



# The ABCs of QI:

## *Session 2: Using Data for Quality Improvement*



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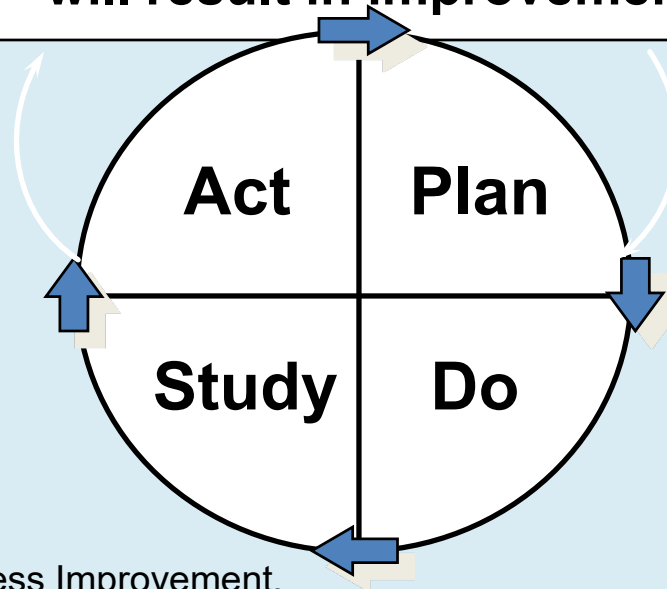
# Review Session 1

## Model for Improvement

**What are we trying to accomplish?**

**How will we know that a change is an improvement?**

**What changes can we make that will result in improvement?**



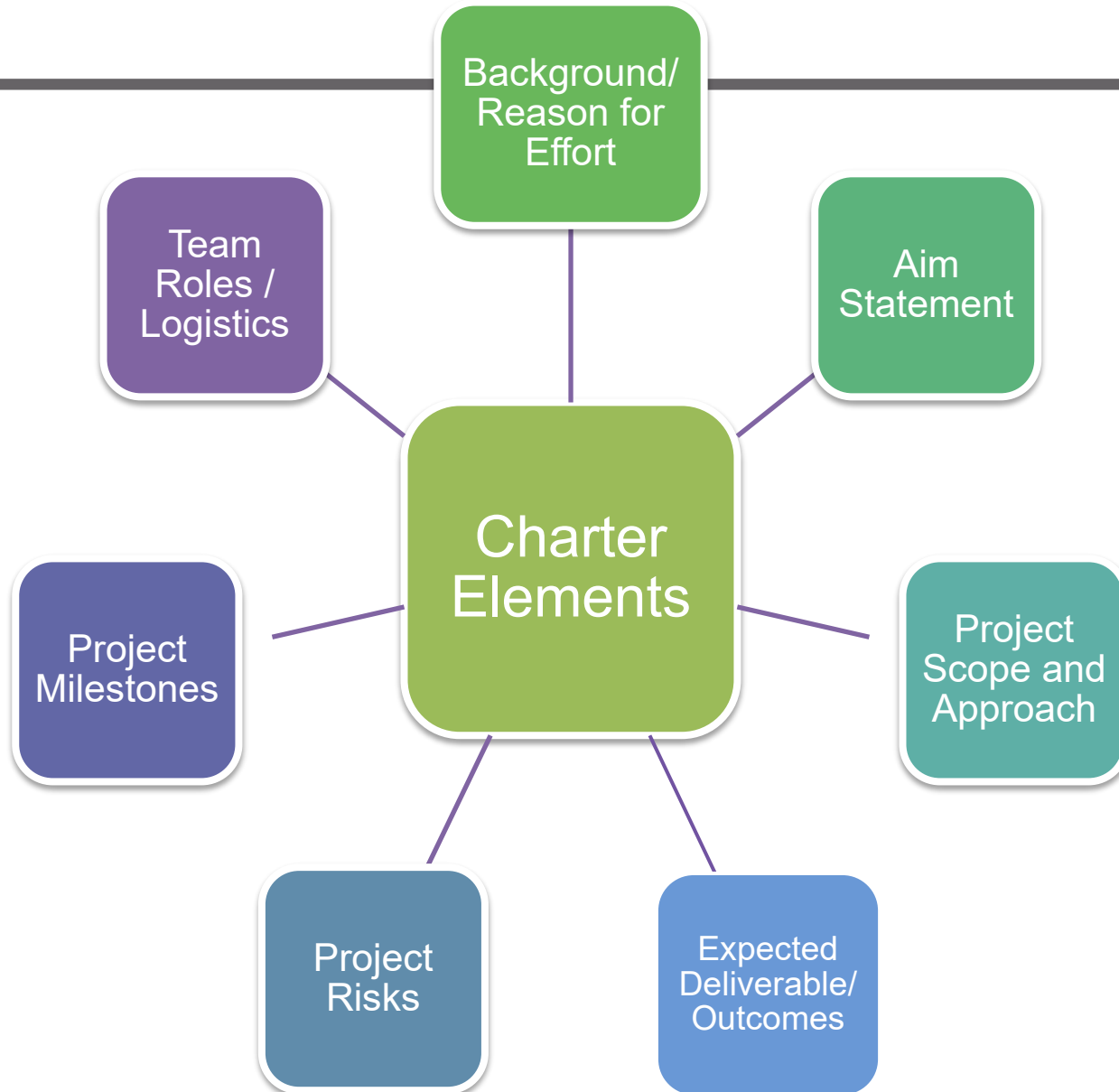
From Associates in Process Improvement.



# Review Session I – Aim Statement

- Aim statements should meet the SMART criteria:
  - Specific
  - Measurable
  - ~~Achievable~~ Ambitious
  - Relevant
  - Time-bound
- Aim statements should be developed with a team and should consider what factors might influence the scope

# Review Session 1 – Project Charter





# Questions





# Learning Objectives

1

**Understand the importance of data context to interpret current data**

2

**Learn how to construct run charts**

3

**Interpret run charts using special cause variation**



# Data for Quality Improvement



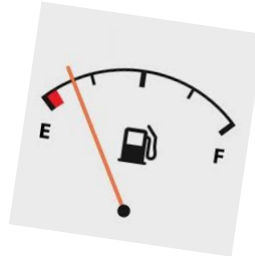
# What is Data?

- Merriam-Webster:
  - Facts or information used as a basis for reasoning, discussion, or calculation
- FreeDictionary.com:
  - A series of observations, measurements, or facts; information





# Data Drives Personal Performance





# Data for Quality Improvement

Understand

- How does the current system perform?

Predict

- What interventions might improve the performance of the current system?

Evaluate

- Did our interventions result in improvement?

Monitor

- Are our improvements sustained over time?

Engage

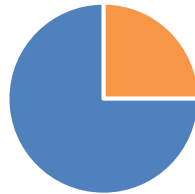
- What do stakeholders need to know?



# Calculating Percent

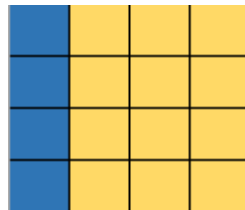
- Numerator/Denominator \* 100 = percent
- “North Dakota”
- Examples:

○  $3/4 = .75$



$.75 * 100 = 75\%$

○  $4/16 = .25$



$.25 * 100 = 25\%$

Online tutorials on percent available at: <https://www.khanacademy.org/math/cc-sixth-grade-math/cc-6th-ratios-prop-topic#cc-6th-percentages>



# Important Questions about Data

Consider the **context** of the data:

- How does the data compare to...
  - Data in previous months, quarters, or years?
  - My organization's performance goals?
  - Performance of similar organizations (benchmarking)?
  - Industry standards?
- Is this what I expected to see? Does it make sense given what I know about my organization?
- Does performance differ by subgroup?



# Examples of Data Without Context

- The Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged 1,033 points.
  - It was a 4.2% drop from the previous day.
  - The Dow has been >20,000 points since March.
- The unemployment rate in May was at 14.7%
  - It was 3.7% in May 2019
  - It was 9.2% in May 2011
- 90% of patients are satisfied with Partnership Clinic
  - What if the average satisfaction among peer clinics is 95%?

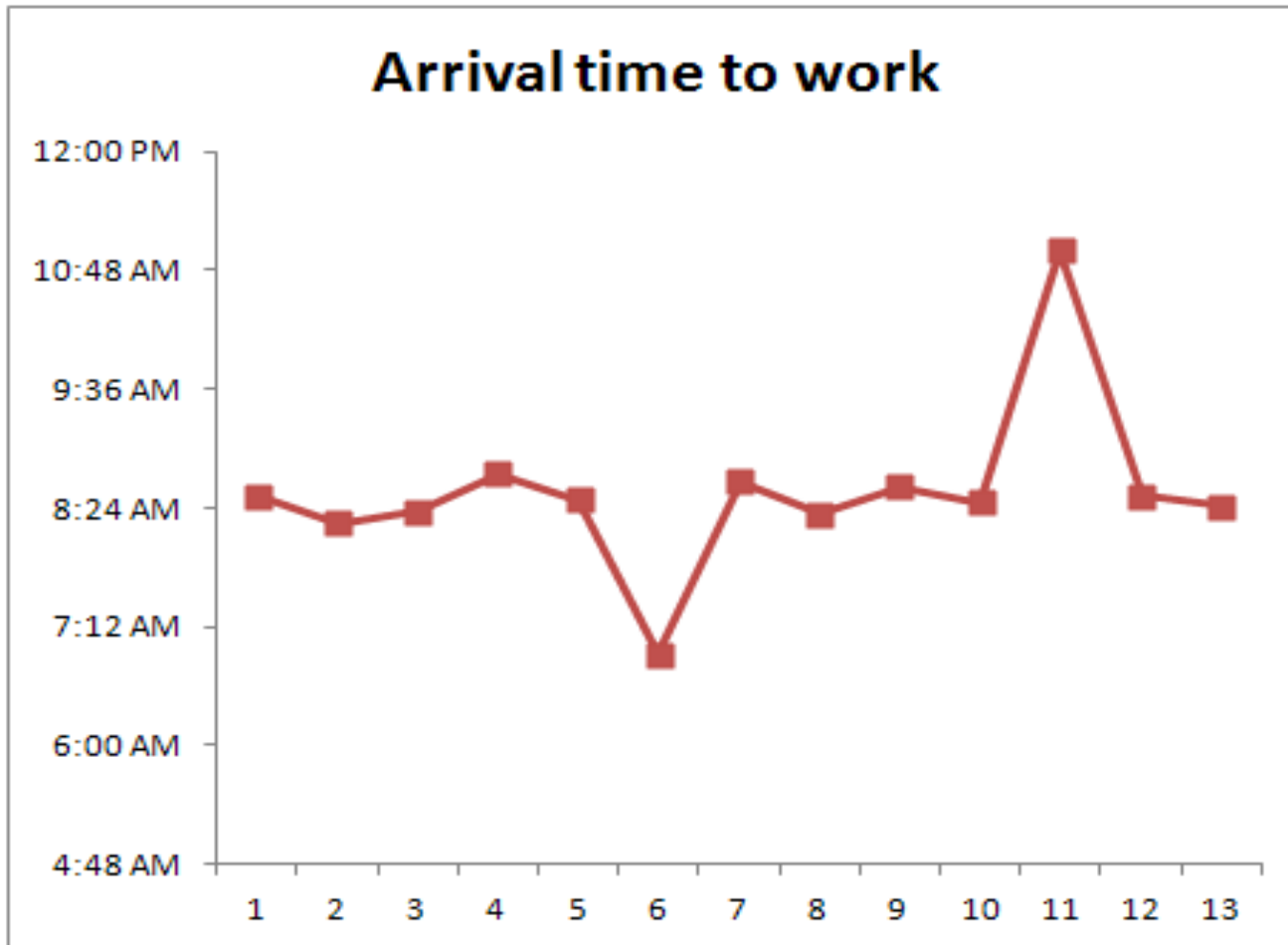


# Looking at Variation in Data

- How do the data vary over time?
  - All data demonstrate variation
  - How we react to variation depends on how we interpret it
- Two types of variation in data
  - Common Cause
  - Special Cause



# Example 1





# Two Types of Variation

## Common Cause

- Random
- “Natural” or expected variation
- Inherent to the system

## Special Cause

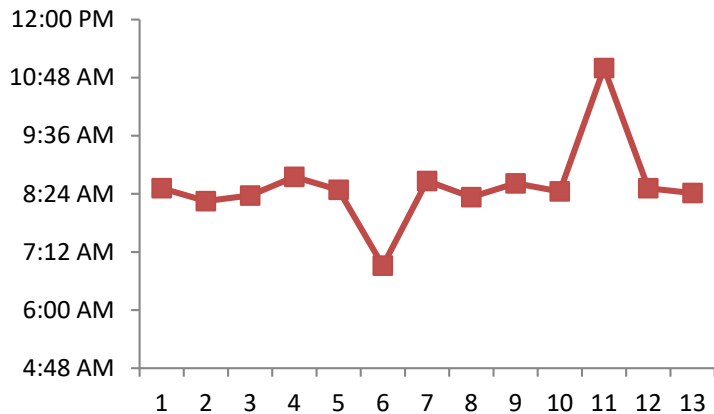
- Non-random
- Attributable to a cause
- Not inherent to the system



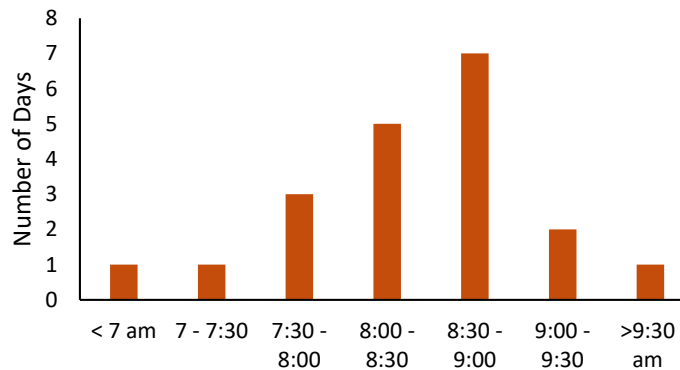


# Tools to Understand Variation in Data

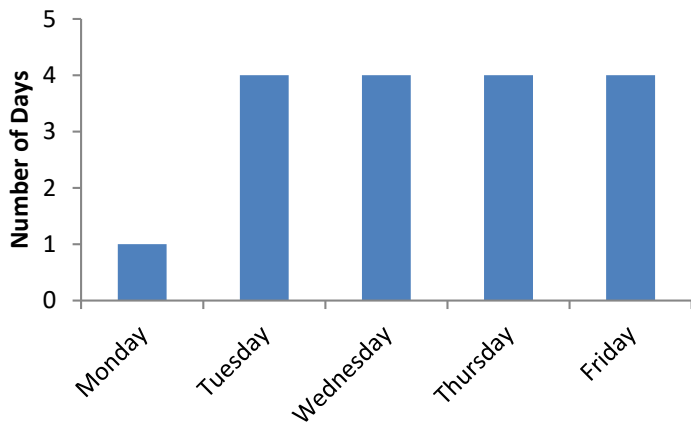
**Track data over time**



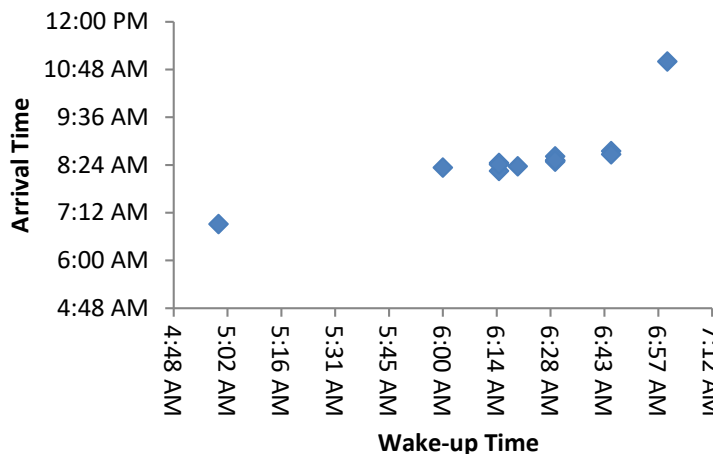
**Distribution of February arrival times**



**Stratification: February on time arrivals by day of the week**



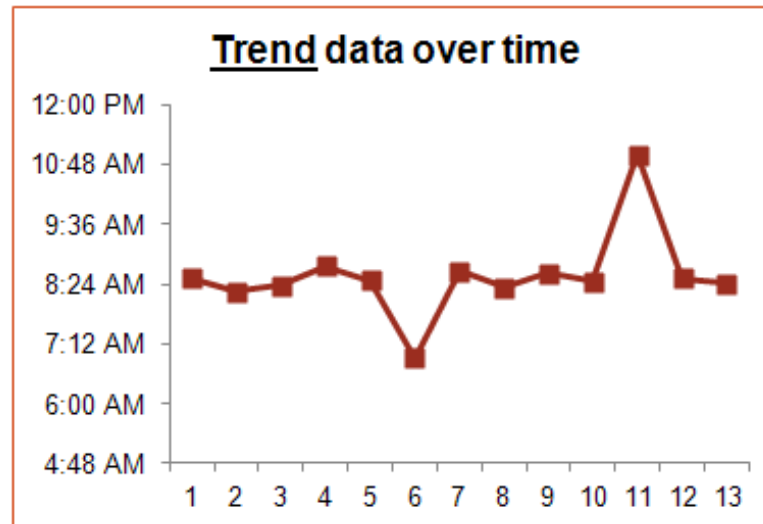
**The relationship between variables: Wake-up and Arrival time**





# Why Track Data Over Time?

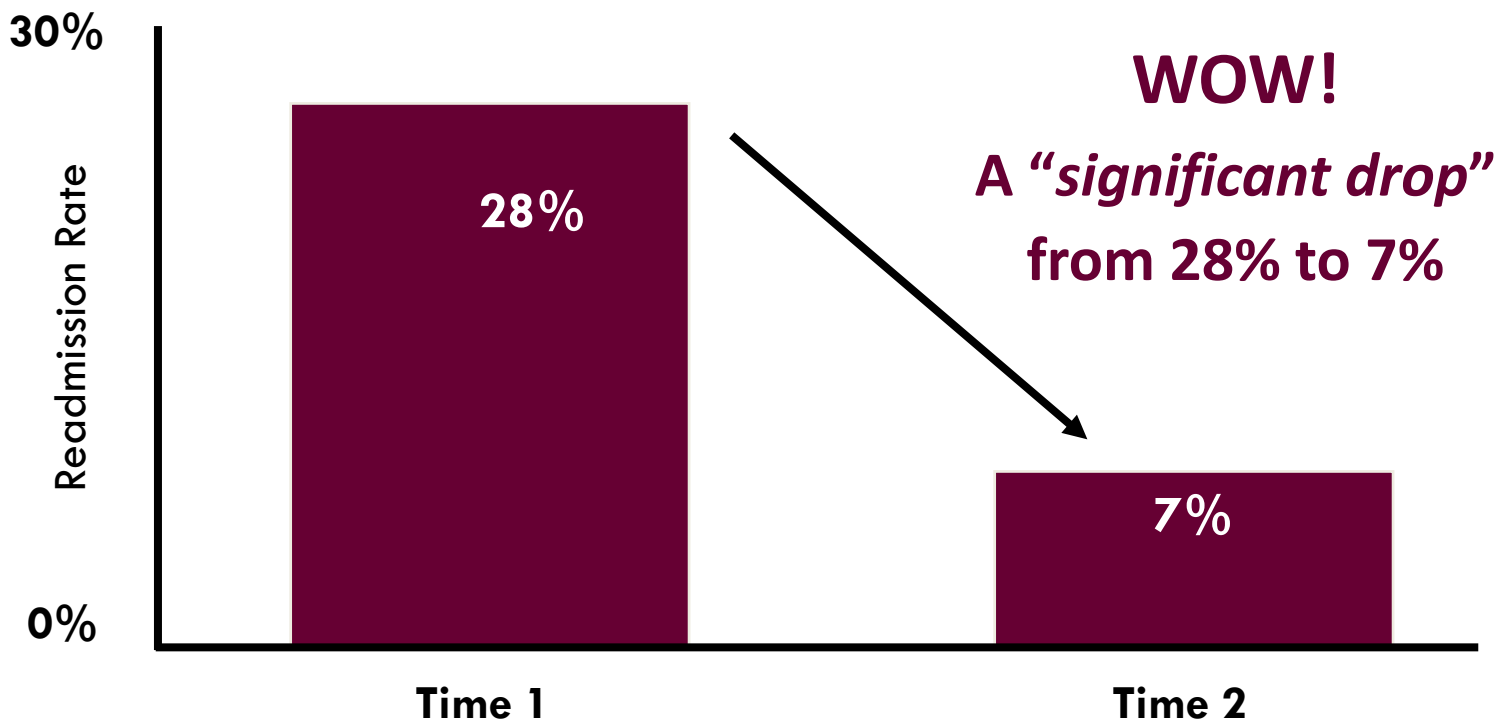
- Make performance of the process visible
- Determine if change is an improvement by comparing data before and after test
- Determine if holding the gain





# Misinterpretation

Before and after implementation of a new protocol to reduce readmissions.

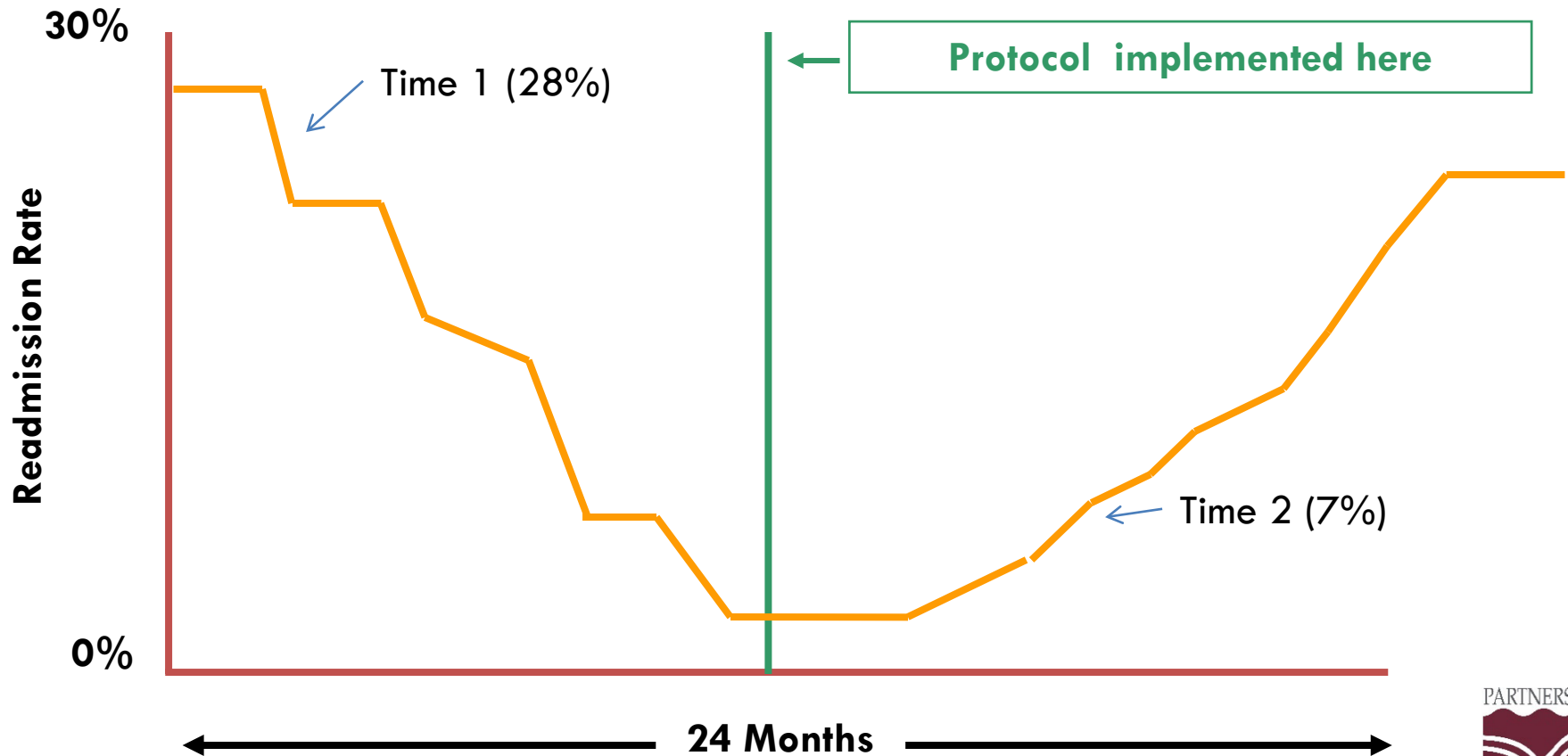


**Conclusion - The protocol was a success!**  
**We saw a 75% reduction in readmission rate.**



# Run Charts Help Tell the Whole Story

Before and after implementation of a new protocol





# Well-Child Visit Example

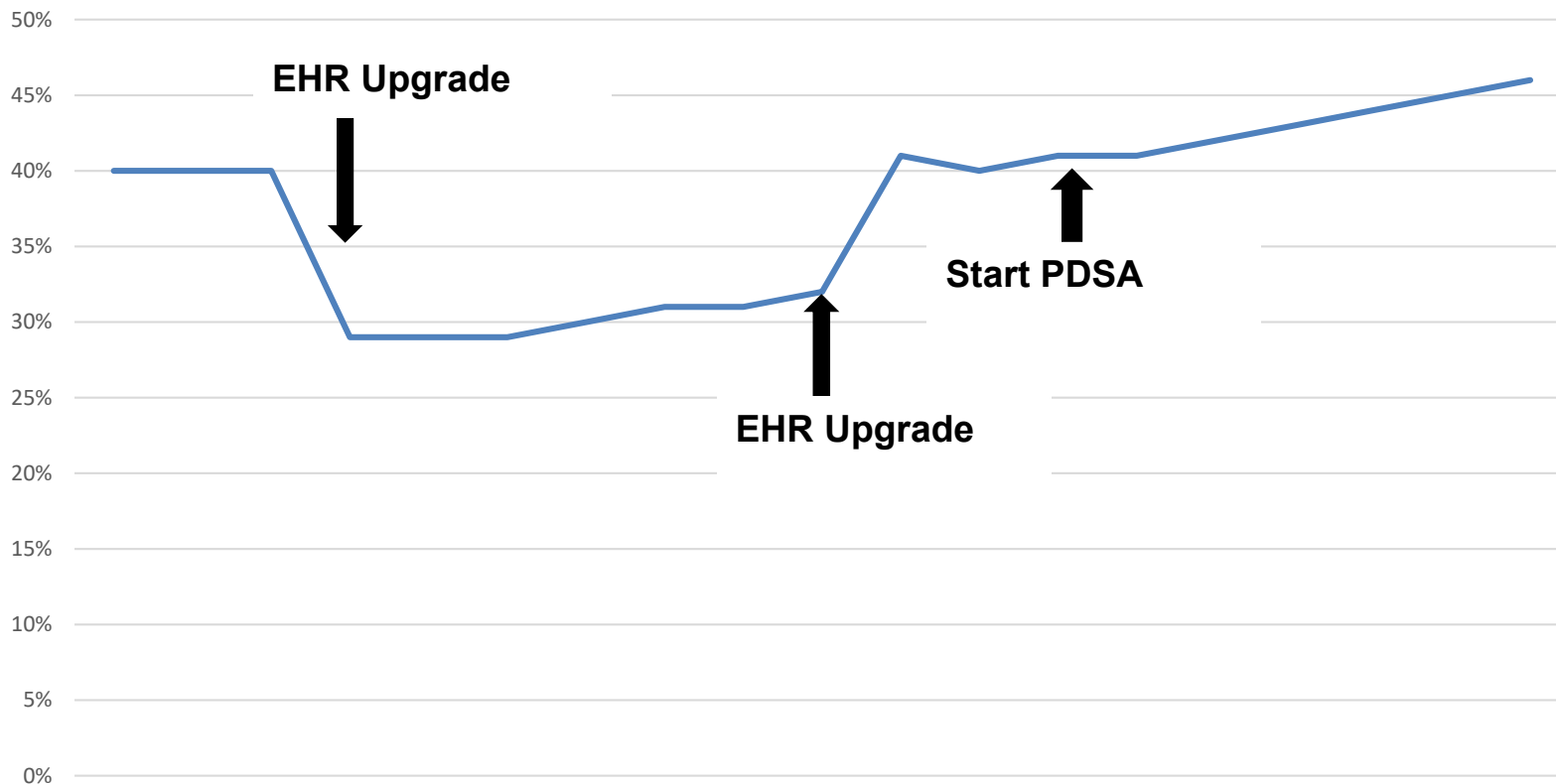
How to increase well-child visit rate?





# Data Helps Evaluate the Interventions & Impacts

## Well Child Visits, Pts Age 3-6 yrs





# Median and Mean

- Median: arrange a set of observations from lowest to highest and find the value in the middle
- Mean (average): the sum of the values divided by the number of values
- Examples:

**2, 3, 5, 6, 7**

**2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 100**

- Median = 5
- Mean =  $(2+3+5+6+7)/5 = 4.6$
- Median #2:  $(5+6)/2 = 5.5$
- Mean #2:  $(2+3+5+6+7+100)/6 = 20.5$

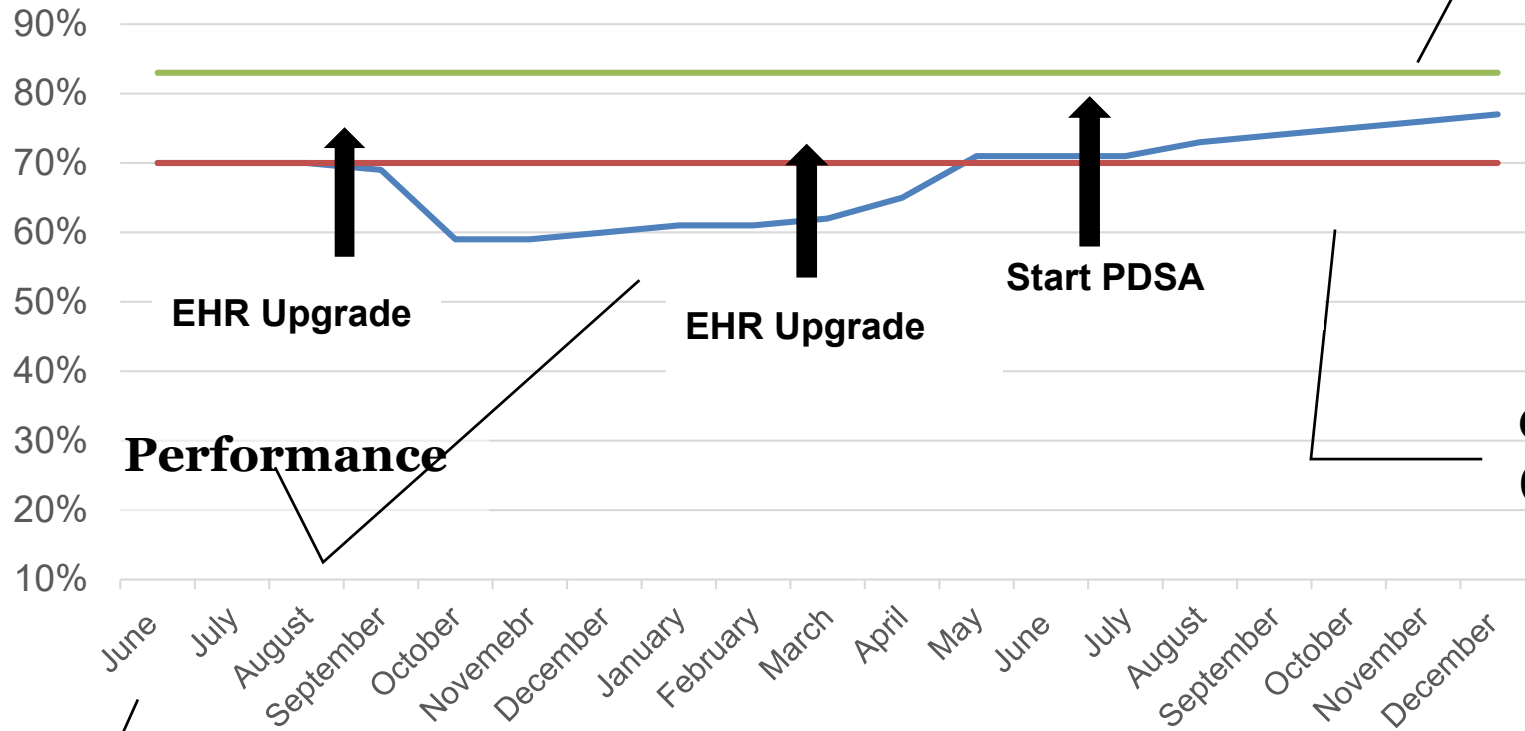


# Anatomy of a Run Chart

**Title**

## Well-Child Visits, Pts Age 3-6 yrs

**Goal**



**Performance**

**Center line (median)**

**Time**

Well Child Visits, Pts Age 3-6 yrs    Median    Goal







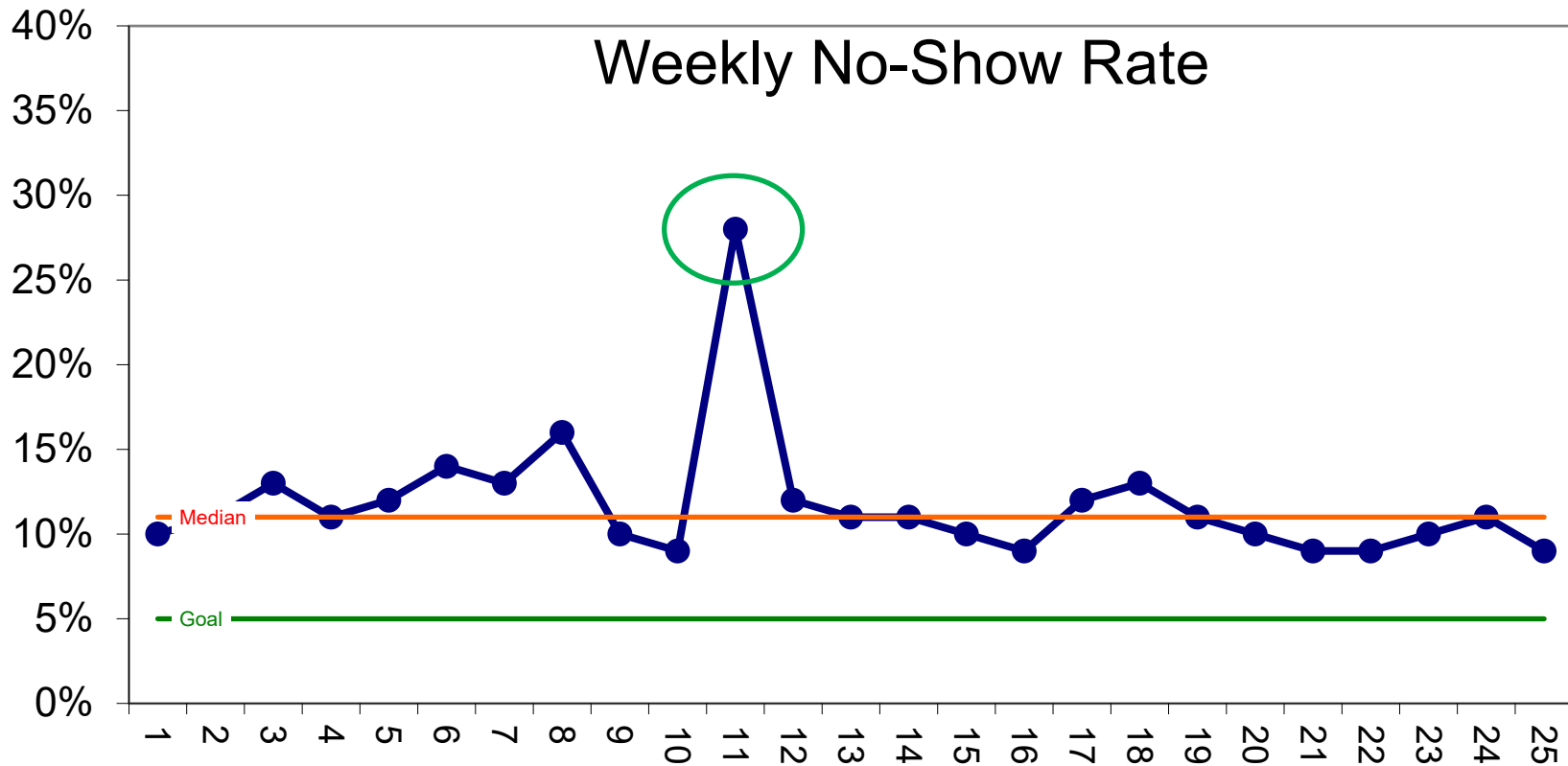
# Run Chart Rules

## Interpreting Run Charts Using Special Cause Variation Rules

Rule	Definition
<b>Astronomical point</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- One value that is <u>clearly different from the rest</u></li></ul>
<b>Shift</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- An indication of <i>movement</i>, where 6 <i>consecutive points</i> have ‘shifted’ to the other side of the median</li><li>- If 1 point is on the median, skip it and keep counting</li></ul>
<b>Trend</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 5 or more points in a row, each one consecutively higher or lower in value than the previous data point</li><li>- If 2 or more consecutive points have the same value, skip all but one of the matching points when counting</li></ul>



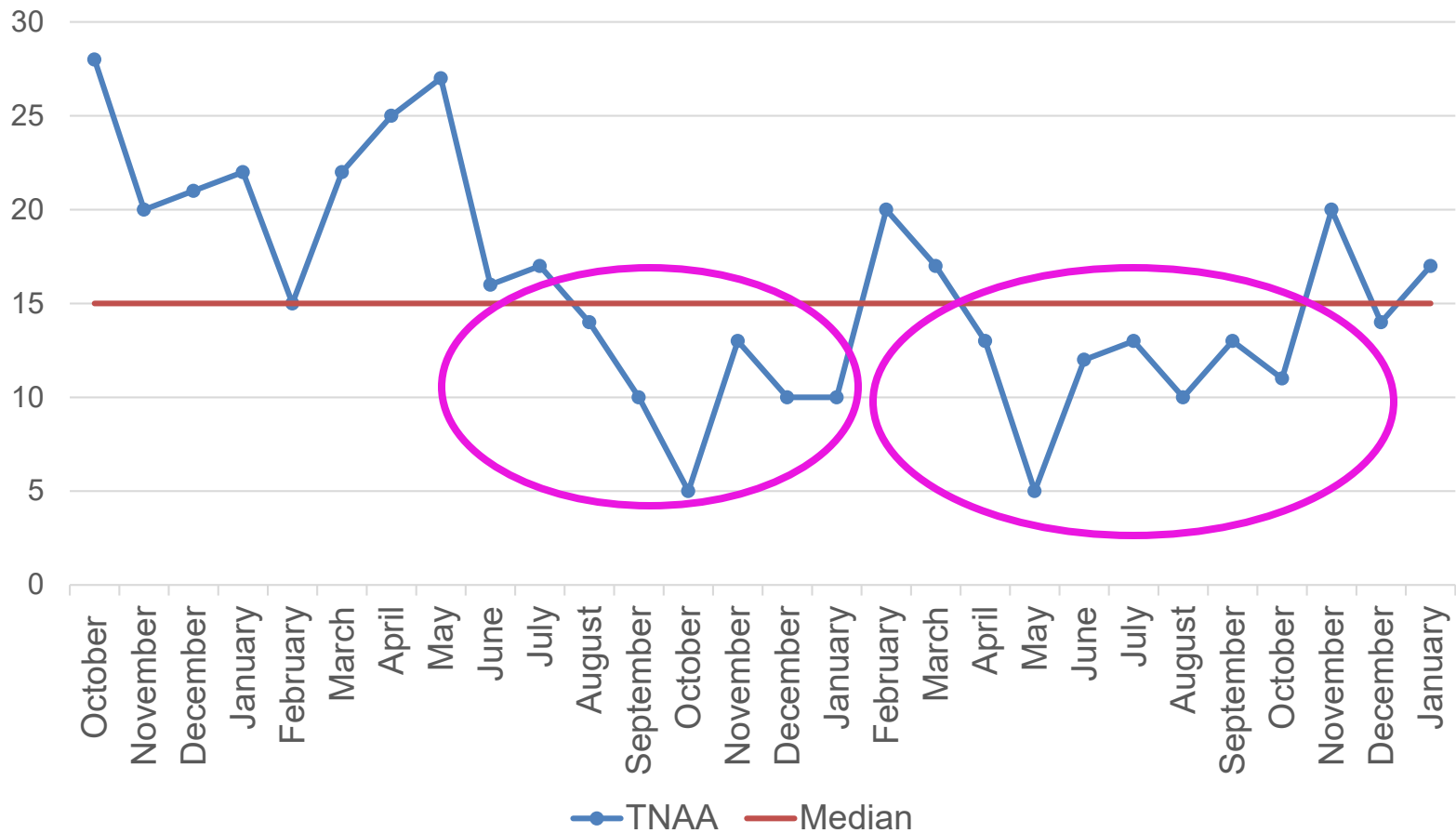
# Astronomical Point





# Shift?

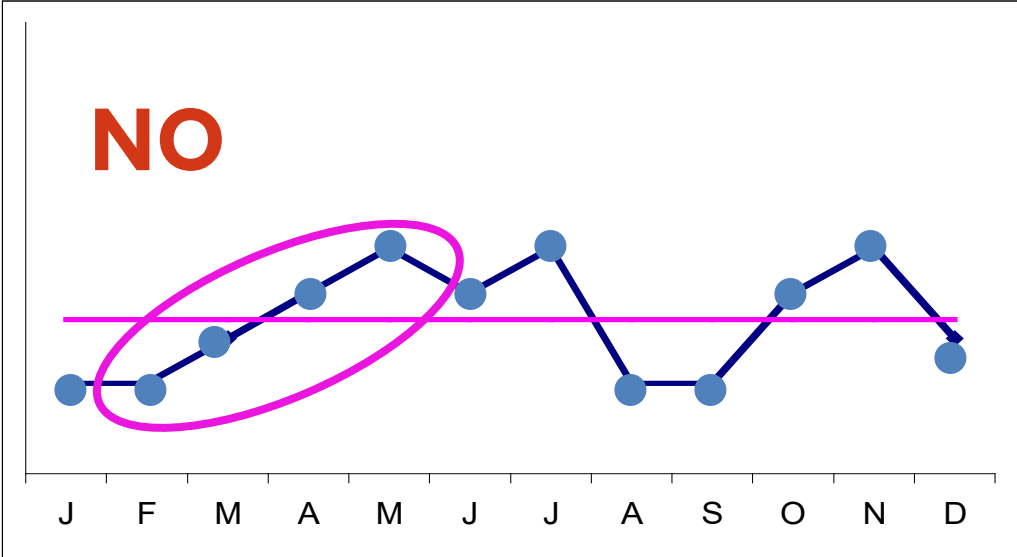
## Days Until Third Next Available Appointment



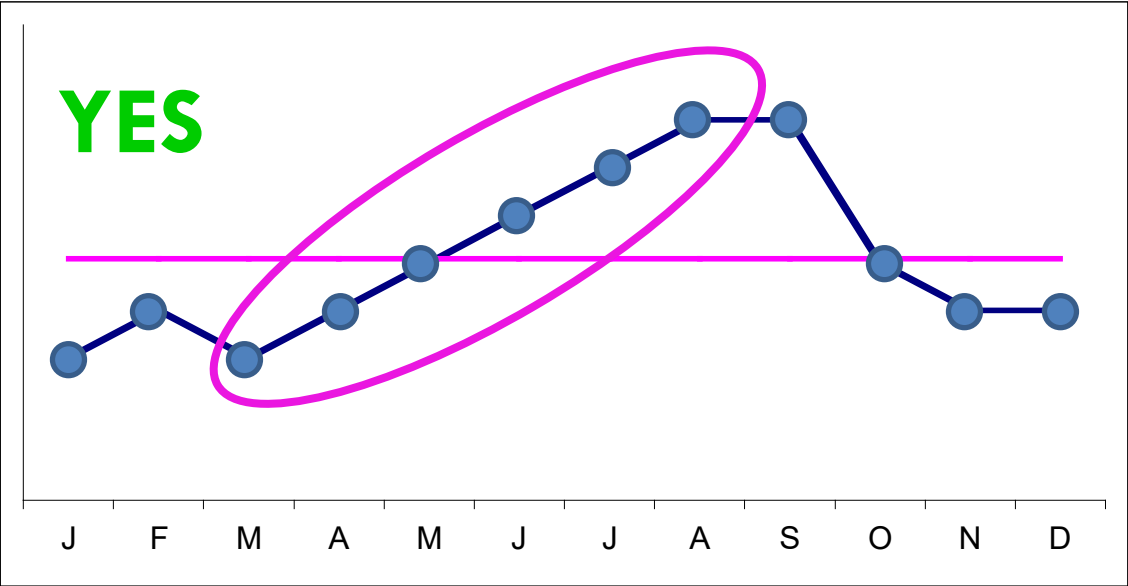


# Trend?

A.



B.

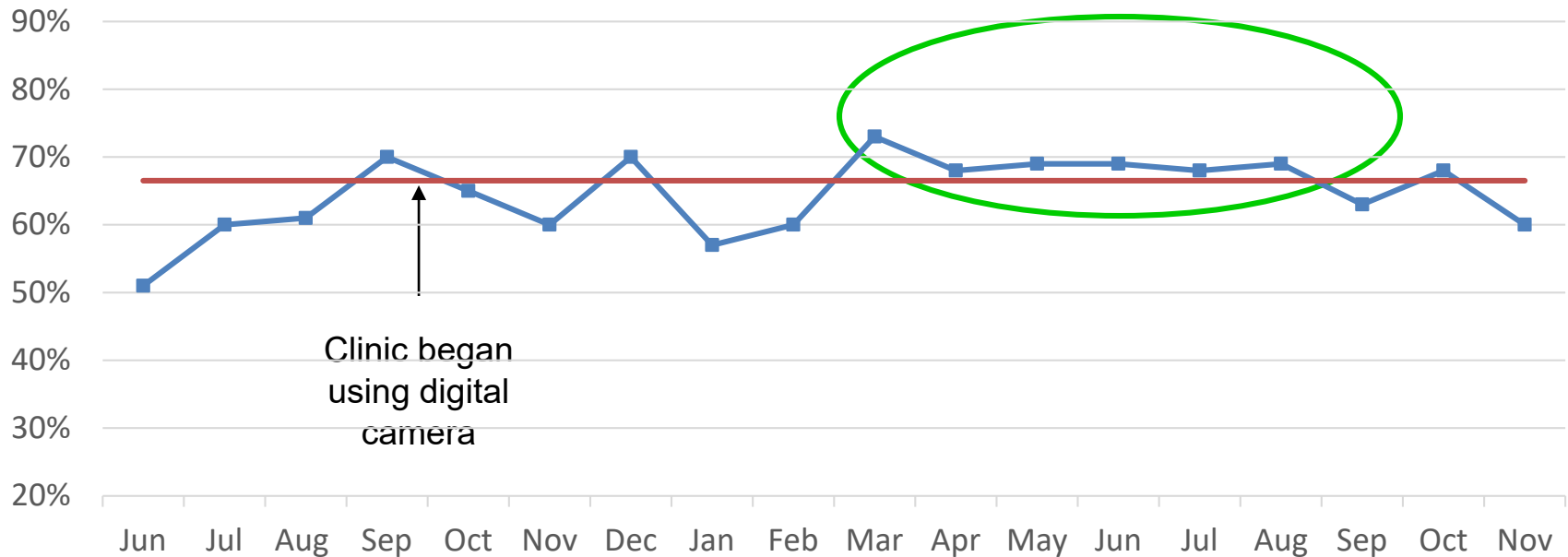




# Example 1

## Which Run Chart Rule Applies?

Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Rate

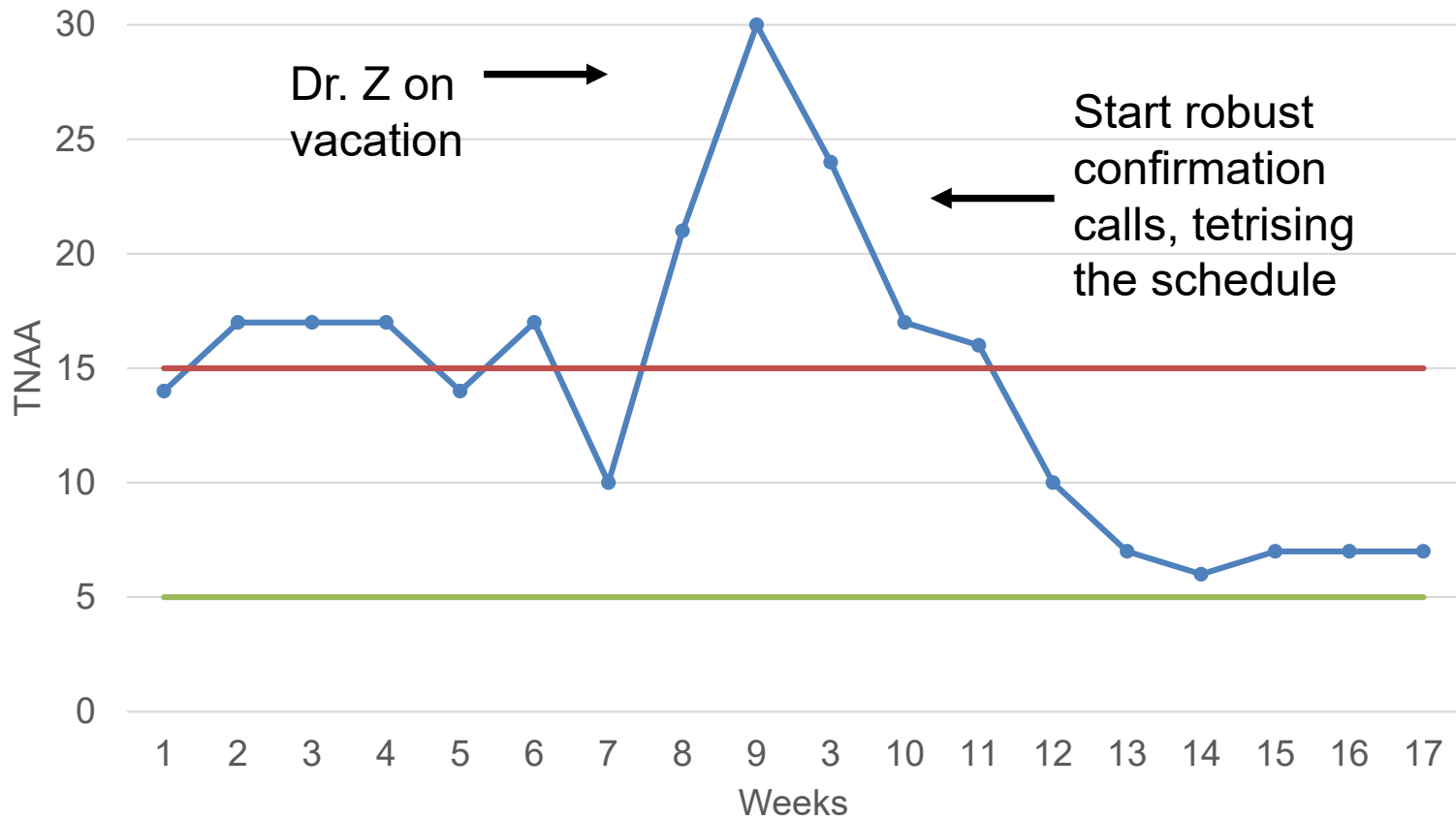


■ Diabetic retinopathy screening rate    — Median



# Example 2

## TNAA for Established Pts, Dr. Z



● Days to Third Next Available Appointment, Established Pt    — Median    — Goal





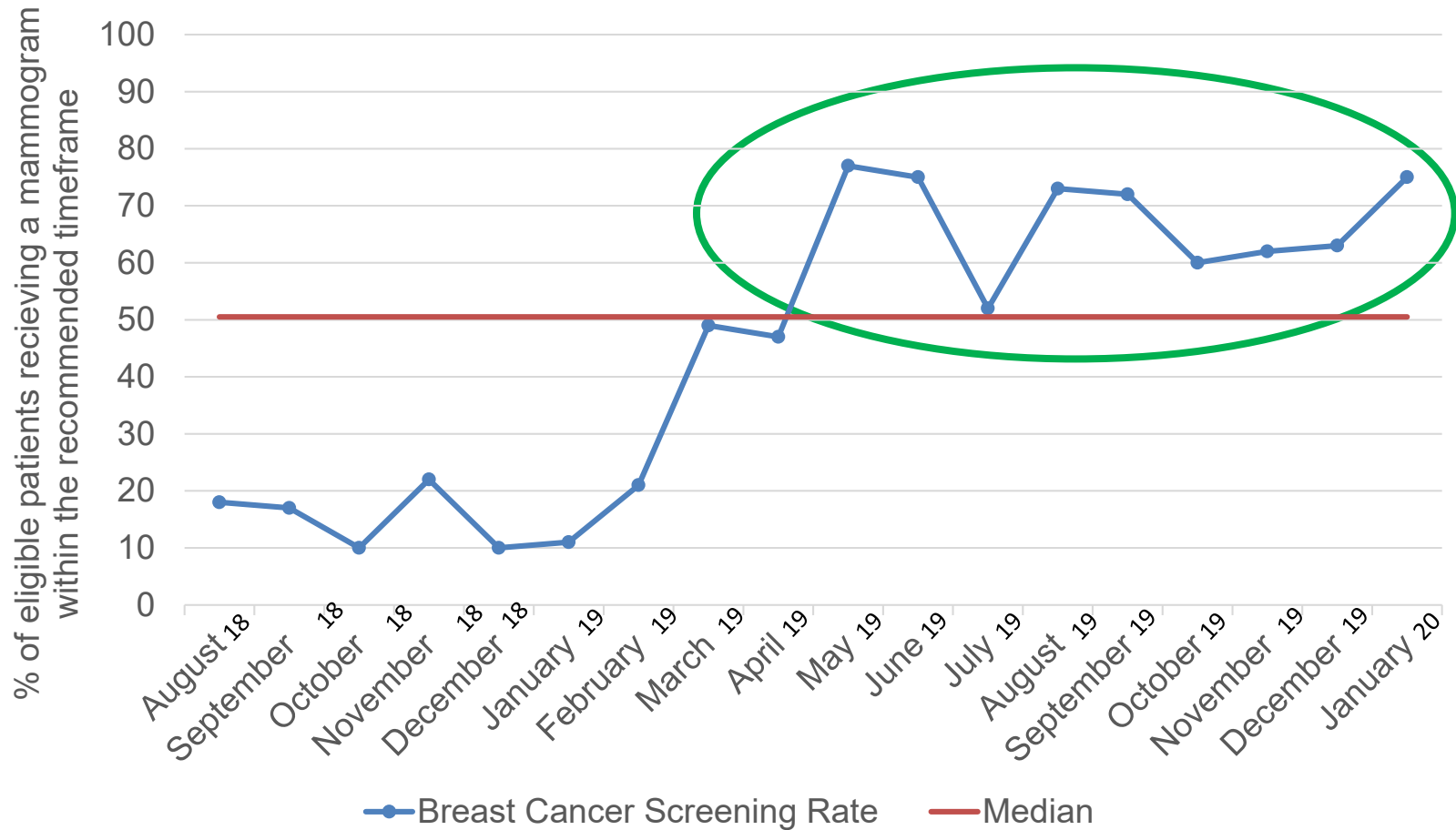
# Run Chart Rules Recap

- 3 Decision rules:
  - Astronomical point
  - Shift
  - Trend
- Only 1 rule needs to be fulfilled to suggest non-random (special cause) variation
- These rules help address gut reactions to the data



# Exercise - Run Chart 1

## Breast Cancer Screening Rates

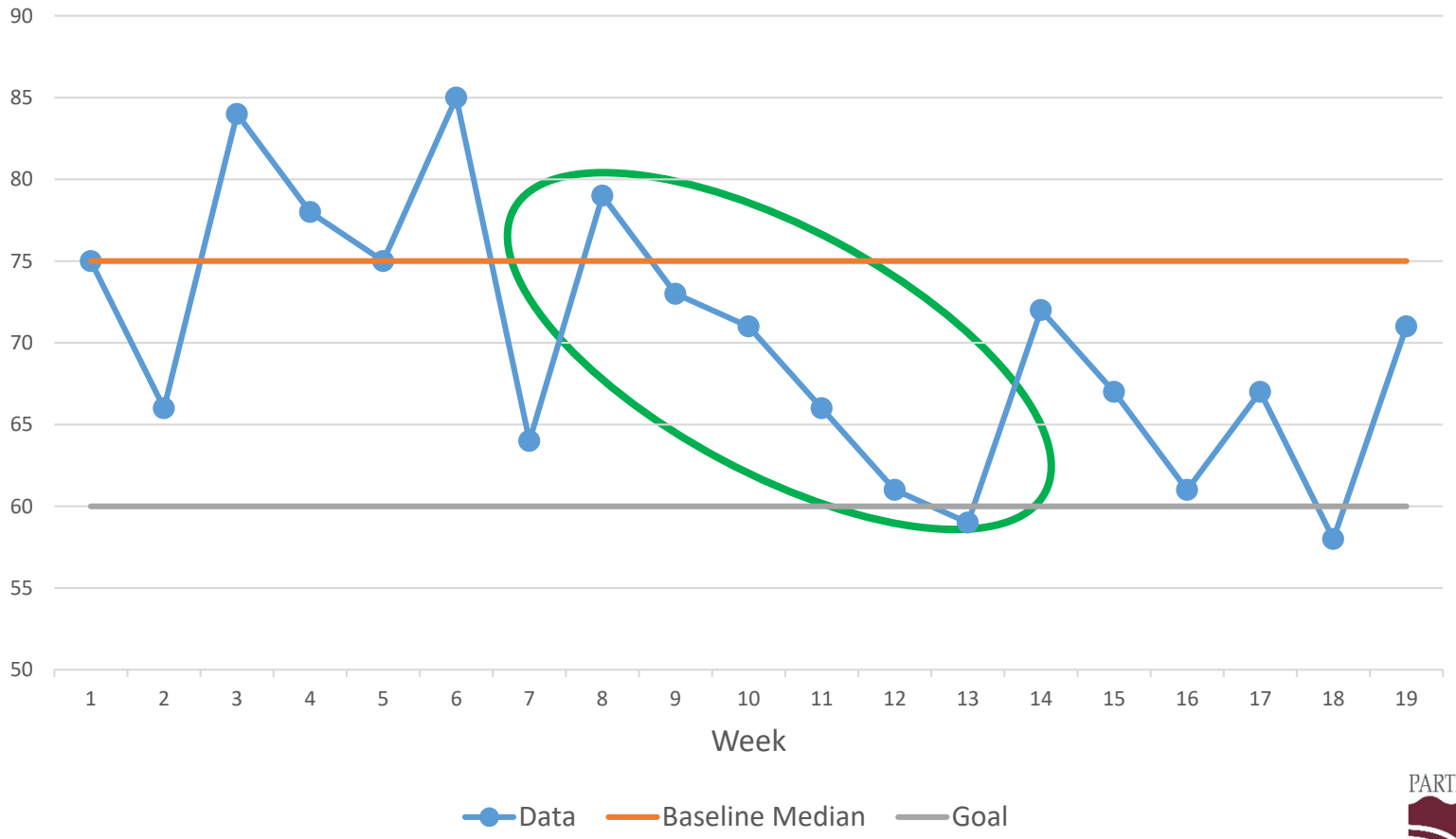






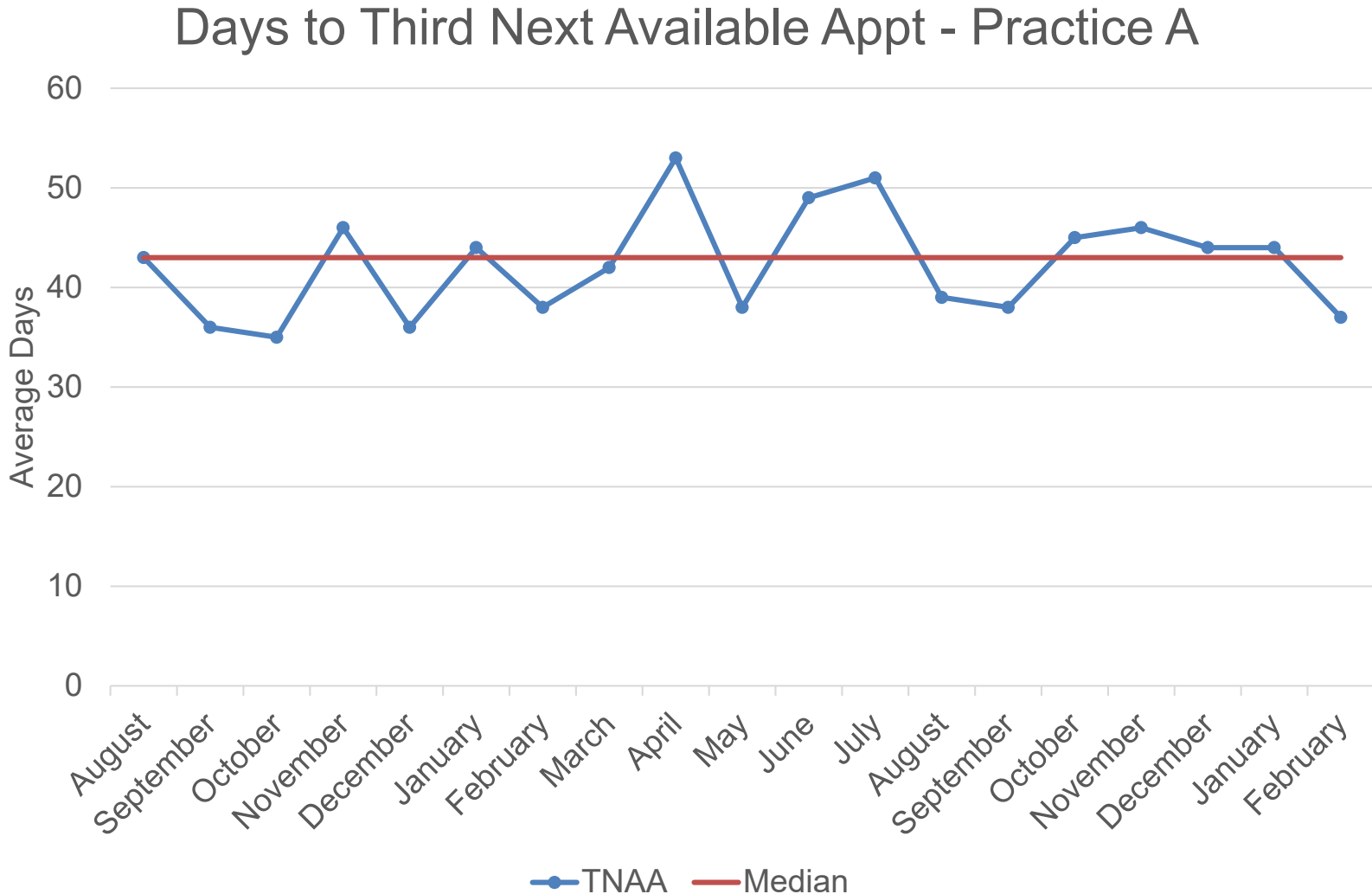
# Exercise - Run Chart 2

Office Visit Cycle Time (Minutes)



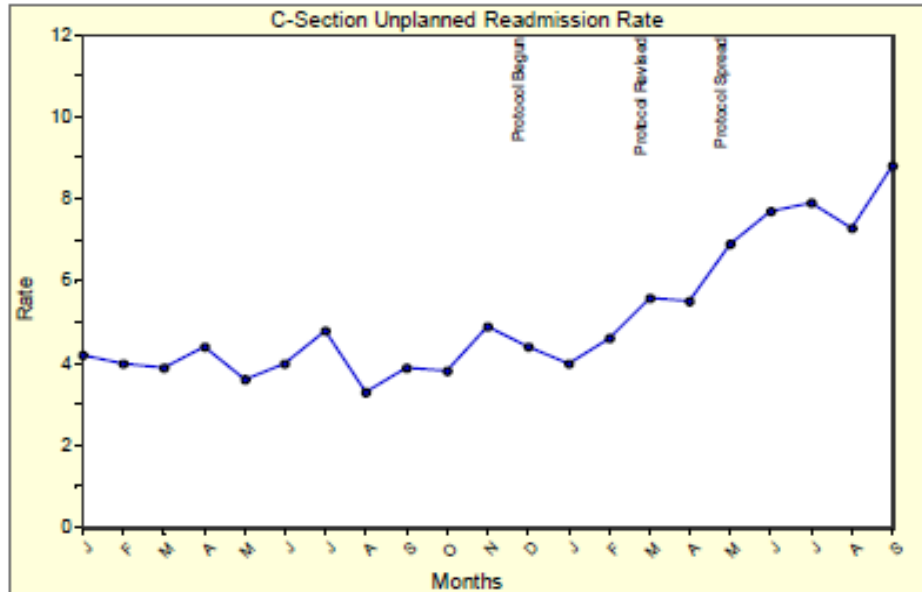


# Exercise - Run Chart 3

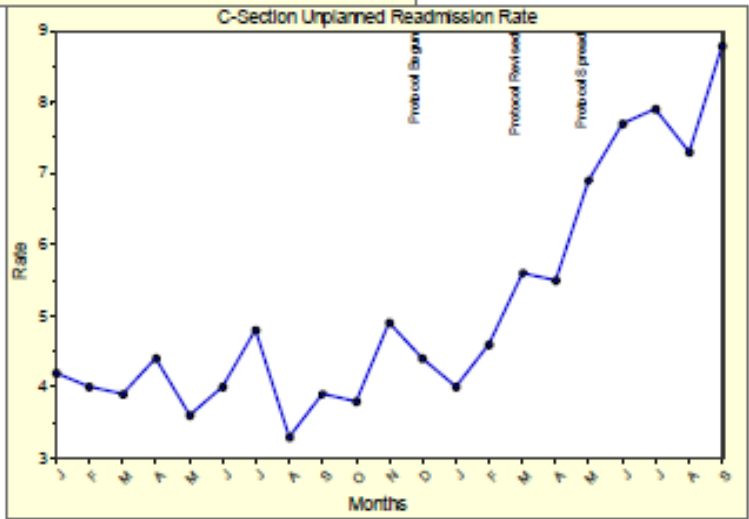
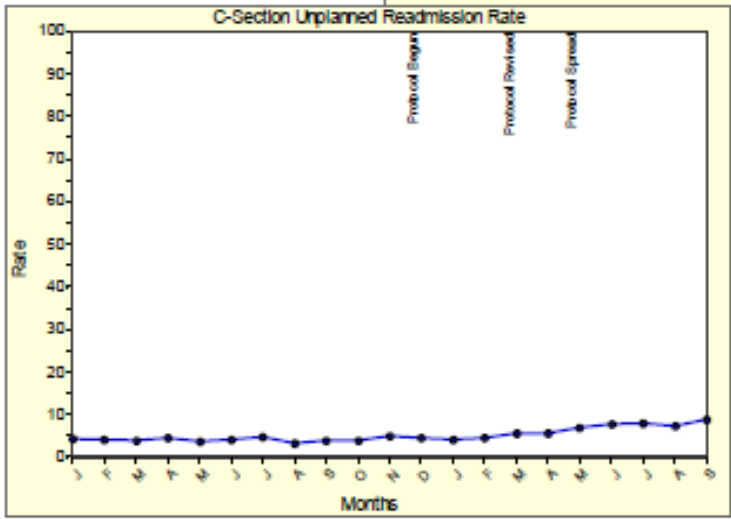




# Scale Matters



From the Institute for Healthcare Improvement





# In Summary: Using Data for QI

- Understanding the context of the data helps with interpreting the data
- All data exhibits variation, either common cause or special cause
- A run chart is one of the easiest and most widely-used QI tools to track data over time and to help analyze the data



# Data for Quality Improvement

Understand

- How does the current system perform?

Predict

- What interventions might improve the performance of the current system?

Evaluate

- Did our interventions result in improvement?

Monitor

- Are our improvements sustained over time?

Engage

- What do stakeholders need to know?



# Questions





# ABC's of QI - Upcoming Sessions

## **Session 3: How Do We Know That a Change is an Improvement?**

**Date:** Wednesday, June 1 **Time:** Noon - 1 p.m.

## **Session 4: What Changes Can We Make That Will Result in Improvement**

**Date:** Wednesday, June 8 **Time:** Noon - 1 p.m.

## **Session 5: Testing Change Ideas - Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA)**

**Date:** Wednesday, June 22 **Time:** Noon - 1 p.m.



# Quality Improvement Trainings

## Accelerated Learning Education Program

These learning sessions will cover Partnership HealthPlan of California's Primary Care Provider Quality Incentive Program measures.

**Date:** June 7 **Time:** Noon - 1:15 p.m.

Pediatric Health - A Cluster of Services for 0 – 2 Year Olds

**Date:** July 12 **Time:** Noon - 1:15 p.m.

Pediatric Health - Child and Adolescent Well-Care Visits (3-17 years), Screenings, and Immunizations for Adolescents

## Using Lean and A3 Thinking to Manage Improvement Projects

This course will provide an introduction to Lean Thinking and how improvement teams can use the A3 tool to manage the full cycle of an improvement project from planning, monitoring, and sharing what you are learning.

**Date:** June 15 **Time:** Noon - 1:15 p.m.





# Evaluations

Please complete your evaluation.  
Your feedback is important to us!





# Thank You!

## ABC's of QI Presenters:

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