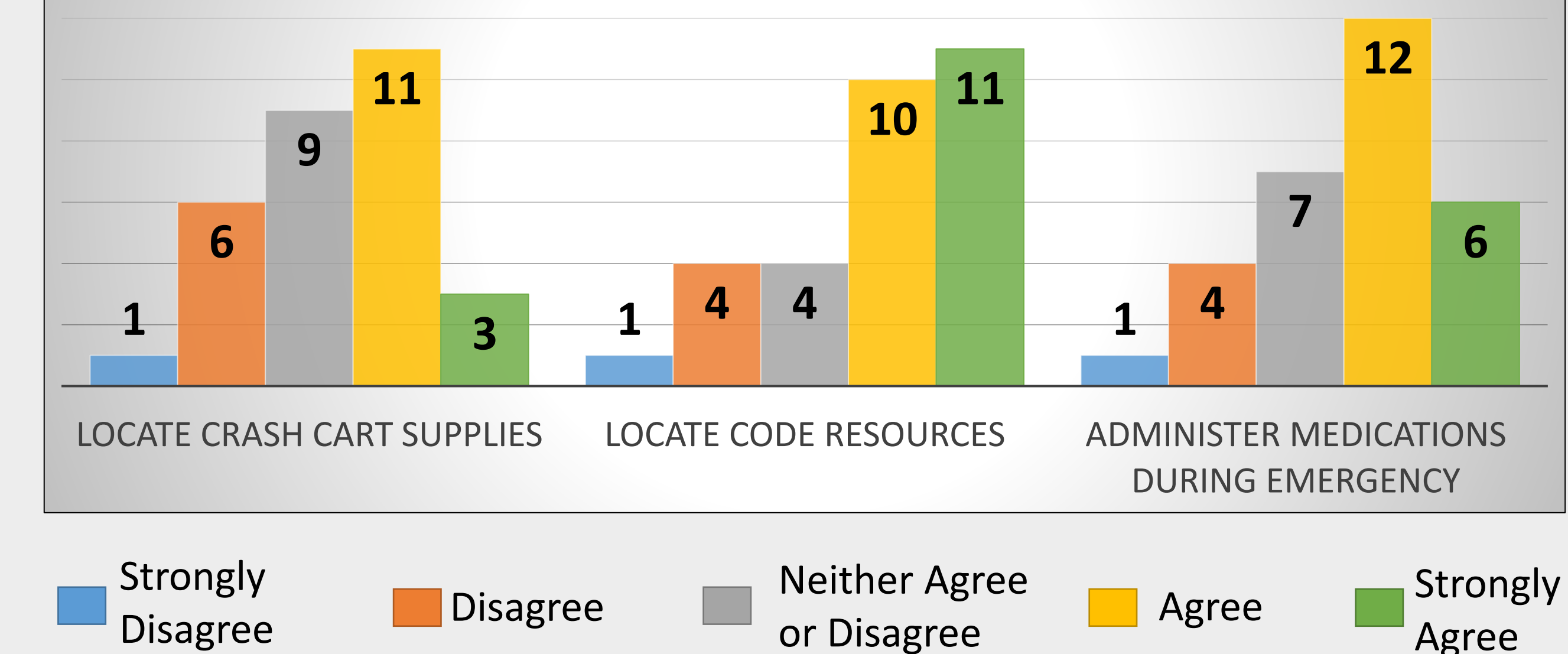
- Initial airway then handover to PACU CRNA/MD
- Give report to Lead Provider/Response Team and remain available at bedside

Outcomes

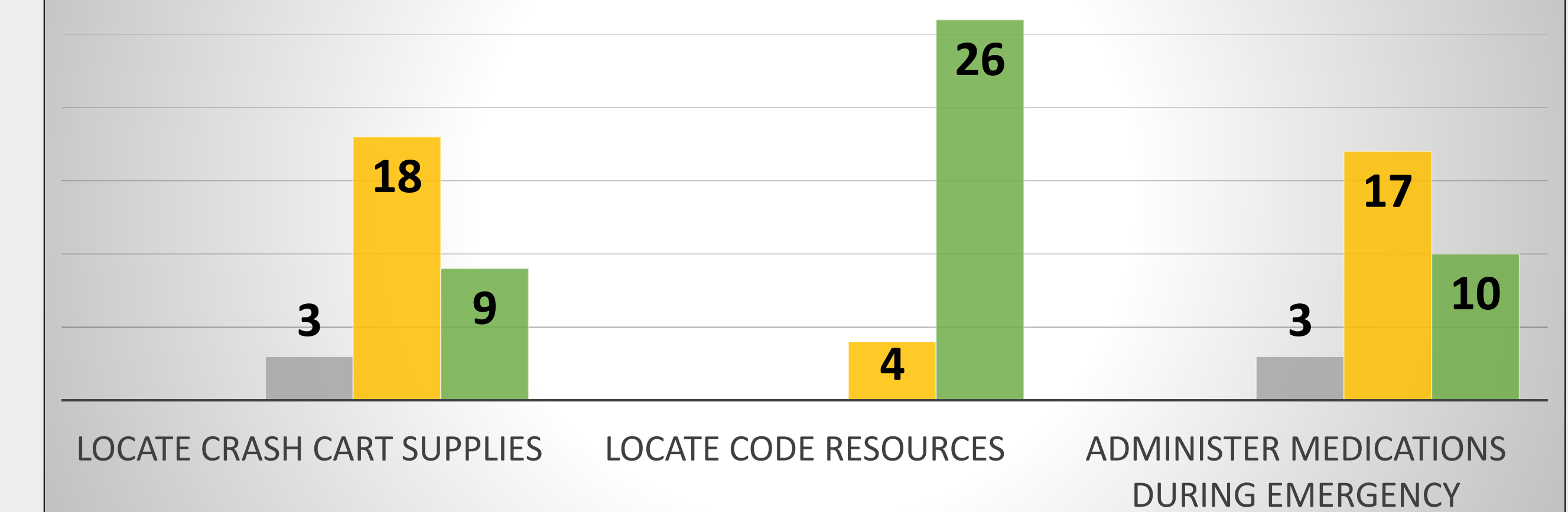
Consistency of Team Dynamics



Pre-Implementation RN Confidence Data (N=30)

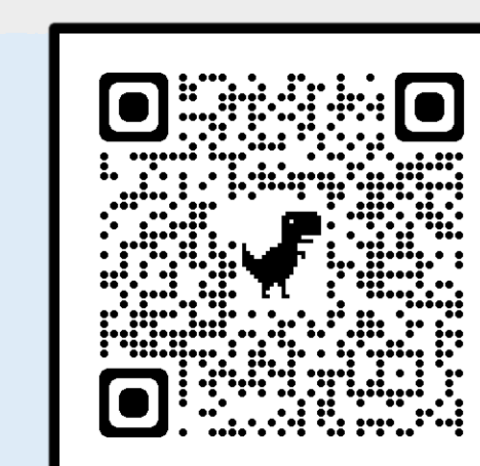


Post-Implementation RN Confidence Data (N=30)



Implications

Implementation of a role designation tool in the PACU provides PACU staff with a clear plan for emergencies. This clear plan improves communication, team dynamics, and comfort among PACU staff during emergencies, positively impacting patient outcomes.



Scan QR code for additional resources, references, and acknowledgements