



2023 Excellence in Quality Award (1-25 Beds) Rural Wellness Anadarko *Reduction of Falls for Patient Safety*

Aim Statement

Decrease falls by at least 20% on the inpatient and swing bed units, by Dec. 31, 2022.

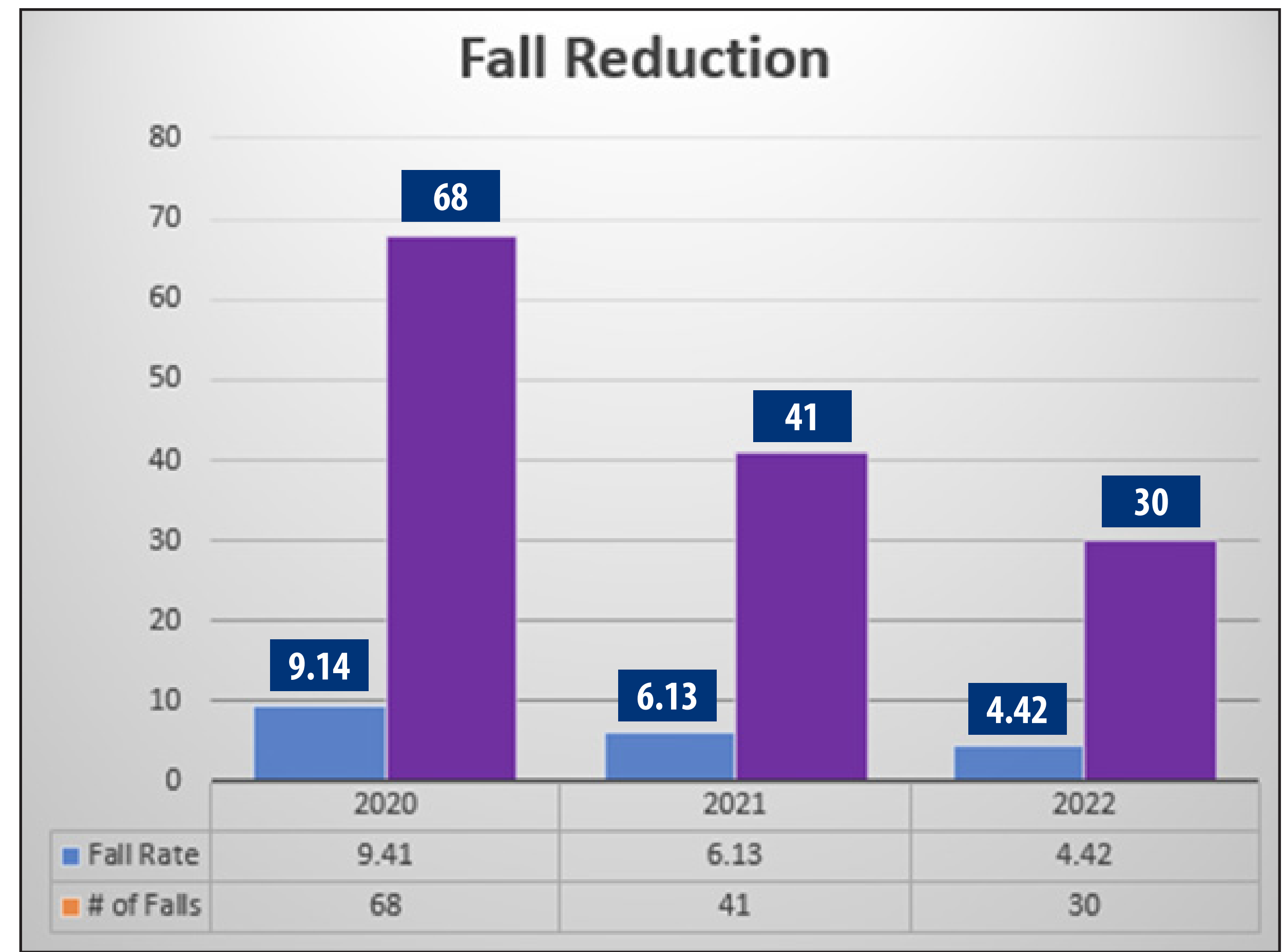
Why this is important:

- Falls increase inpatient stays by 6.9 days and hospital charges by over \$13,000 per patient.
- CMS considers falls a “never-event”.

Interventions

- Received CEO/c-suite/corporate approval for pilot project.
- Formed an interdisciplinary team.
- Implemented the AHRQ Preventing Falls in Hospitals Toolkit.
- Created a safe-patient handling algorithm and utilization of a white board for communication for mobilization safety.
- Lead daily huddles to review fall rates.
- Posted time between falls.
- Created a “no pass zone” for all to be accountable to assist patients.
- Identified risk factors and monitored those at increased risk for falls with baby-monitors.
- Purchased new beds with alarms.

Outcomes



What We Learned

- Following evidence-based practices and tools has proven to dramatically decrease falls.
- A successful fall prevention program requires leadership support, a multidisciplinary focused team and organizational strategic goals.

Next Steps

- Review the falls reduction program twice a year to evaluate sustainability.
- Celebrate successes with direct care staff when milestones are met;
- Spread success to sister hospitals .

Interdisciplinary Team

Multidisciplinary team led by Rachel Stephens, CNO, including representatives from areas of med surg, quality, PT, OT, infection control, pharmacy and direct care staff.

