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Problem & Population

The purpose of this study was to investigate how implementing education for Intensive Care Unit (ICU) nursing staff at a hospital in central Texas improved quality of patient care, as measured by the assessment, documentation, and administration of titratable sedating medications.

For Intensive Care Unit nurses, what is the effect of a one-time verbal and written education of proper administration and documentation of continuous sedation infusions (Precedex, Fentanyl, Propofol, and Versed) on compliance with medication administration as documented in the chart compared with the absence of education within one month?

Population

The population considered in this project included a total of 72 male and female nurses, ranging from age 21 to 56. The racial groups included were Caucasian, African America, Asian, and Hispanic.

Drivers

Compliance

- The Joint Commission standard “Medication Administration – Titration Orders” requires orders for titratable drugs to name the initial rate of infusion, units to titrate by, frequency of titration, maximum infusion, and desired outcome of titration” (“The Joint Commission,” 2017)
- Texas Board of Nursing has published Board Rule 216, which maintains nurses should “stay abreast of current industry practices, enhance their professional competence, learn about new technology and treatment regimens, and update their clinical skill” (“Texas Administrative Code,” 2018)

Patient Safety

- Literature lacks in the area of patient safety education
- Need to monitor and educate patients receiving opioid medications to increase and maintain safety (Sarkar & Shojania, 2017)

Goals

- To decrease the inconsistencies in deviation from the provider order for titration of intravenous medication as measured by outcomes of goals 2 and 3
- Achieve 90 percent compliance with following the protocol for titration of pain and sedation medications
- Achieve 90 percent compliance with sedation assessment and documentation
- Determine whether education through information in the daily huddle is adequate to change nurse's documentation behavior.

[illegible]

Limitations

During the period of this project implementation, the unit experienced an extremely high rate of staff turnover. This was largely due to the fact that many nurses chose to advance their careers.

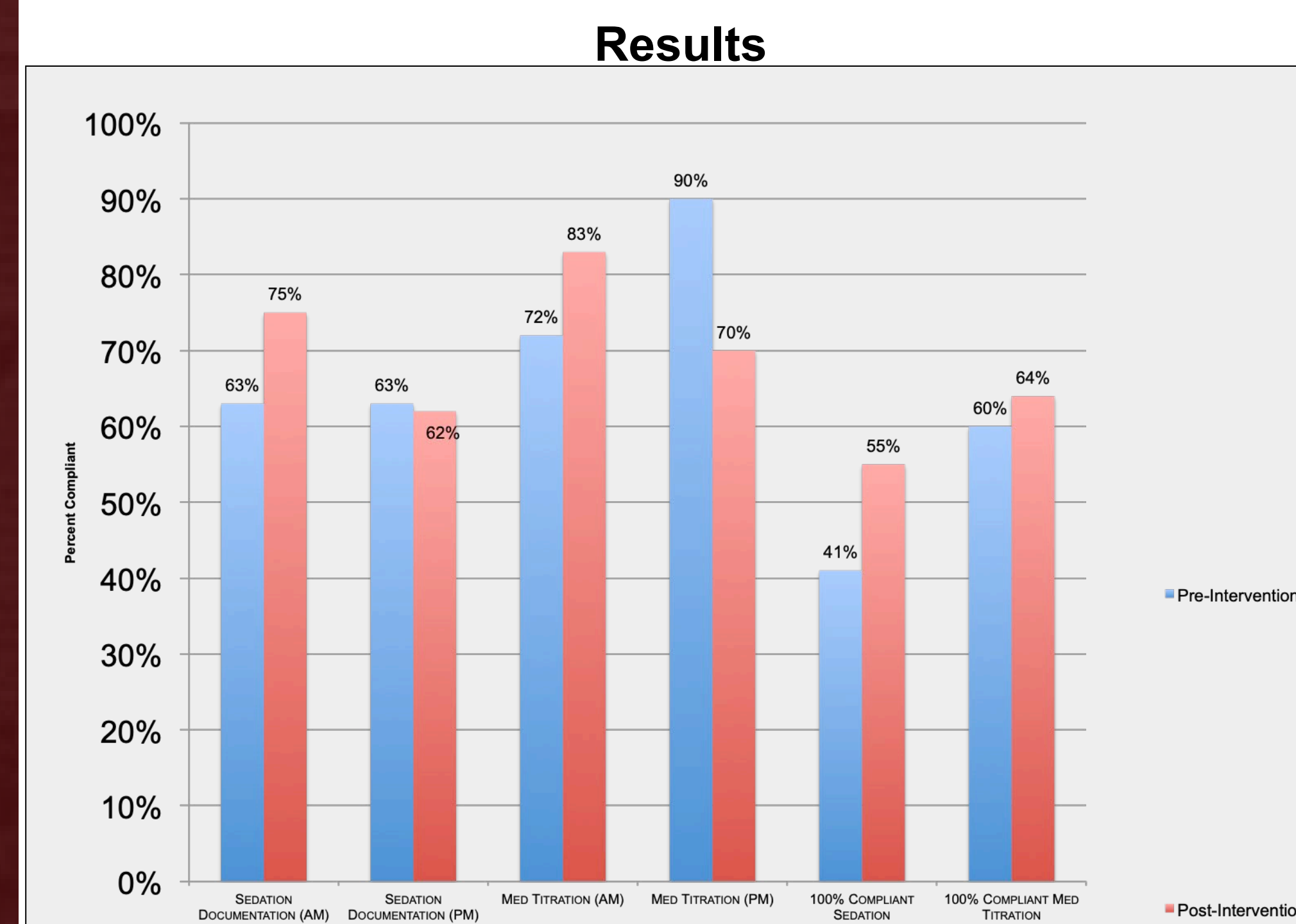
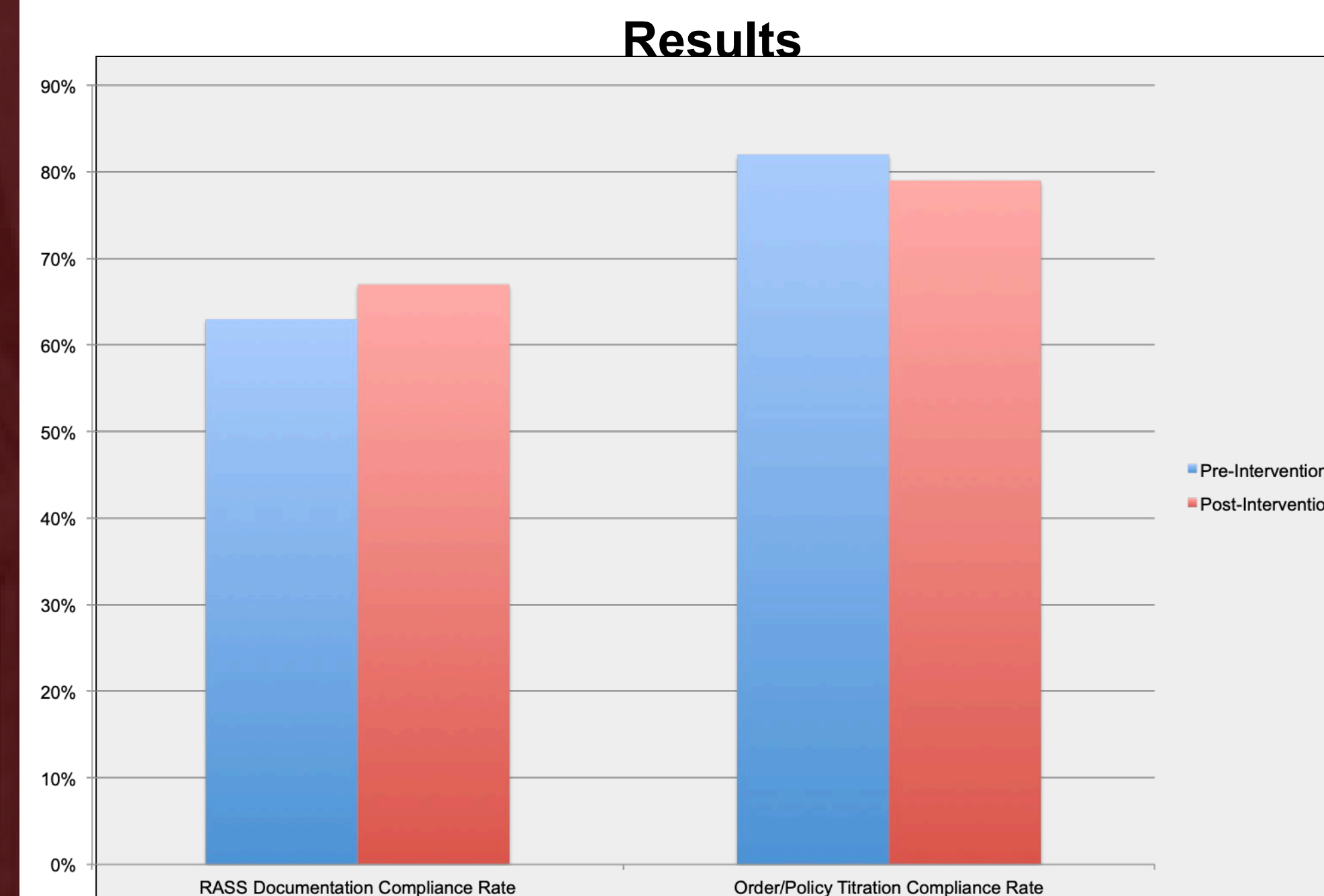
Results

Pre-intervention:

- Dayshift compliance with sedation documentation was 63% and nightshift compliance was 63%
- Dayshift compliance with titration of medication according to provider order was 72% and nightshift compliance was 90%
- 100% compliance with sedation documentation was 41% and compliance with medication titration was 60%

Post-intervention:

- Dayshift compliance with sedation documentation was 75% and nightshift compliance was 62%
- Dayshift compliance with medication titration was 83%, and nightshift compliance was 70%
- 55% of nurses were 100% compliant with sedation documentation and nurses were 64% compliant with 100% medication titration



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