

Getting Back to the Basics with Evidence-Based Practice



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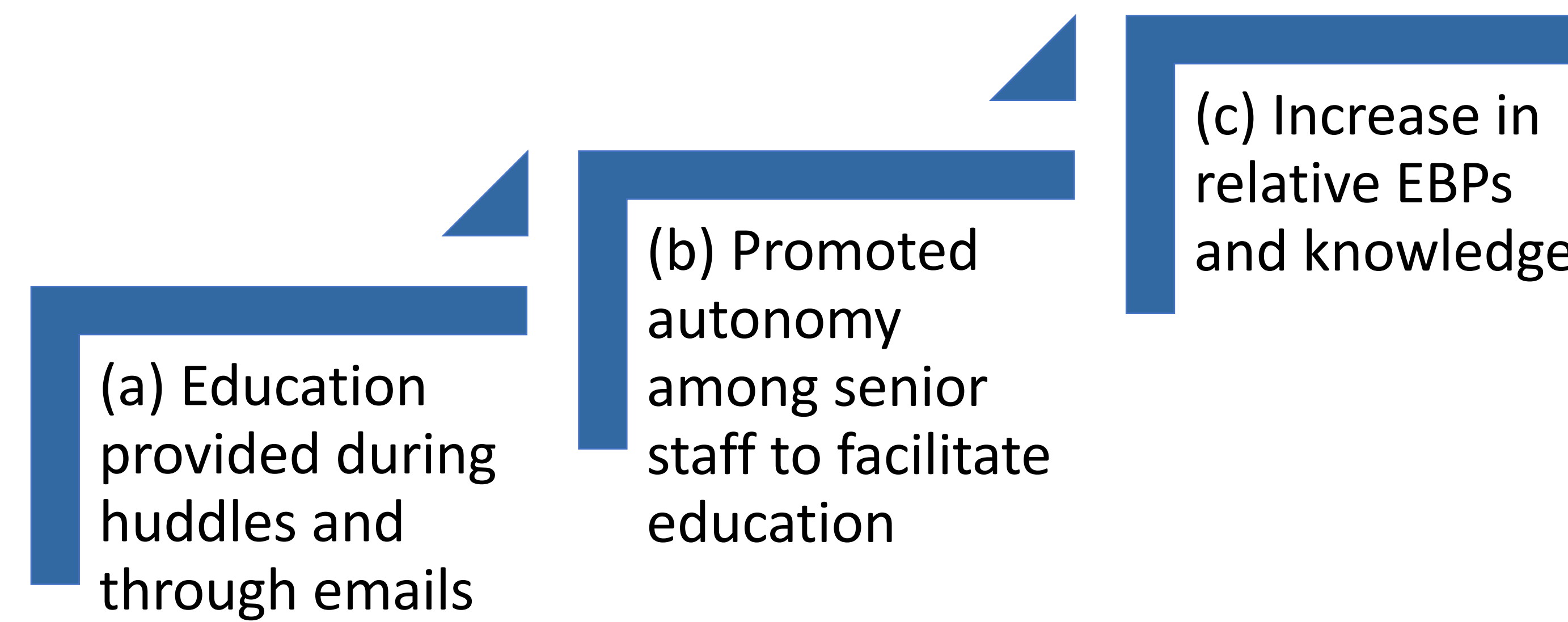
BACKGROUND

- It is known that evidence-based practice (EBP) leads to enhanced patient outcomes. Yet, there are several barriers to EBP including nurse's knowledge, skill, and deficient mentor-mentee experiences.
- Excellent nursing care, quality and safety is facilitated through EBP, which is essential for prevention of catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) prevention and reducing hospital-acquired pressure injuries (HAPI).
- To have high-quality, efficient, and safe patient care, an organization must focus on EBP as a safety culture.

Project Overview

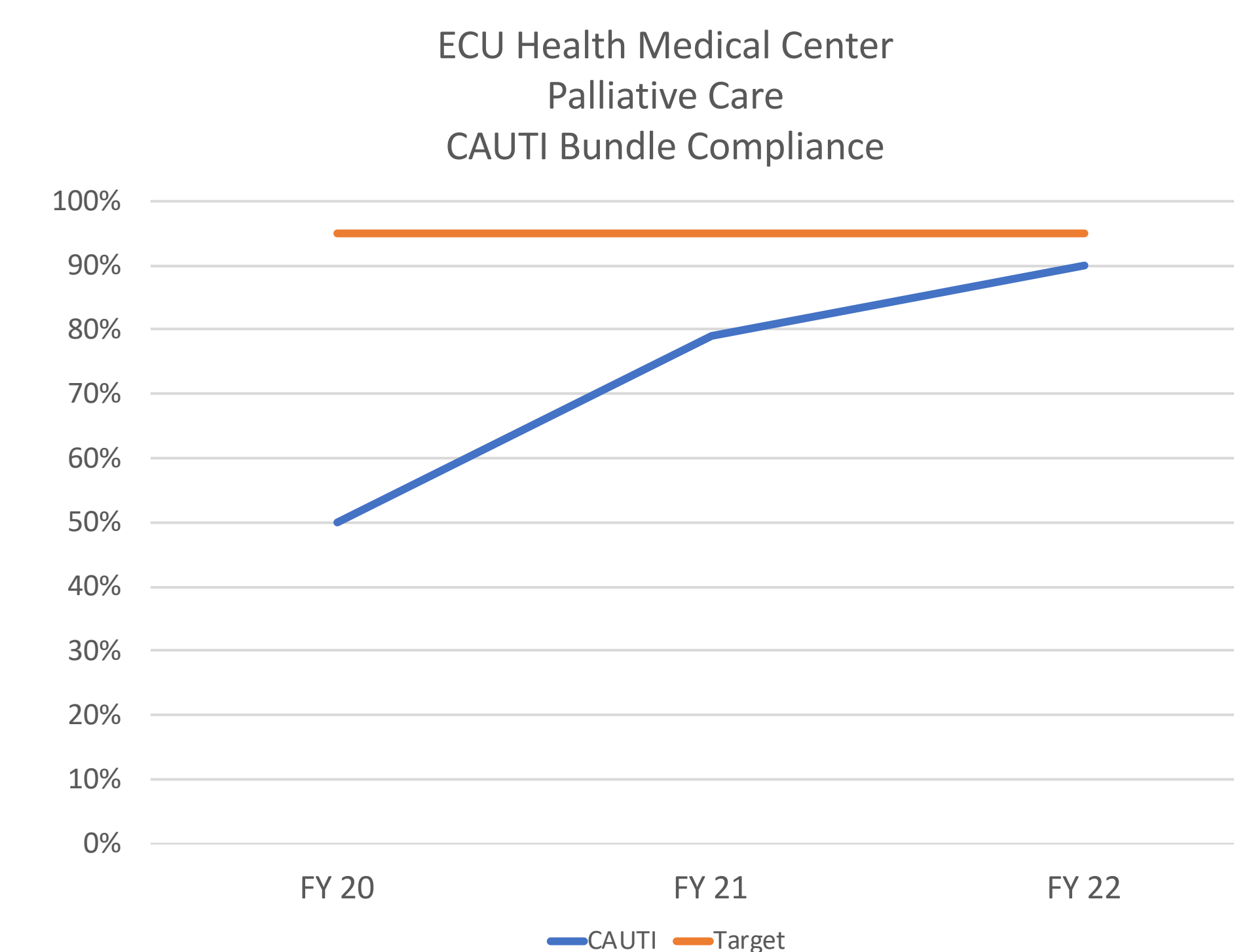
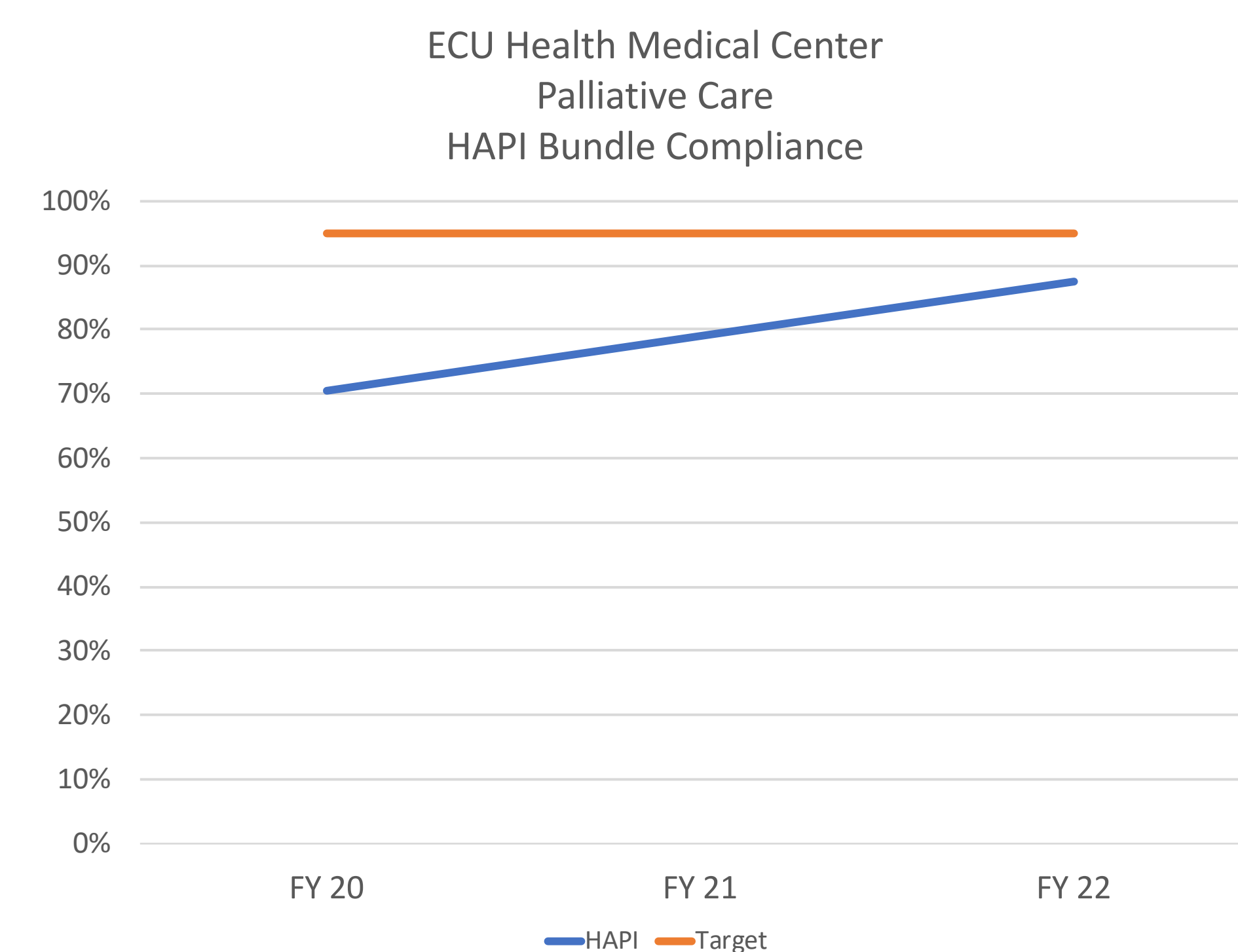
- Palliative Care Unit (PCU) is a 24-bed unit that specializes in palliative/hospice care and general medicine.
- Due to COVID-19, the Palliative Care unit was temporarily closed during FY20.
- Upon reopening, bundle compliance with HAPIs and CAUTIs was resulted in decreased compliance rates that were below organizational targets. Subsequently, hospital acquired infection (HAI) and patient safety indicator (PSI) rates were severely impacted.
- Leadership requested the use of EBP and pre-existing teaching mechanisms used within and throughout the organization to address the concern.

CHANGES MADE (PDSA CYCLES)



RESULTS/OUTCOMES

- Overall increase in (a) education, (b) bundle compliance, and (c) decrease in PSI and HAI.
- Bundle compliance target was 95%, with PCU below the targets for both bundles for FY20.
- Bundle compliance was 71% for HAPI, with zero PSIs and 50% for CAUTI with zero HAI for FY20.
- The Wheel of Patient Safety model was re-implemented by leadership during huddles and senior staff autonomy was encouraged to promote education on the unit.
- Improvements in FY21 relating to bundle compliance resulted in an 8% increase for HAPI and 29% increase for CAUTI. While, HAI and PSI increased two-fold.
- At the close of FY22, EBP education showed positive outcomes for compliance with an overall increase in HAPI compliance rate of 17% and a 40% increase for CAUTI bundle compliance rate. These interventions resulted in a decrease in HAI and PSI to zero.



LESSONS LEARNED

Active use of evidence-based practice can positively impact bundle compliance by decreasing the percentage of HAIs and PSIs which, in turn, increase patient safety.

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