National Quality Improvement Conference

EXPEDITE – Reducing the Average Length of Stay (ALOS) in a Geriatric Ward

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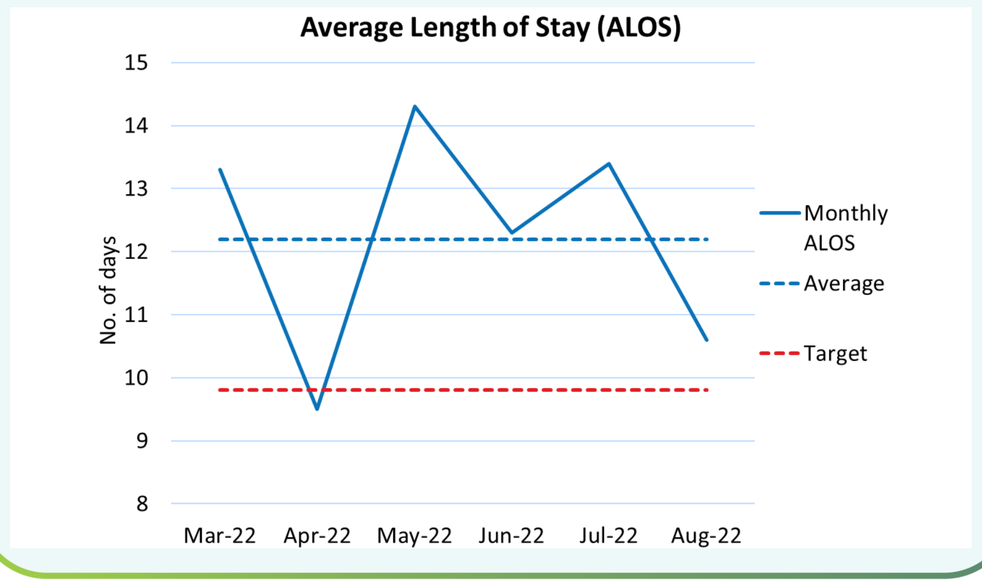
Problem Statement

Prolonged hospitalization is associated with increased mortality, increased risk of hospital acquired infections, functional decline and institutionalization in older adults.



Project Aim

Aim: To reduce ALOS of patients admitted to the geriatric ward from 12.3 days in Aug 2022 to 9.81 days by Aug 2023

Potential contributing factors include

- 98% did not have a documented medical clearance date
- 3.54 days required to decide for MSW referral
- 9 days before discharge plans are communicated to family

Lessons Learnt

Have a good representation of different multidisciplinary members in your QI team

- Views the problem from a different perspective and helps in the development of innovative solutions

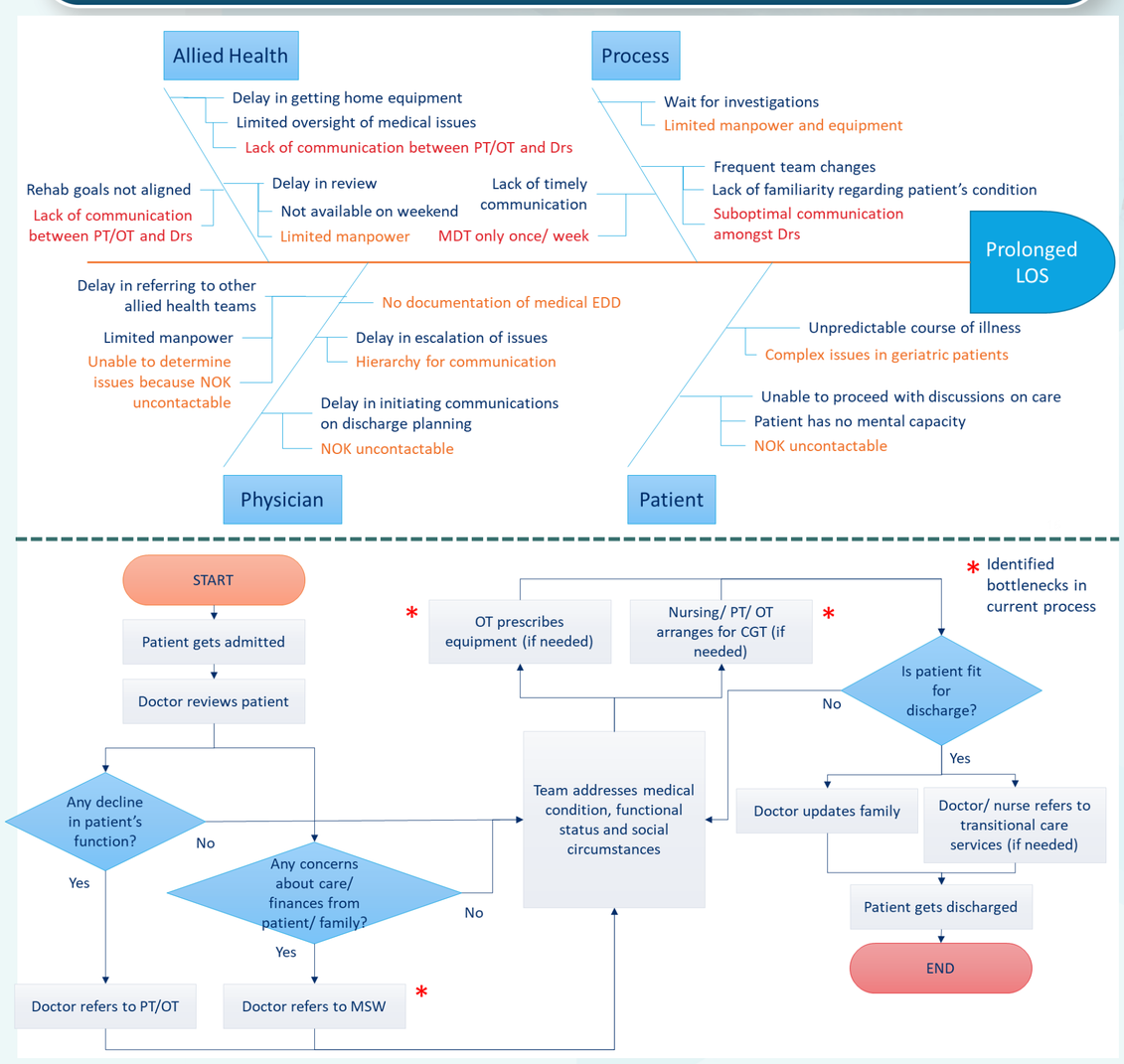
Maintain close communications with those on the ground

- Obtain regular feedback from those implementing the proposed solution
- Listen to their feedback and review processes accordingly
- Helps to maintain morale too

Stay positive!

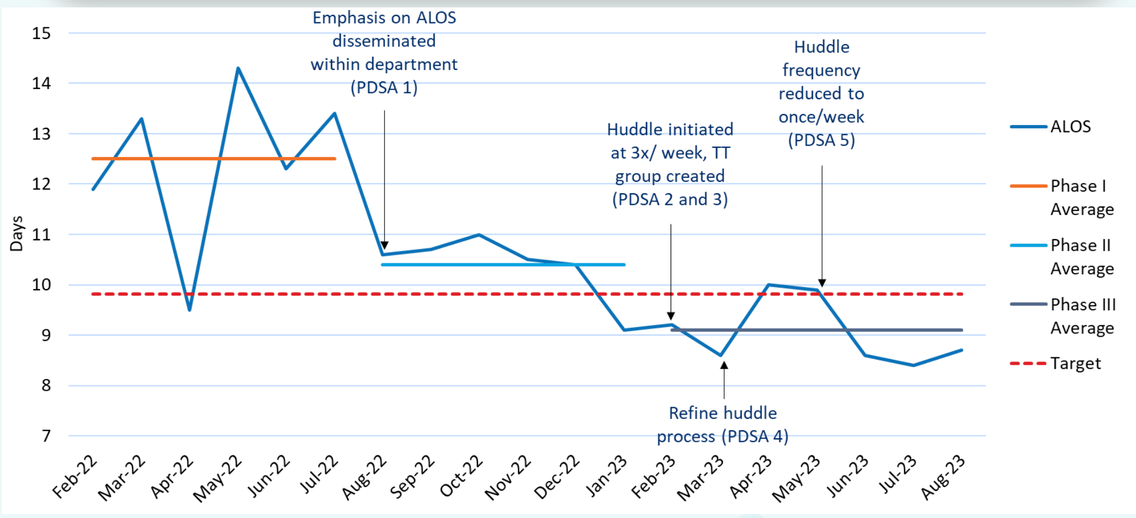
- Persist with your efforts and you will find your rewards

Potential Solutions



Proposed solution: regular huddle to expedite discharge processes and enhance communications with the team

Outcomes & Impacts



ALOS came down from 12.3 days to 9.1 days

- 91.8% have a documented medical clearance date
- Communication on discharge plans initiated within 3 days from admission
- Estimated savings per patient $524

Sustainability

- Role of discharge navigator
- Extend initiatives to the rest of the wards and disciplines

Potential areas for further development

- Link up with relevant transitional care services/ community partners upon discharge
- Follow up on patient/ caregiver coping post discharge