

# COMMUNITY HOSPITALS AND WELLNESS CENTERS

## Fall Prevention

Erin Hill RN, BSN  
Risk Management

# Community Hospitals and Wellness Centers

Bryan Hospital 419-636-1131



Montpelier Hospital 419-485-3154



Archbold Medical 419-445-4415  
Center



# What is a Fall at CHWC?

- An untoward event that results in a patient coming to rest unintentionally on the floor or ground.



# Recognizing the Problem

- From October 2011 to September 2012, CHWC Bryan had 25 Inpatient Falls
- From October 2012 to June 2013, CHWC Bryan already had 25 Inpatient falls for the partial year.

Inpatient falls were increasing.

# Process Improvement

- Group consisted of Nursing Directors, Risk Management, Staff Nurse, and Nurse Informatics
- 15 of the 25 Inpatient falls were involved in a Chart Review.

# Chart Review

- Patient Characteristics
- Date/Time/Location of Fall
- Reason for fall
- Last documented time to Bathroom
- Injuries Sustained
- Admission Diagnosis, Medical History
- Fall Score/Interventions
- History of Falls or Impaired Balance
- Physical Therapy Consult
- Use of Assistive Device
- Staff assignments
- Rounding
- Medications

# CHWC Action Plan

- Morse Fall Scale completed on Admission and at least Daily until Discharge.
- Fall Score prompts interventions to nursing action list
- Nursing Education

Morse Falls Scale			
<b>History of Falling</b>			<b>Score:</b>
0	No	25	Yes
<b>Secondary Diagnosis</b>			<b>Score:</b>
0	No	15	Yes
<b>Ambulatory Aid</b>			<b>Score:</b>
0	None / Bedrest / Nurse Assist		
15	Crutches / Cane / Walker		
30	Furniture		
<b>IV Therapy/Heparin Lock</b>			<b>Score:</b>
0	No	20	Yes
<b>Gait</b>			<b>Score:</b>
0	Normal / Bedrest / Wheelchair		
10	Weak		
20	Impaired		
<b>Mental Status</b>			<b>Score:</b>
0	Oriented to own ability		
15	Overestimates / Forgets Limitations		
<b>Total Score:</b>			
© Morse, JA. "Preventing Patient Falls" p. 41, Copyright 1997 by Sage Publications. Used with permission of Sage Publications, Inc.			

TOTAL SCORE 0 - 24 = No Risk

TOTAL SCORE 25 - 50 = Low Risk

TOTAL SCORE 51 or Greater = High Risk

# CHWC Action Plan

- Yellow magnets, window clings, and wristbands
- Yellow non-slip socks for confused, high-risk patients
- Bedside Report Tool
- Encouraged bed exit alarms
- Increased staffing to 1:1 observation when necessary

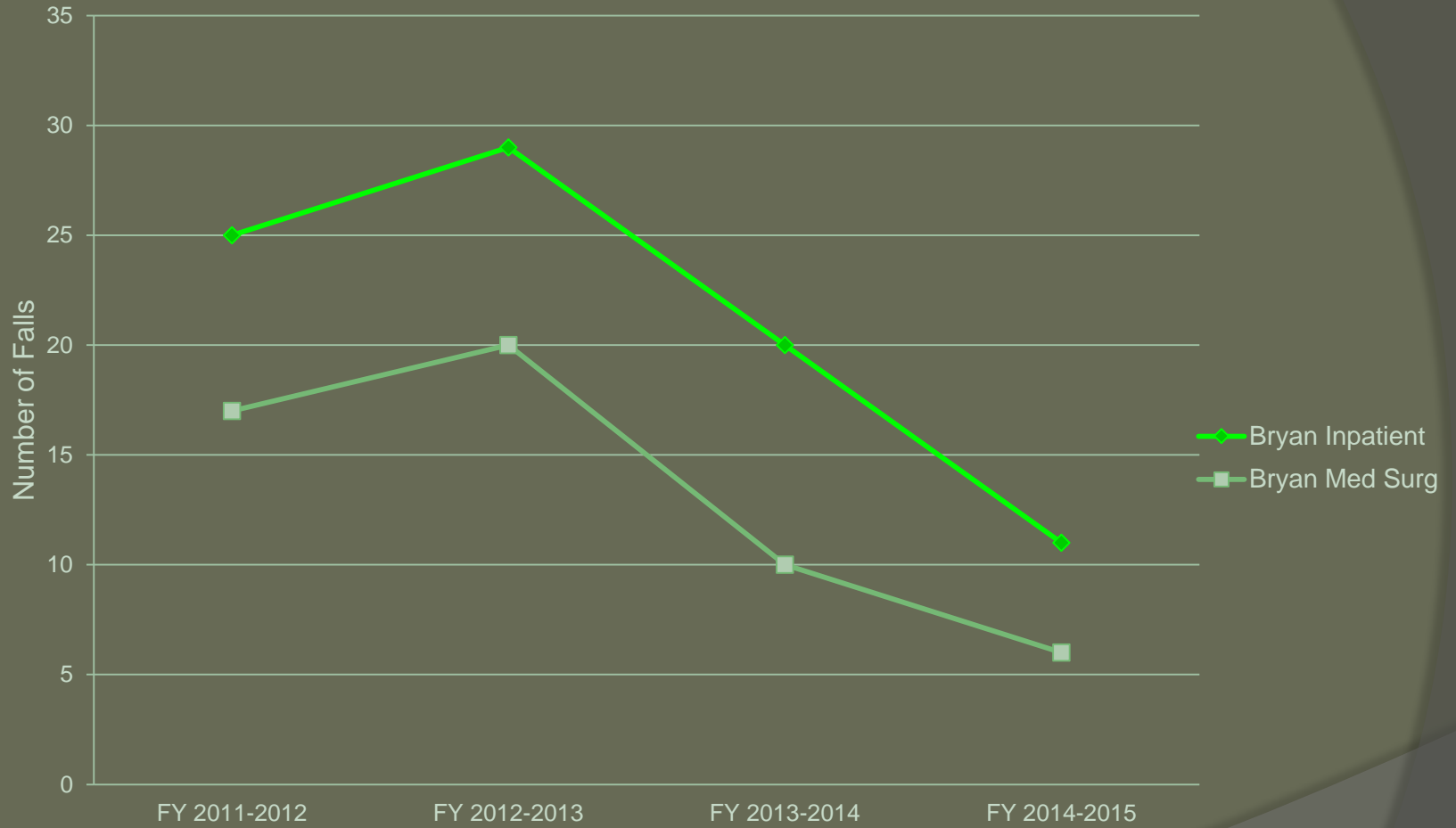




# Post-Fall Mini-Root Cause Analysis

- Physical Assessment
- Patient Observation
- Transfer Technique
- Staffing  
levels/Orientation
- Communication
- Availability of Supplies
- Equipment
- Physical Environment
- Medications
- Bathroom

# Bryan Inpatient Falls



Fiscal Year

\*\*Fall Prevention Plan Implemented August, 2013

# References

- Nursing Procedures. (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). (2009) Ambler, Pa. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, pp. 63-68
- Morse Fall Scale (Adapted with Permission, SAGE Publications)

# Questions?

Erin Hill RN, BSN  
Risk Management  
Community Hospitals and Wellness Centers  
(419)633-3591  
[erinhill@chwchospital.org](mailto:erinhill@chwchospital.org)