

### EMPOWERED – A Renal Care Pathway for Chronic Kidney Disease Patients as Partners

#### Introduction

In October 2011, based on patients/carers and staff interviews plus research of clinical guidelines, the development of the Renal Care Pathway facilitated a new model of case management, embedded into clinical practice, empowering pre-dialysis patients to self-manage their condition.

#### Aim

To develop and implement an individualised Renal Care Pathway for all pre-dialysis patients by empowering patients to self manage, thus improving the uptake of home dialysis therapies.

#### Method

- stakeholder Engagement identified the development of a renal care plan as the ideal solution to streamline renal care for pre-dialysis patients
- working party developed pathway frame work and documentation
- identified best practice via liaison with Chronic/Complex Care Program
- adapted appropriate model to suit renal patients' needs
- education of staff regarding changes to care planning
- development of an implementation strategy

#### Conclusion

It is evident that a Renal Care Pathway embedded into Clinical Practice improves care co-ordination, enhances patient preparation for dialysis, improves patient psychosocial welfare, increases number of patients commencing home dialysis and empowers patients giving them the confidence, knowledge and skills to be actively engaged in their own care.

#### Acknowledgements

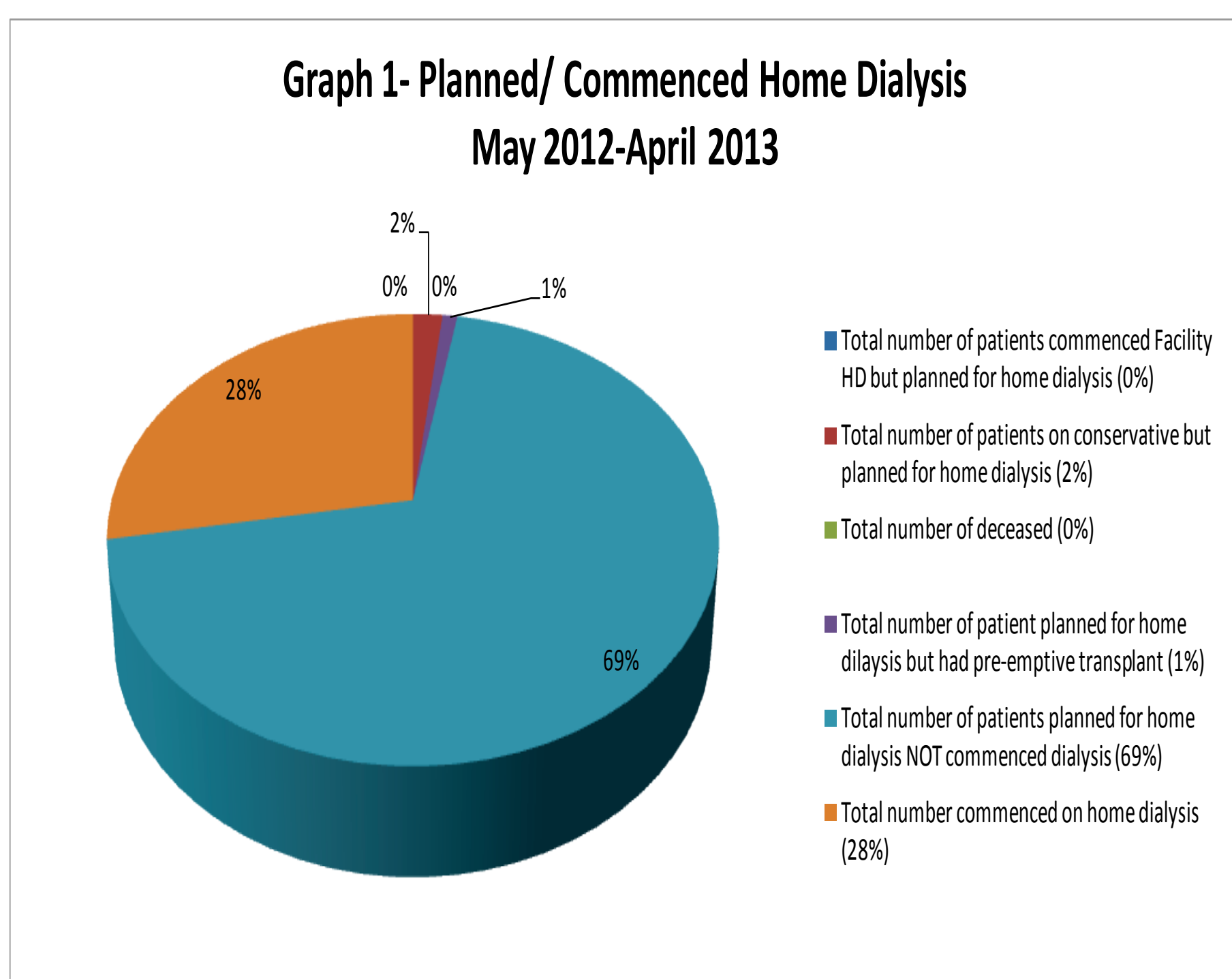
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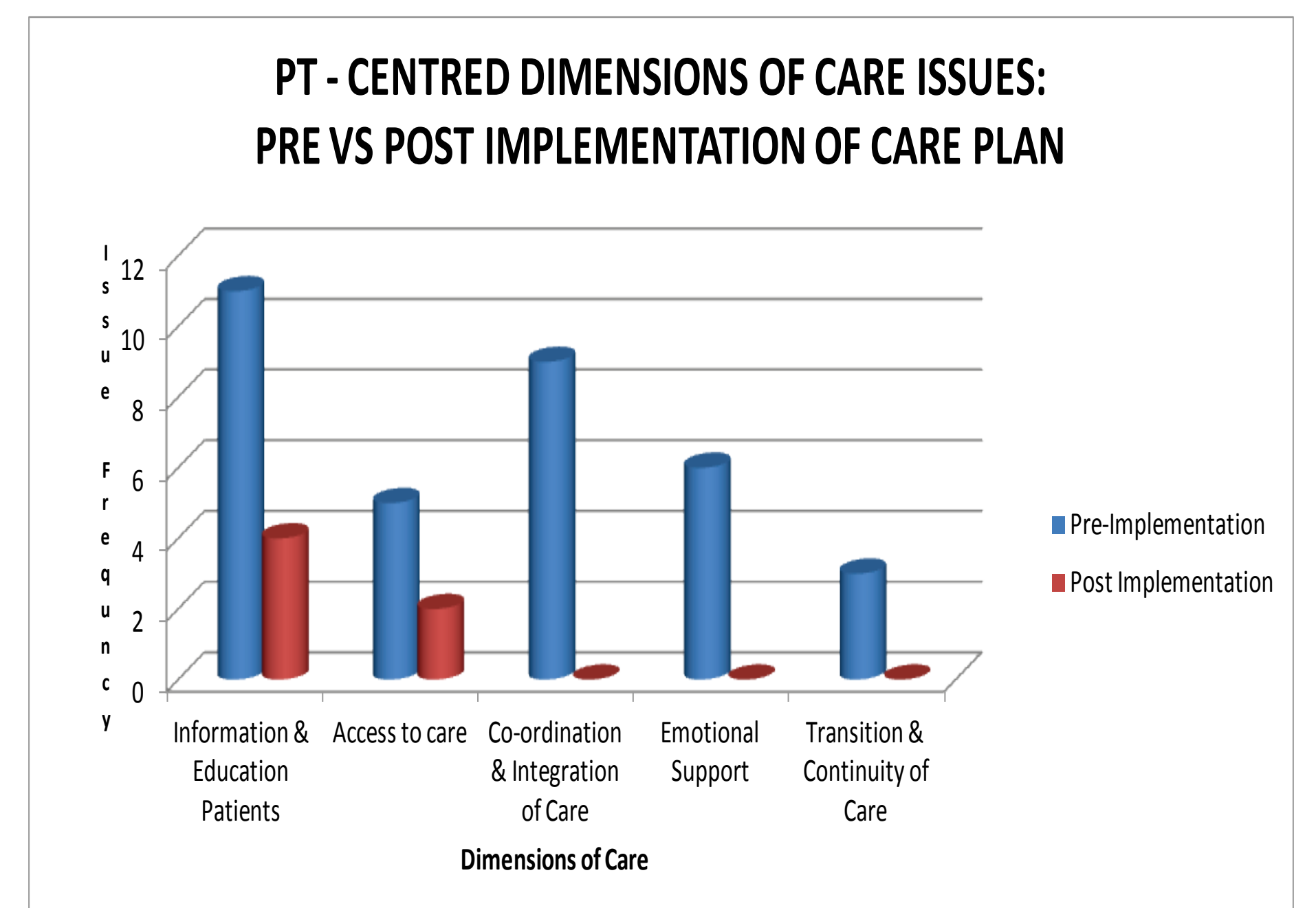
The authors would like to acknowledge all the staff from SWSLHD Renal Service



Graph 1 –Planned /Commenced Home Dialysis May 12-Apr 13

#### Results

- 100% (n=179) of new pre-dialysis patients commenced a structured multi-disciplinary care pathway between May 2012 and April 2013
- number of patients planned for home dialysis rose from 19% to 69% (n=101), (Graph 1)
- increased uptake in home dialysis (45%) empowering patients to make decisions about treatment choice
- overall improvement in care coordination and patient satisfaction (Graph 2)



Graph 2 - Patient Centre Dimensions of Care Issues