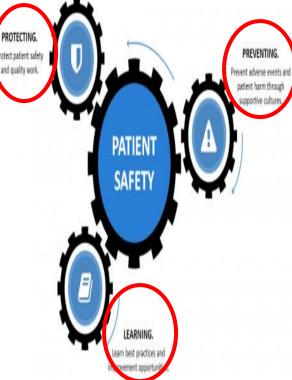
# Reviewing Patient Medical Documentation as Means to Enhance Patient Safety and Physician Defensibility in a Super Specialty Hospital



- Patient safety is a discipline that emphasizes
   safety in healthcare through prevention, reduction,
   reporting, and analysis of medical and non
   medical errors that often leads to adverse effects
- Literature Review \*\*
- Medical Record is a physician's greatest asset in defending against <u>allegations of negligence</u>
- Adequate, Clear, Legible, Credible, Accurate and
- Complete medical records are best defense against
- litigation and support Physician Defensibility





#### **Purview**

- Problem Statement
- Aim
- Objectives
- Methodology & Procedure
- Observations & Analysis



Key Findings & Recommendations

### **Problem Statement**

- Patient safety should be supreme in a healthcare organisation
- Accreditation as means to establish standardised processes
- Documentation part of the processes and supports standardisation
- Internal Audit at MRD focuses on completing the 'record' as per procedure and legal angle
- Medical judgement is subjective hence not questioned

### **Problem Statement**

- Varied type of non standardised medical education
- Gaps in understanding Patient Safety & Physician Defensibility
- Not part of evolution process of patient safety
- Deficiencies in preliminary education
- Measures required to plug- in holes
- Imperative for achievement of high standards of Patient safety

### **Aim**

 To audit the patient medical documentation in In-patient wards, ICUs and MRD section contributing as means to enhance patient safety and physician defensibility in a super specialty hospital

### **Objectives**

#### Analyze from perspective of an administrator in a *Hospital*:

- To <u>establish role of documentation</u> in the patient safety and physician defensibility
- To <u>identify likely non-medical errors</u> by doctors and nurses in Patient Medical Documentation <u>having direct bearing</u> on safety of patient
- To <u>utilize internal audit</u> as means to Patient Safety and physician defensibility
- To <u>recommend a broad mechanism</u> of internal audit so as to bring behavioral changes in the approach to documentation

### Methodology

- **Study Area** Super Specialty Tertiary Care Hospital
- Study Design Cross sectional Descriptive study design
- Study Period 01 Feb to 30 Apr 2018
- Study Population Patient Medical Documents in IPD, ICUs and MRD
- <u>Sample Size</u>. 530 (Five Hundred and Thirty) Patient Medical

#### Documents folders was audited

- Study Tool Existing Patient Medical Documentation Audit form
- Sampling Technique Non-Probability Convenience Sampling

#### **Technique**

#### **Procedure**

- Initial understanding audit checklist prepared
- Adapted with existing form for audit management study
- MRD, IPDs, ICUs
- Focus on non medical errors
- Initial 230 patient file folders No feedback to wards, ICUs
- Bal samples from wards, ICUs periodic feedback to med staff
- Focus of audit HOW and WHEN
- Data compiled for collective analysis and inference

### **Patient Medical Documents Scrutinized**

•	dicit	Medical	Documen	tiiii LC G

- Admission Request Form
- Admission request form
- IP Initial Assessment

Face Sheet

Records

- ER/ IP Nursing Initial Assessment
- Clinical Progress Notes
- Clinician Handover Notes
- Medication Administration
- Nursing Needs, Care and Hand
- over Plan

- Vital Monitoring Chart
- •General Consent Form
  - •Informed Consent Form
  - Pre Op Check List
  - •Pre Induction Evaluation &
  - Monitoring Form
  - OT Surgery & Post surgery Notes
  - •OT Recovery Nursing Record

Monitoring Form for PACU

- •Swab/Needle/Instrument Count
- •IP Nutritional Assessment Check List

### **Medical Records Audit Checklist**

S.No	Pt Medical Document/ Form	Requirements (Quality Indicators)			
		Name & UHID No			
		Provisional Diagnosis			
1	Admission Request Form	Name Of Consultant & Signature			
		Expected LOS			
		Proposed Date & Time Of Admission			
		On Admission			
		Name In Full			
		Provisional Diagnosis			
		Front Office Executive Name And Signature			
		Discharge			
2	Face Sheet	DOD & Time			
		Final Diagnosis			
		ICD Code			
		Condition At Discharge			
		Signature By Consultant			
		Patient/Next Of Kin Signature			
		Patient Demographics			
		Name Of The Doctor			
3	General Consent For Admission	Signature Of Patient, Date & Time			
		Witness Signature, Date & Time			
		Name And Signature of Front Office Executive			

#### MEDICAL RECORDS AUDIT CHECKLIST

s.NO	NAME OF DOCUMEN T	ATTACHE D	NOT ATTACHE D	NOT APPLICA BLE	REQUIREMENTS	FILLED	NOT	NOT APPLI CABLE	REMARKS
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					PROPOSED DATE & TIME OF ADMISSION				
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2	No. of the last				DOD & Time	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY.	1000		
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	022020				ICD Code		-		Transition of
	1000000				Condition at discharge(circled)/Sign. of Doct	or			
					Patient/Next of Kin Signature	100			
					Foreign vent of hist algulature				
	General				Patient demographics				
	Consent fo Admission		1		Name of the Doctor / Front office &	1	1		
3	Admission		1000		Signature of patient/ Surrogate, Date & time				
	Harris .				Witness Signature, Date & time				
	100000	1			Name and Sign of Front office executive				
-	Initial				Date and Time of Assessment				1000
	Medical		100		MLC				
	Assessmen	1			Allergy				
	1				Presenting Compilaint(s)				
	200				Past history				
	CONT.				Madication Recognilation				
4	The state of the s				Psychological, Functional Assessment, Nutril Assessment	tonal			
	The same of the sa		1		Pain Screening/ Assessment				
	15 y 1 5 5 5 5	2			Provisional Diagnosis				
	2 F-15-5	St.	1	7	Plan of care				
	100000				Dischrge Plan				
			1		Name and Sign of RMO				
	100				Name and Signature of Consultant	Total	28 F	orms	S
	INITIAL		-		DATE & TIME OF ARRIVAL	120 0	احير	t. / Lo	dicator
	NURSING	3	1		DATE & THRE OF MINIOPSE	129 C	Lugi	LY IN	<mark>dicator:</mark>
	ASSESSME		-	Marine di Al	History of Allergy			-	

### **Patient Medical Documentation Audit Form**

S No	IP & UHID	DOA	DOD	Deptt	Face Sheet	IP Initial Med Assessme nt (Doc's	ER/IP Initial Nursing Assess- ment	IP Initial Nutrition Assess- ment	Clinical Progress Notes	Clinician Handover Notes	Medic- ation adm Record	Nursing Needs, Care Plan & HO	Vital Monit- oring Chart	IP Nutriti- onal Prog. Notes	Gen & Infor-med consent Form	Surgica l Form as applica ble
						IA)										
Aud	lit Done	Ву:-														
Sign	nature												* Defic	iencies to b	e noted	



### **Observations & Analysis**

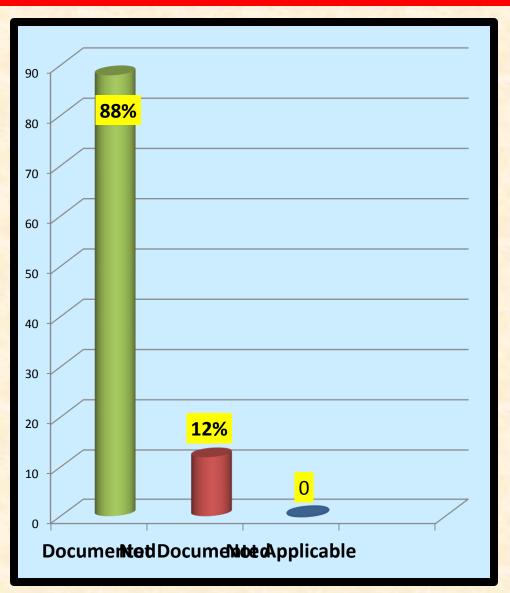
"Fix me, don't harm me, and be nice to me"



### **Total Medical Record Files Audited**

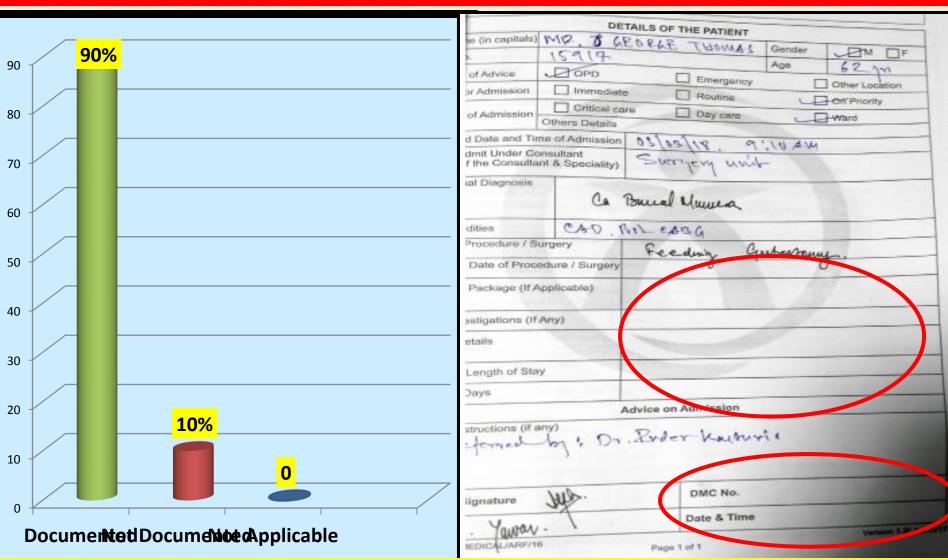
Department	No of Files			
Neurology & Spine	19			
Ophthalmology	15			
Orthopaedics	44			
Paediatrics	80			
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	71			
Nephrology	12			
Oncology	03			
Pulmonary Medicine	04			
Urology	06			
ENT	08			
General Surgery	96			
Cardiology & CTVS	31			
Internal Medicine	141			
Total	530			

### Date and Time of Inspection in Admission Request Form



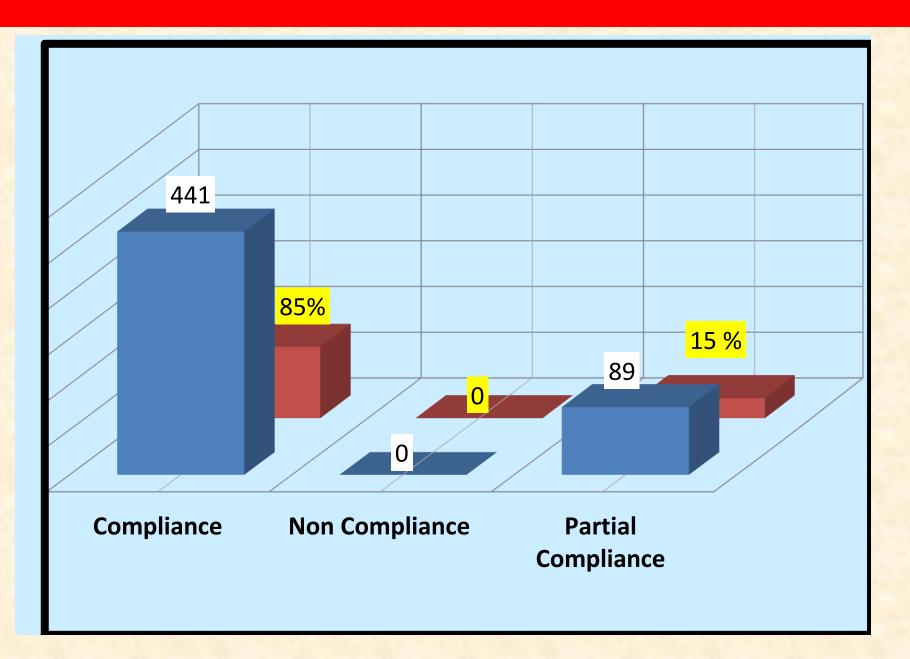
- Endorsement of DTG by doctor indicates actual time taken for doctors to attend to patient after admission
- Time should not be more than 30 minutes
- 12% of Forms found deficient
- Absence of authentication in Admission Request Form
- Denies subsequent assessment an insight into vital initial thought process

# Name & Signature of Physician in Admission Request Form

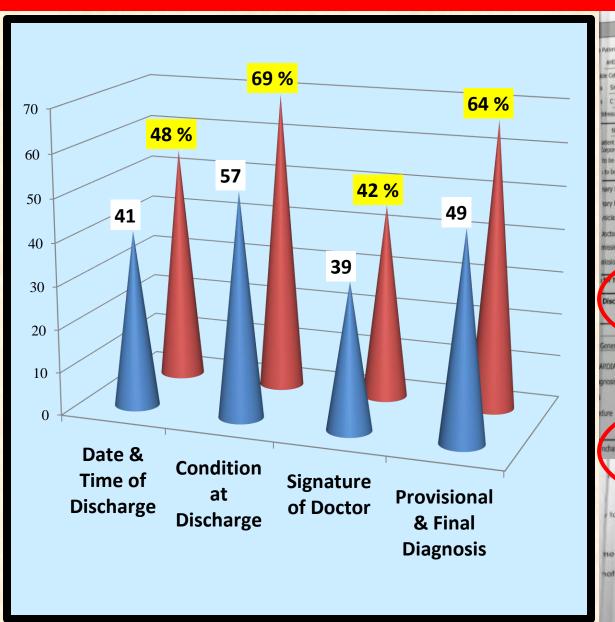


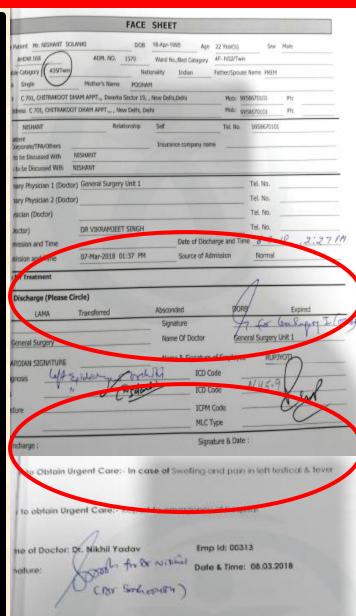
Name & Signature of physician not endorsed in 10% of forms

### **Face Sheets**

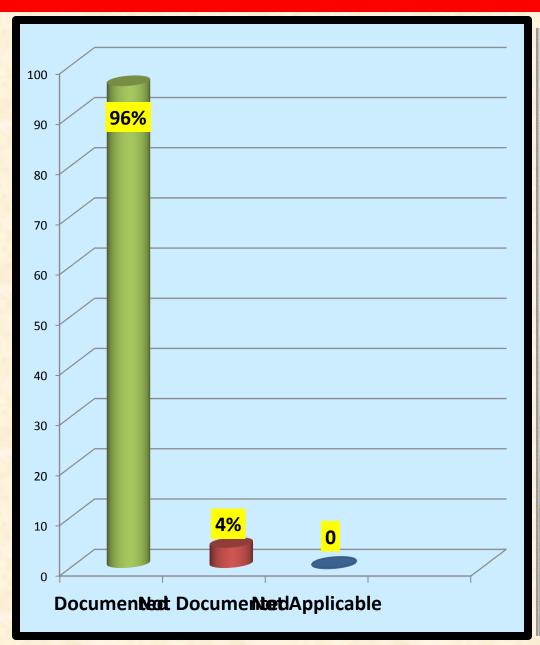


### Partially Compliance Face Sheet



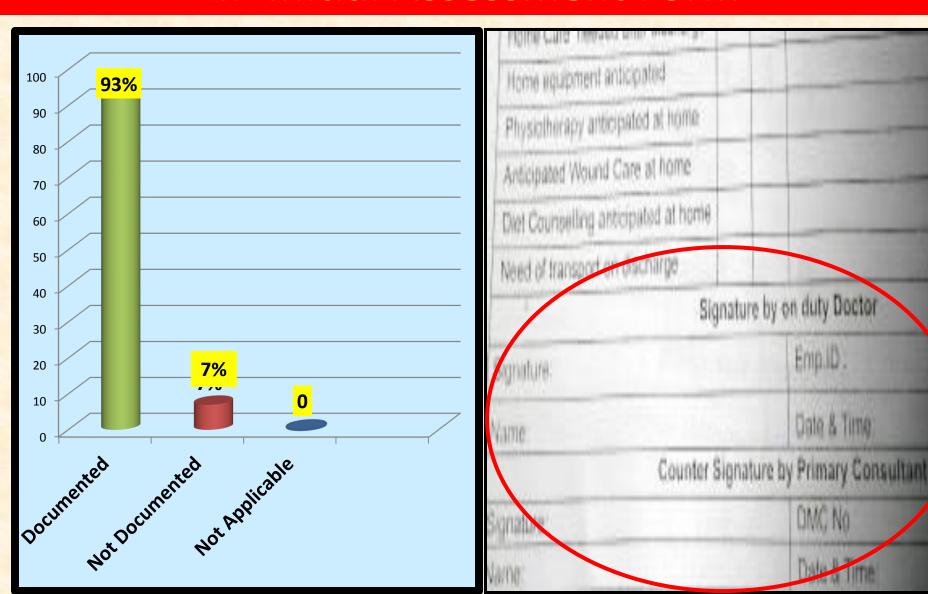


### IP Initial Assessment (Doc's IA)

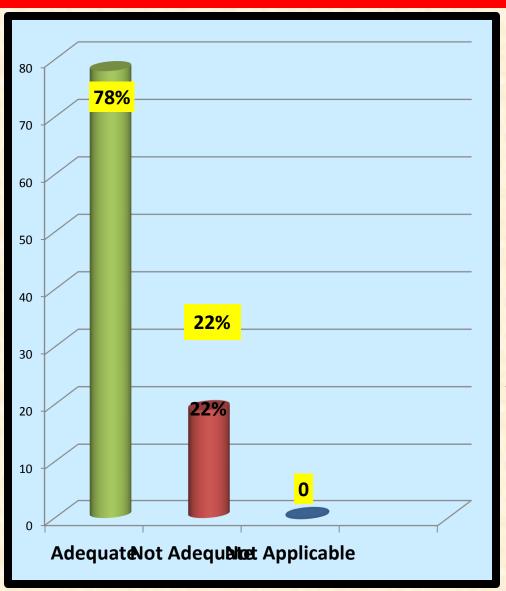


	DETAILS						
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or Admission	Immediate	Routine		On Priority			
of Admission	Critical care	☐ Day care	E	Ward			
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dities		-1/6					
Procedure / S	Surgery						
Date of Proc	edure / Surgery						
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Package (If /	Applicable)	*	A A				
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Length of Sta	ay	3-	3 -				
Days							
	Advice	e on Admission					
structions (if	any)						
ERREDE	Y						
Signature		DMC No.					
	4	Date & Time					
	The s	Date of III	1				

### Signature, Date and Time on IP Initial Assessment Form

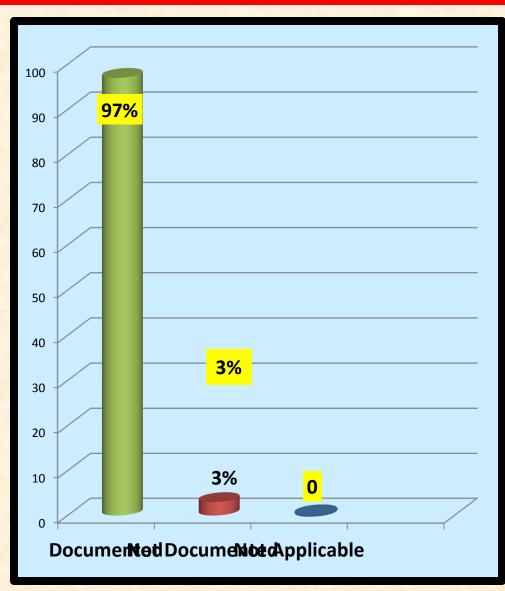


### Adequacy of IP Initial Assessment Sheet (Doc's IA)

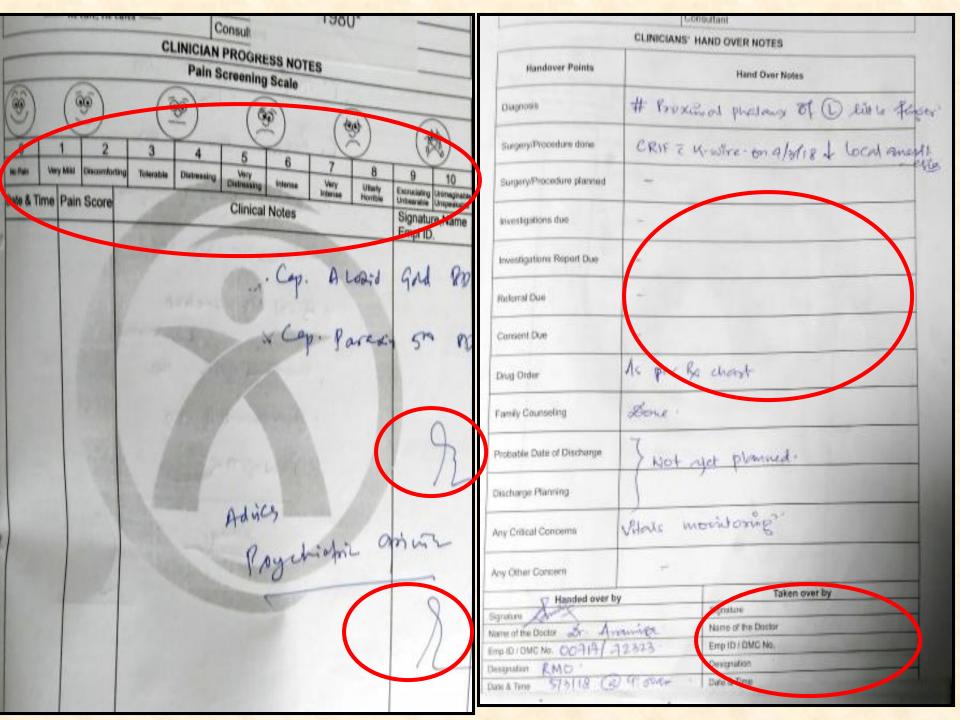


- Non-use of stamps
- Illegible signatures
- Not mentioning the time and plan of treatment
- Other deficiencies reduced the adequacy of the Doc's IA to 78%
- Fixing accountability for any delay
   /faulty treatment due to error in initial assessment difficult
- Auditing at documentation stage help in identifying erring doctors

# Clinical Progress Notes (Doctors' Care Plan)

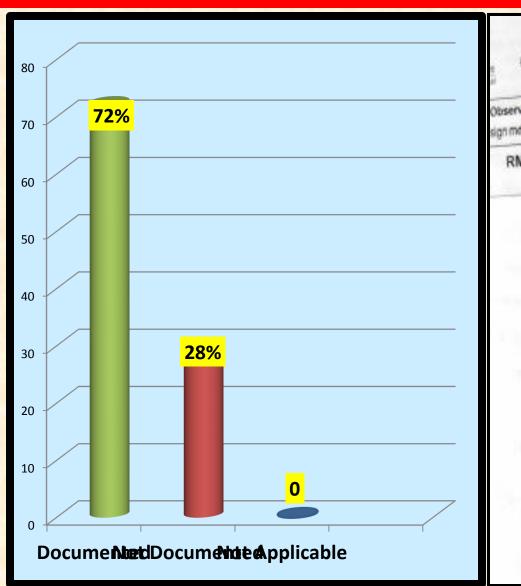


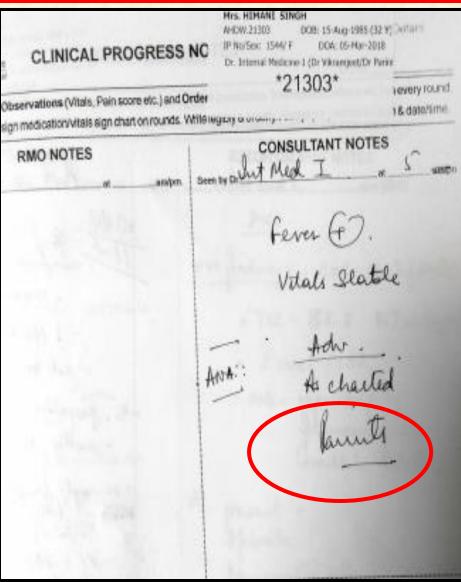
- 17 % of signatures of doctor illegible in Doctors' Note
- Absence of use of stamps by 94 % of the doctor's
- Authentication by Consultant in the Doc's CP inadequate, only 72 %
- Feeling of supremacy amongst senior doctors
- Doc's CP should be identifiable and putting stamp & signature should be the norm
- Maintain legal sanctity of record

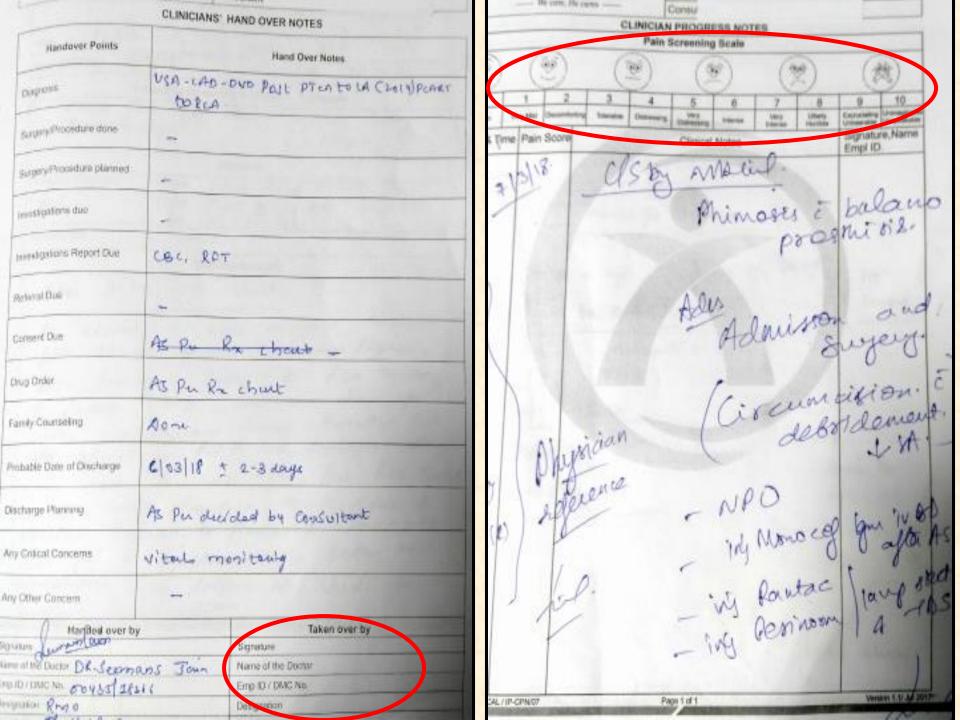


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### **Authentication by Consultant in Doctor's Care Plan**

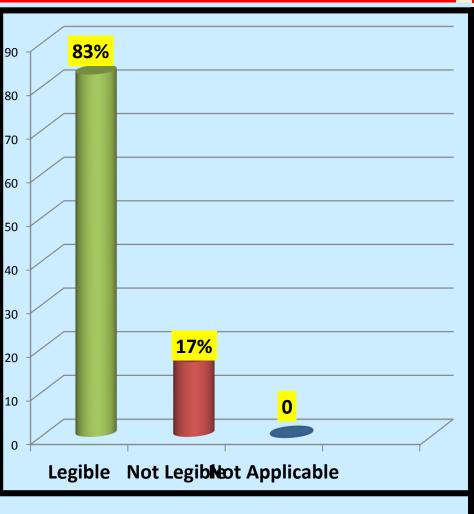


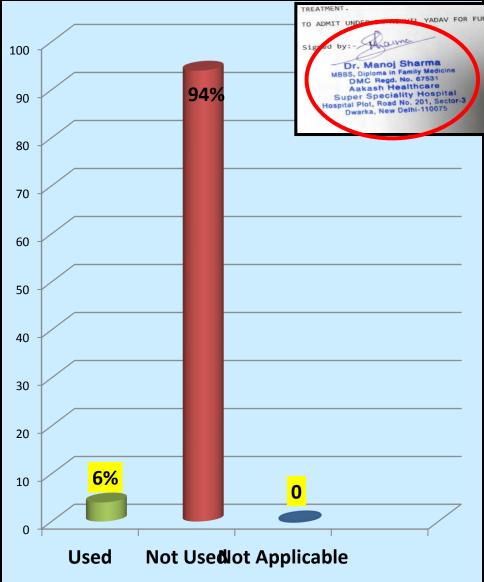




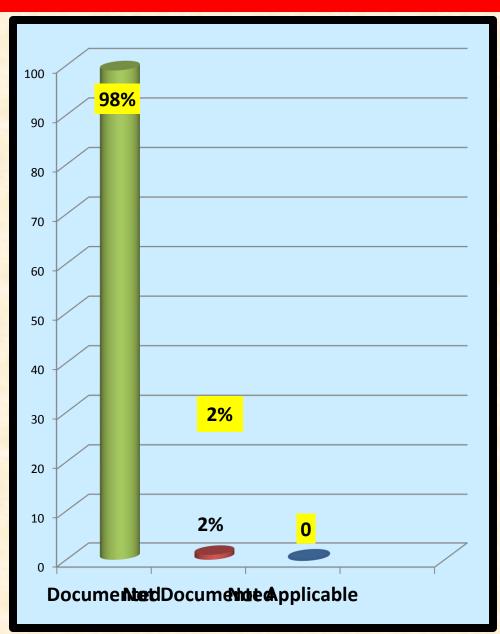
### **Legibility of Signature of Doctor in Doctors' Note**

### **Stamp Used by Doctor's**

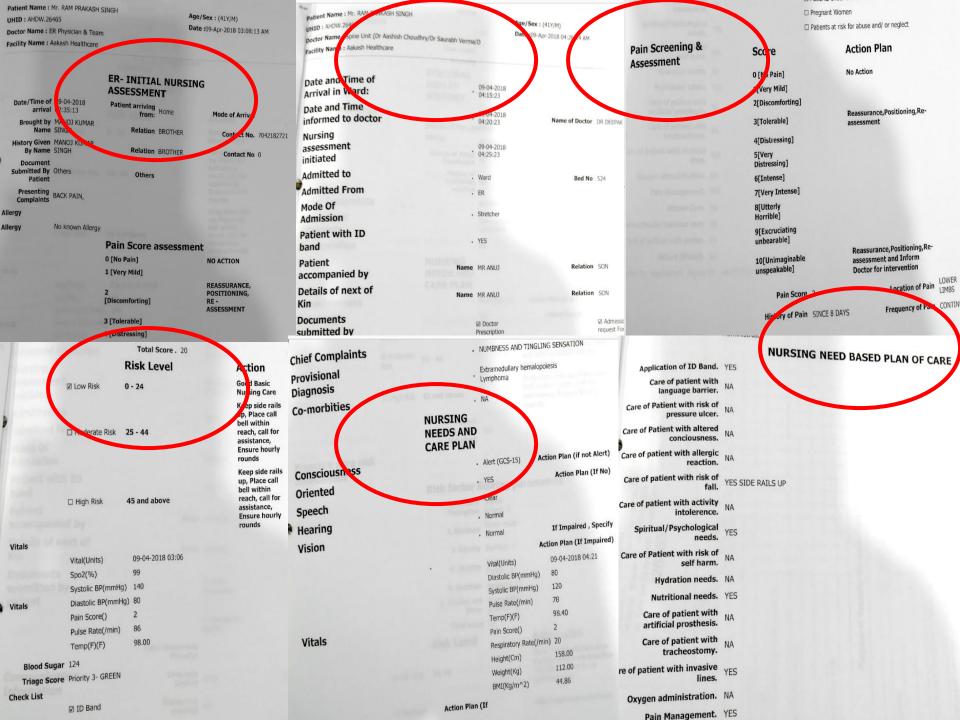




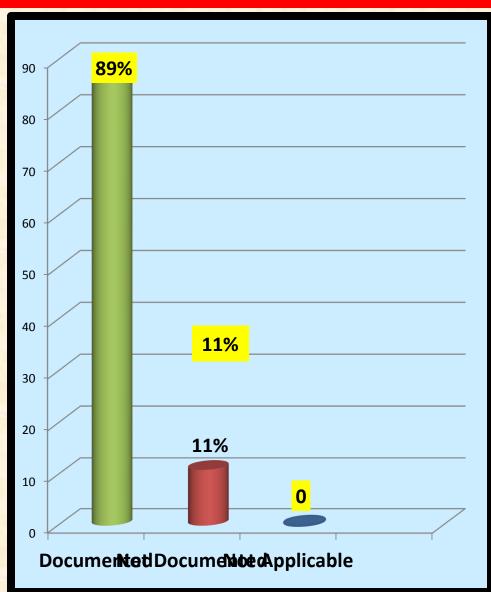
### **Nursing Initial Assessment**



- Nursing Plan maintained diligently
   (98%)
- Dichotomy in terms of variation in Pain
   Rating of 10%
- Pain scores reliable indicators to assess the effect of the treatment
- More time required for documentation due to repetitive entries at cost of patient care
- Simplification of documents required
- Enable Clinicians & nursing staff to devote more time for patient care



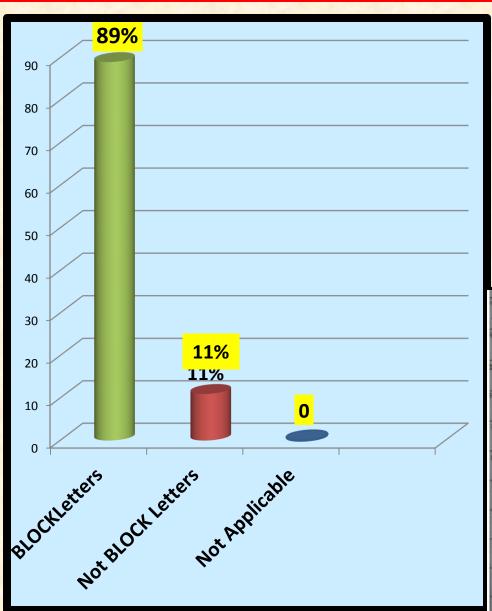
### Daily Nursing Needs, Care & Hand over Plan



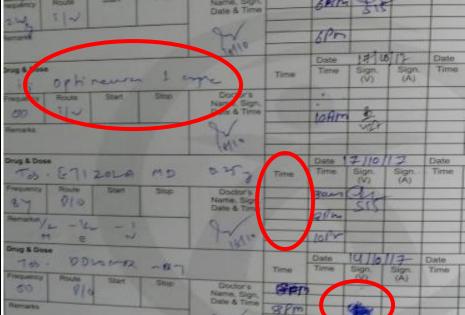
	Nursi	ing Handover Notes				
No.	Hand over Points	Handover Notes				
1	Diagnosis	Times to (4) Hand				
2	Vital Signs	P-96, 3 P02-98% R-16, T-984, Et-				
3	OBS Chart	- 96mjdl				
4	I/V Line	Dow wi (Rt) hand				
5	Intake/output					
В	Drains	_ N4_				
7	Indent pending	NA .				
8	Drug	Ceiver Try . Translate - Song , This Consent				
9	Diet	-NPO from & P.M				
10	Restraints	-N4 -				
11	Safety First	-NL -				
12	Investigations due	- NA -				
13	Investigation Reports due	CB a Virolum Key				
14	Surgery/procedure planned	- ORIFE Exew Plan				
15	Surgery/Procedure done					
6	Referral	-14-				
7	Plan for discharge	- M4 -				
8	Information to family	-N4 -				
-		Down				
	Critical Concerns: Epidural Catheter/ Stoma care/ Skin status/ TT / NG Tube/ Blood Transfusion/ CVP Care/ Oxygen administration	14				
n. 10	Others	NA				
	Handed Over by					
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me	-Shark	signature:				
pl	D: - 00468	Name: Exp ID:				
e 8	Time:	The second secon				
502	MURSING / SPANACPHOS	Date a Time:				

	17.55	ng Handover	Notes				A 7777
-		-	Handover Notes	1	Special Instructions (Planning for procedu	re/ Surgery / Special investigations /fransfer	r / Discharge etc)
8.A 1 2	to Hand over Points  Diagnosis  Vital Signs  CBS Chart		often white gashing				
4	Wine	Tes, G	1000		The state of the s	Nursing Handover Report (Exening)	Nursing Handover Report (Night)
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	a stampodure planned	1			HELFORMACION/MINON		main 13 la
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Sign	ature: NAMES		ignaturet in the second				lanner
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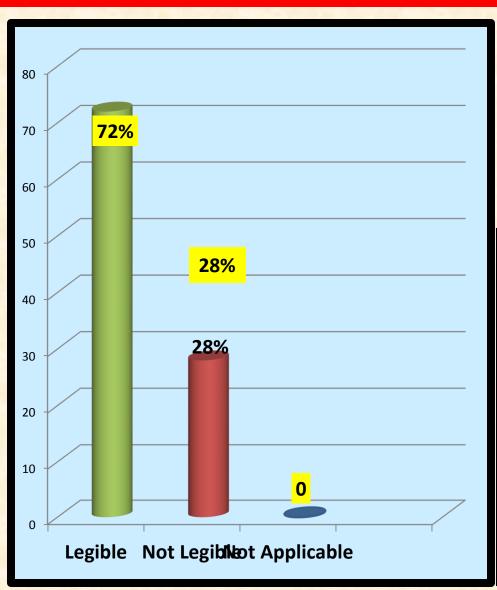
#### **Medications not in BLOCK LETTERS**



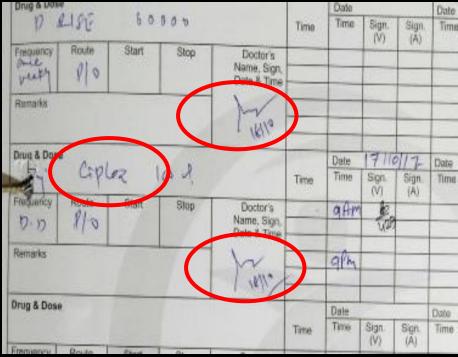
- Adverse drug events are direct consequence of not being able to ensure five Rights
- Drug, Route, Time, Dose and Patient
- Standards for these parameters have to be 100% always and every time
- BLOCK LETTERS not compliant in 11 % of Medication Administration Charts



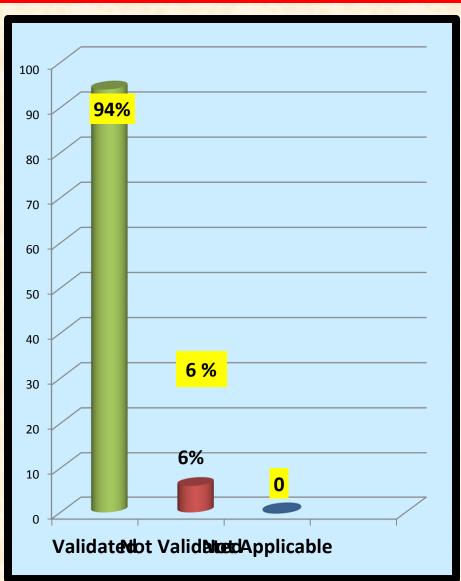
### Legibility of Doctor's Signature in the Medication Administration Chart



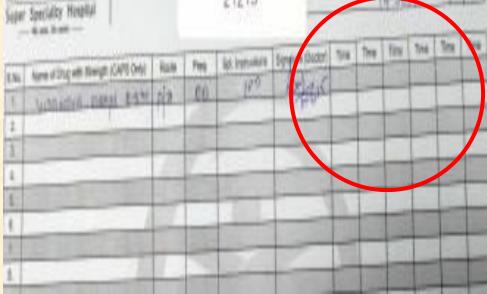
- Signature of doctor not legible in 28% of Medication Administration Charts
- During emergency crucial time may be wasted in consulting concerned doctor & administering the appropriate medicine due to said deficiencies



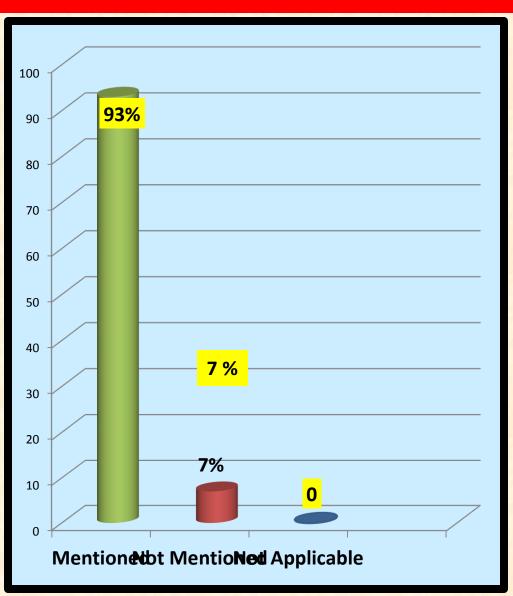
# Stopping of Medication not Validated by Doctor



- Medications stopped but not validated by the doctor in 6% cases
- Critical to patient with multiple ailments & being attended to by many doctors
- Stopping medicine without validation may induce error in judgment of the other doc

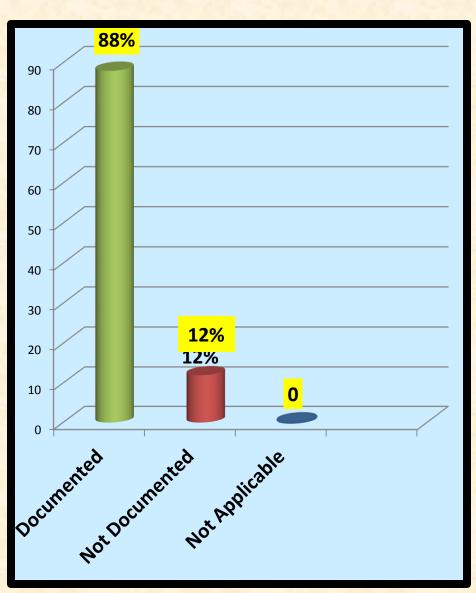


### Time of Administration of Medicine in Medication Adm Chart



- Deficiency in 7% cases
- May cause over or under-
- administration of drug
- Threat to patient safety

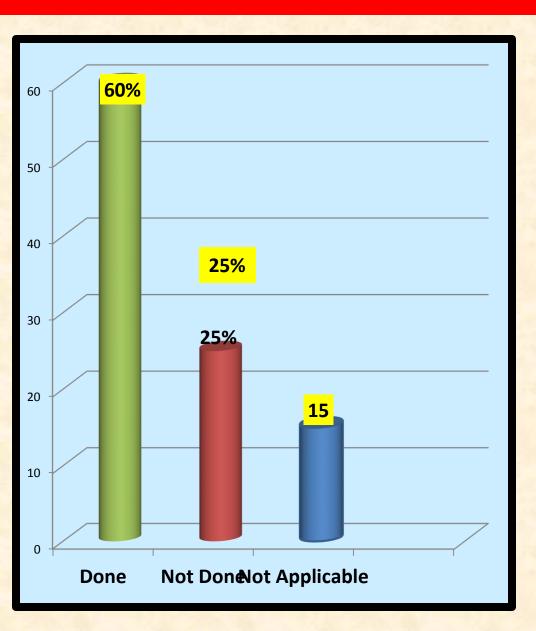
# Date not Mentioned in Medication Administration Chart



- Date of prescription not mentioned in 12% cases
- May cause errors in judgment during review
- Date & Time of medication sets

   a starting point for beginning of
   treatment
- Over-dosage due to not knowing details of beginning of medication
- Potential risk to the patient

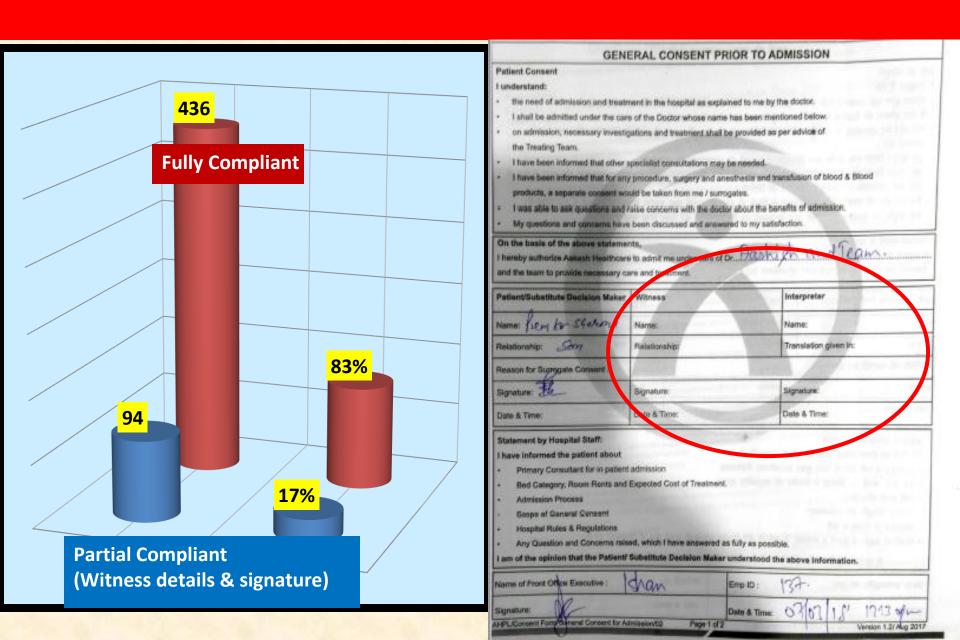
#### **Nutritional Assessment**



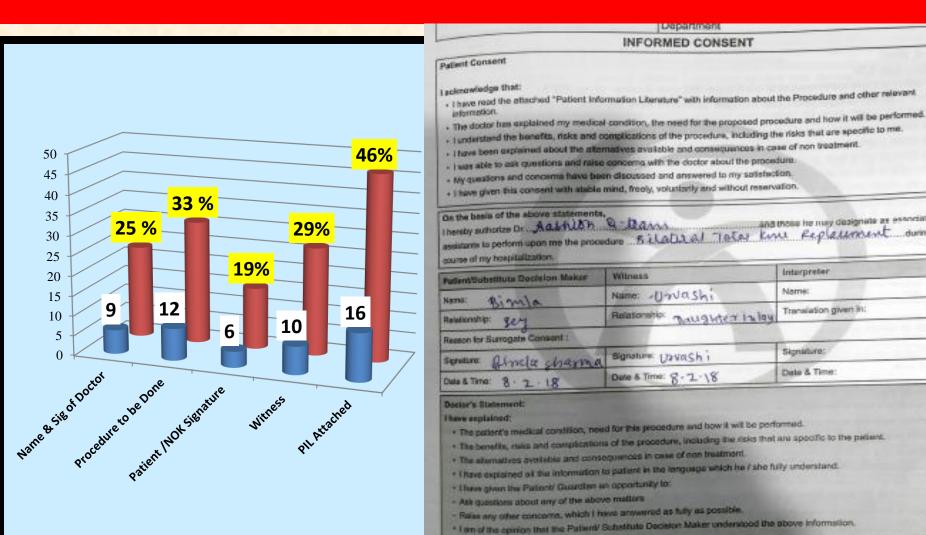
- Needs to be done within 24 hrs
- Deficiency observed in 25 % of cases
- Requirement of meeting the nutritional needs differently
- Issue requires separate audit to find out specific deficiencies
- Instant internal audit showed marked improvement in this parameter

Date & Time of Admission	IP NUTRITION										
Admission		AL ASSESSMENT FORM	DETAILS OF THE PATIENT  Gender M HP								
211.2.18	e of Date & Time of Intial Date & Time of		Bed No.		e (in copitals)	11MAN1 24303	SINGH.	Gender	32		
24.2.18 5.21pm 25.2110 8 Pur			213		of Advice	Q-OPD	☐ Emergery	ncy Other Location			
the state of the s	16 R Weight	Period Control of the	.57/	914/m		☐ Immediate	Routine		On Priority		
		STRITIONAL SCREENING	or Admission	Critical ca			Want".				
Screening Point		Scoring Parameters	Score	Awarded	e of Admission						
A. No. food intake declined over the past 3 months, due to loss of appelite, digestive problems, chewing or swallowing difficulties?		Severe decrease in food intake	0 Score		as Date and T	Time of Admission 5 348					
		☐ Moderate decrease in food intake	1 2		Ta assist Structure (		Sut nick In				
B. Weight loss during the past 3 months?		☐ Weight loss greater than 3 kg	0	-	gonal Diagnosi	Terbridities PUO .  Terbridities Flypothysoidum .					
		☐ Weight loss between 1 and 3 kg ☐ No weight loss	2								
C.Mobility		☐ Bed or chair bound ☐ Able to get out of chair/ bed but does not go out ☐ Goes out	0 1 2	2	icted Date of Procedure / Surgery 1 - 3 day 3 ?						
D. Has suffered. Psychological Stress or scute disease in the past 3 months?		☐ Yes	0 2	2	or Investigation	us (If Arry)					
E. Neuropsychological Problems		☐ Severe dementia or depression ☐ Mild dementia ☐ Hô psychological problems	0 1 2	2	Bant Details pected Length	cted Lengths of Stay 2 - 3 days					
F. Body Mass Index (BMI)		BMI less than 19 BMI 19 to less than 21 BMI 21 to less then 23 BMI 23 or greater	0 1 2 3	3	U Stay Days  Advice on Admission  pecial Instructions (if any)						
		Total Score		力							
	SCORIN	IG INTERPRETATION				1					
12- 14 gg/nts	No immediate nutritional	intervention required.			Joctors' Signi	dura N.O.	inte .01	MC No.			
B-11 points	to improve nutritional sta	vention by dietician, in conjunction withtus.	h physic	ian	lame	D	Da	te & Time	Venio		
0-7 points Indicates critical need for nutritional intervention.					N FORMMEDI	CALJARFI16	Page 1 of				

#### **General Consent Form**



### **Informed Consent Form**



Name of Doctor:

NFL Corport Form Common/01

Department:

Signature:

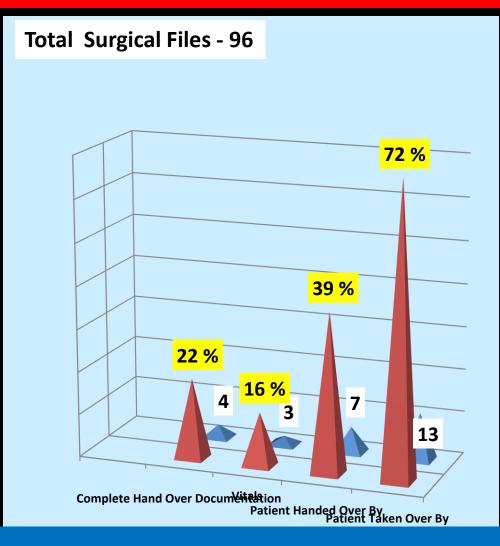
Version 1.1/Jul 2017

souvable shah

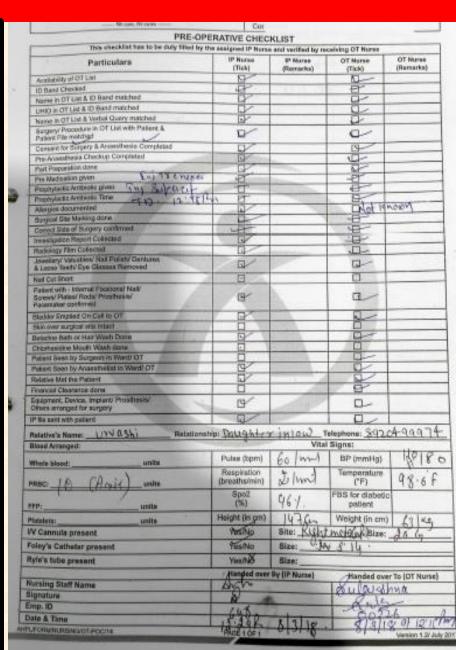
ortho

• 42 forms (08%) noted with deficiencies

## **Pre Operative Check List**

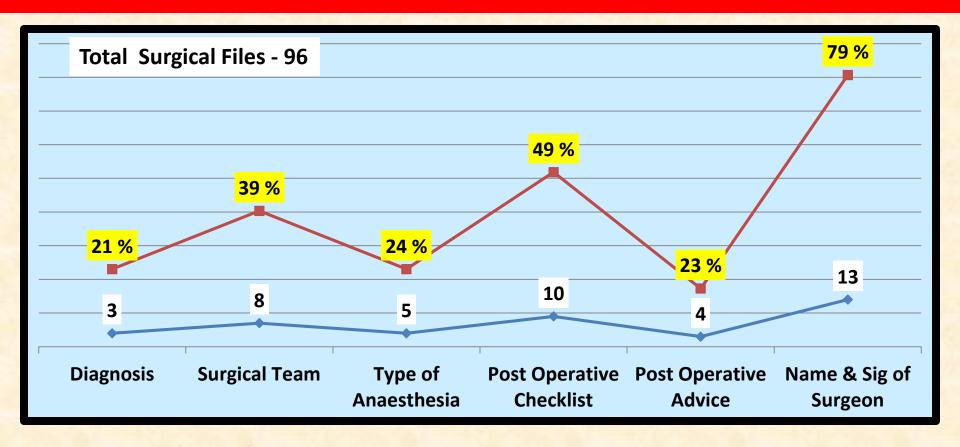


- Out of 96 surgical case files audited,
- 18 Forms (19%) incomplete /deficient



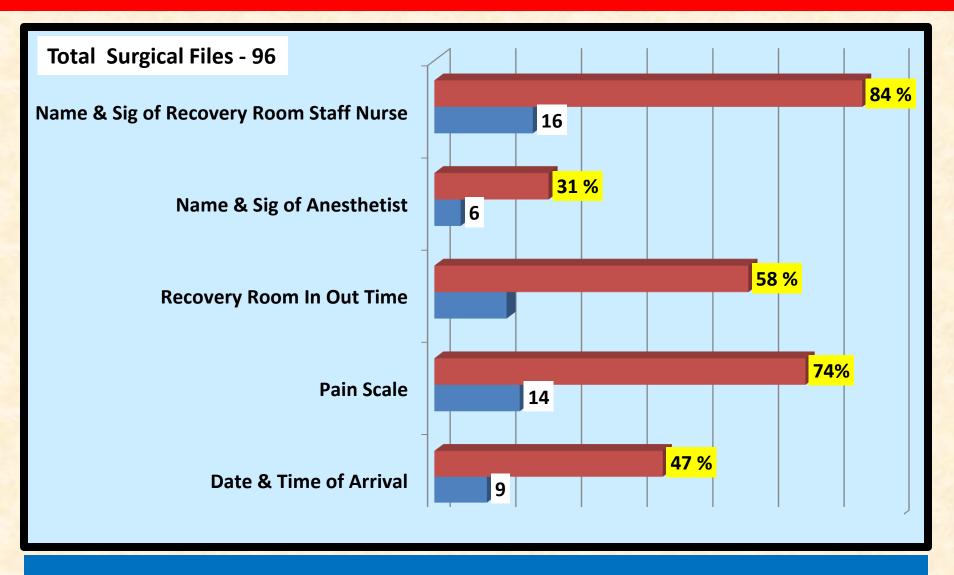
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Mark and the committee of the committee	OP: BURGICAL SAFETY CHRCHLIST  He Start Time See Time Dutation of Surgery.				tern have 10	0	9	7 KR	(20)	and needle o	he procedure I matrizaera, spo outlis	AR /D	
Bet	Before Induction of Armentine's (Signing petits at least Name and Amendicates)   2 20 PM			Confirm the patient's currer.  Conceptus and where the incidence the inc					Specimen labeling inset specimen, [2] laters about, including patient numb;				
in the site meried?  In the site meried?  In the site meried?  In the site meried?  In the pulse coltrator on the patient and functioning?  Come the patient have at patient always or aspiration.		No		Has artificite prophylasis here given within the last 60 retracter?		200		To Bergron, Azethetist & Nor		What are the key concerns for personny & management of the personny & April 2 (April 2)			
		No. No.	*										
		No	10										
		Nes No	90					100					
		No.						1					
		No Yes, and eq.	District Control Co										
Does the patient have than of >600ml blood (7m6/kg is children)?	di loss	No Ves, and two fluids planner	⊢B (Valcentral access and □	51				Arestei	lat I	Surgeon	1 500	Nume	
Assistatiat S.		urgeon	Staff Huma	Ameribelist	Surge		Staff Norse	Signature (0.1)		" W	_	起	
Sprann A. Ch.			Sprains 5, 42 y	Signature: (1)	Struke:  //		System July Jo	Name Tycho				9144	
	The second secon		Name (30549"			HALL BOOK OF SE		Charles and a second	DACK	an little	Bru.10	10	
DOC NO. ZACTA DUCKE (		48646	Emp 10 00967	DATE & TIME TO SALA DISE & THE		The second secon		Date & Time 1/4 (	Model Date &	Time	Date & Time	P 5	
Date & Time Date & Time Date & Time			Date & Time 10 15/14	PAGE 10F1				VERSION 1.2 / ACADIT					

## **OT Surgery & Post Surgery Notes**



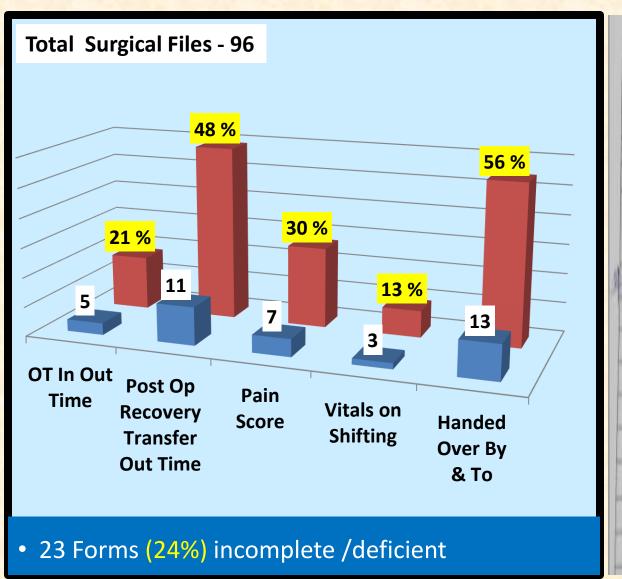
- 22 forms (23 %) forms incomplete and had deficiencies
- Name and signature of surgeon
- Post op check list not complete etc

## **Monitoring Form for PACU**



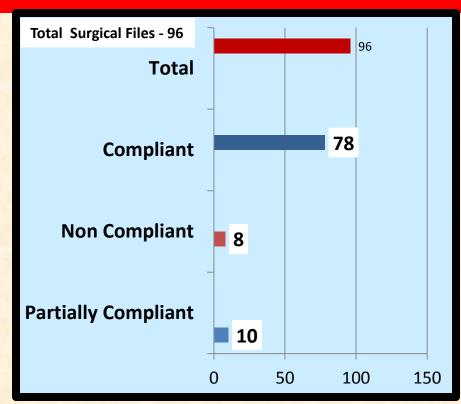
• 19 Forms (20%) incomplete /deficient

## **OT Recovery Nursing Record**

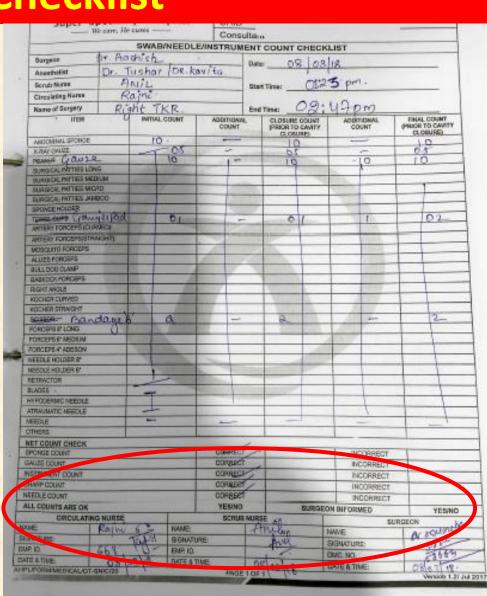




# Swab/Needle/Instrument Count Checklist

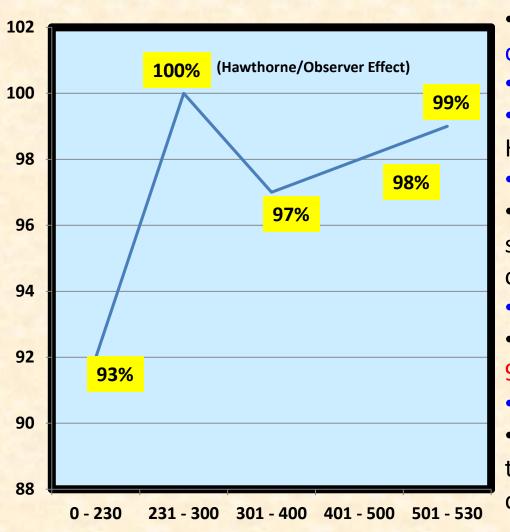


- 88 files found to have ibid form, out of 96
- 78 forms were fully complete
- 10 forms found partially complete
- Deficiencies like name & sign of circulating nurse, start & end time of surgery, name & sign of surgeon & scrub nurse etc



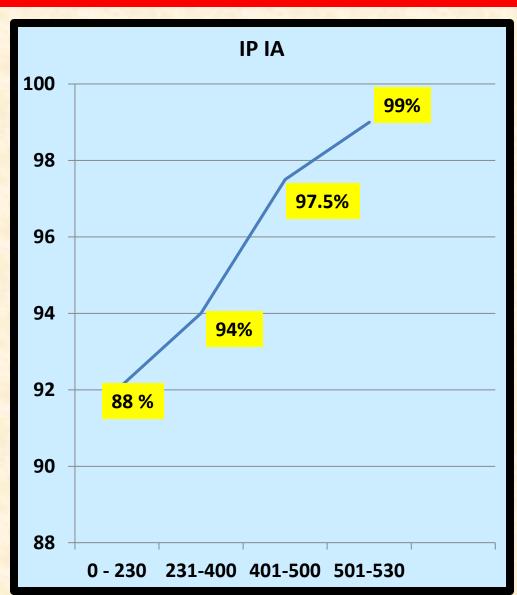
# Effect of Internal Audit IP Initial Assessment(Doc's IA)





- Overall adequacy 78 % due to deficiencies
- 93% achieved for initial 230 folders
- Next 70 samples, improved to 100%,
   Hawthorne (observer) Effect
- Patient files 301- 400, it was 97%
- Dip likely due to staff getting used to seeing audit continuing, becoming complacent
- Result better than initial 230 results
- Patient files 401 500, improved to 98%
- For sample 501 530 it was 99%
- Positive change in the basic behavior towards non medical aspects of documentation

# **Effect of Internal Audit Nutritional Assessment**



- Overall in 25 % cases assessment was not done within 24 hrs
- 88 % achieved for initial 230 patient medical documentation folders
- Sample files from 231 -400, improved to 94%
- Improvement in availability of staff, awareness of internal audit and since the hospital shifted to 100% computer entry of the ibid form using computer on wheels
- For sample 401-500, it was 97.5%
- For sample 501 530 it improved to 99%
- Positive change in the basic behavior of Nutritionists wrt documentation as per guidelines

Patient Safety Curriculum Guide Multi-professional Edition



#### Institutionalized /Long Term Measures

- <u>Traditional Approach</u> Assumed that well trained, conscientious practitioners do not make errors (non use of stamps by 94% of doctors)
- Errors reduce by redesigning systems and processes using human

#### factors principles

- Audit of Patient medical Documentation an effort to do the same in a new super specialty tertiary care hospital
- Adaptation of concepts from other established & successful fields:

#### Internal Audits like in Armed Forces

Quality improvement review - conduct periodically(self assessment)

- •Non standardisation of education reduction of mistakes through document standardisation
- Continuous Training guided by deficiencies detected during audit can provide workable solution to fill the gaps in initial medical education
- <u>Limiting the blame & avoid finger pointing</u> transparency, team
   spirit
- Collective evolution of culture & professionalism of staff HCF
- Overlap of all in the patient safety mechanism monthly Board of Officers(BOO)(Audit Committee)

- <u>Detailed by Quality Department / MS</u> act as a mirror to
   'sharp end' correction
- <u>Conscious effort to improve patient safety</u> focus to improve malice of illegible signatures, illegible prescriptions, no use of rubber stamps etc
- NABH Accreditation fill in this void through internal audit mechanism
- Adoption of other self improvement tools to improve patient safety & physician defensibility

#### **HCF/Short Term Measures**

- Forms & records be filed explicitly as per guidelines
- All columns in forms should either be filled or crossed out or written NA
- Awareness posters at vantage points
- Proactive use of computer on wheels(COW) using speech software
- Minimise cuttings and over writings
- Deficiencies noted be disseminated to concerned staff
- Floor managers be also involved in checking the completion of pt medical documentation

#### To Conclude.....

- Patient Safety should be the reason of all activity in any hospital and
- there should be constant endeavor by all to achieve this
- The ultimate aim of any healthcare organization should be to have
- zero tolerance towards patient safety
- Adequate, Clear, Legible, Credible, Accurate and Complete medical
- records are one of the best remedy for patient safety & defense
- against litigation and support Physician Defensibility

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