# STOP Project

Prepared by **Dawn Fowler**The Sutherland Hospital STOP Project Team



A patient with metastatic breast cancer was noted to have thrombocytopenia.

A iron studies level was ordered by the registrar for "completeness" and the patients ferritin was markedly elevated.

The Consultant was unsure of the significance of the result, which led to a bone marrow biopsy.

The bone marrow biopsy did not change the treatment plan for the patient and she died from her disease 3 days post procedure.



### 2014

- We knew:
  - The quality and volume of pathology had been unmeasured and unquestioned for some time
  - There was harm associated with pathology
  - There was waste
- We didn't know:
  - How big 'the problem' was
  - How to define 'inappropriate ordering'
  - How would we could minimise waste while ensuring clinically relevant tests were not affected



# Sensible Test Ordering Project

### Excessive utilisation of pathology impacts:

- Increased risk of harm
- Increases workload
- Decreases test turn-around time
- Increases healthcare costs
- Increased diagnostic blood loss- iatrogenic anaemia
- Risk of pursuing irrelevant results delaying management or discharge of both



### What did we do?

- Appointed a STOP Project Officer- developed a plan linked to the LHD Road Map to Excellence
- Looked at the data
  - Ten tests accounted for 80% of the cost
  - There was obvious low hanging fruit
- Identified high volume users
  - Who knew where there was waste and potential harm
  - Who wanted to change practice
- Created a flexible multi-intervention strategy which was driven by local stakeholders

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### What did we do?

- Each specialty identified high frequency tests which were ordered:
  - Inappropriately
  - Too frequently
  - Not frequently enough
- Consensus opinion was that JMO's, registrar's, nurses ordered:
  - 'Just in Case'
  - Not necessarily what was clinically indicated 'a full set'

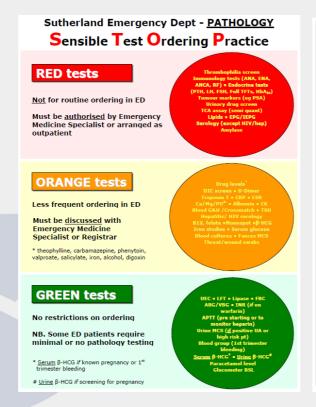
Health

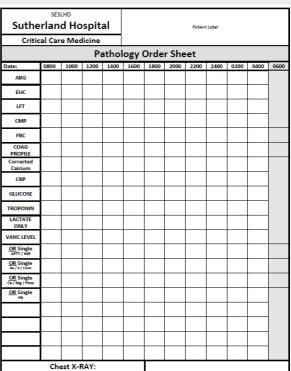
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What they thought the boss wanted

# How did we make the change??

- Each specialty then identified an appropriate strategy for their area.
- Top down & bottom up
- EMR changes



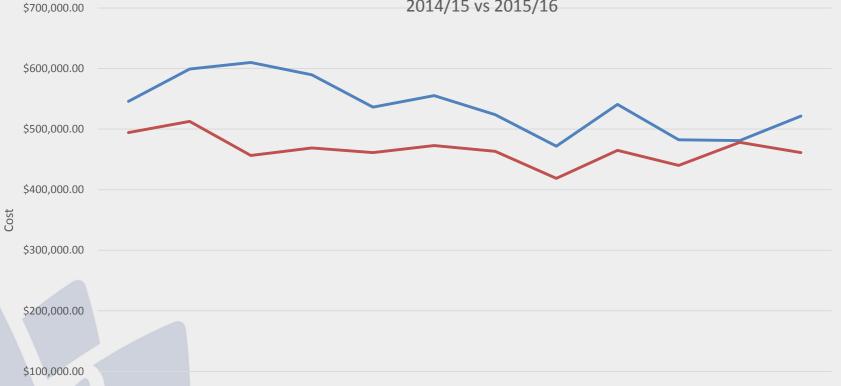


# Top Ten Test Reduction

Top Ten Tests (by volume)	FY14-15	FY15-16	% Decrease in volume		
Admin Fee	78801	74136	6%		
Full Blood Count	43680	38536	12%		
Electrolytes (EUC)	42112	37050	12%		
Liver Function Tests	18559	13857	25%		
Cacomprehensive Metabolic Panel (CMP)	18618	13565	17%		
CRP	15519	11109	18%		
Coagulation Profile	10890	6562	40%		
Troponin	8133	5421	34%		
Urine Microscopy and Culture	6573	5726	13%		
Blood Gas (venous and arterial)	8197	7338	12%		
Grand Total	250188	208853	17%		



# Sutherland Hospital: Total Cost per Month 2014/15 vs 2015/16



\$-	01-Jul	02-Aug	03-Sep	04-Oct	05-Nov	06-Dec	07-Jan	08-Feb	09-Mar	10-Apr	11-May	12-Jun
FY14-15	\$545,817.	\$599,315.	\$610,149.	\$589,776.	\$536,383.	\$555,273.	\$523,983.	\$471,756.	\$540,810.	\$482,376.	\$481,086.	\$521,538.
FY15-16	\$494,384.	\$512,769.	\$456,525.	\$468,970.	\$461,240.	\$472,913.	\$463,427.	\$418,762.	\$464,921.	\$440,114.	\$478,246.	\$461,141.



# STOP Outcomes

- 15% reduction in overall pathology
- TSH
  - \$250,000.00 reduction in 2014/15
  - \$741,000.00 additional reduction in 2015/16
  - \$138,000 2016/17 YTD
- 6% reduction in overall specimen collection
- Refined ordering practices and clinical order sets in ICU & ED
- Engagement with Junior Medical Staff in minimising harm
- Development of cohesive strategy which is applicable to all facilities across the state

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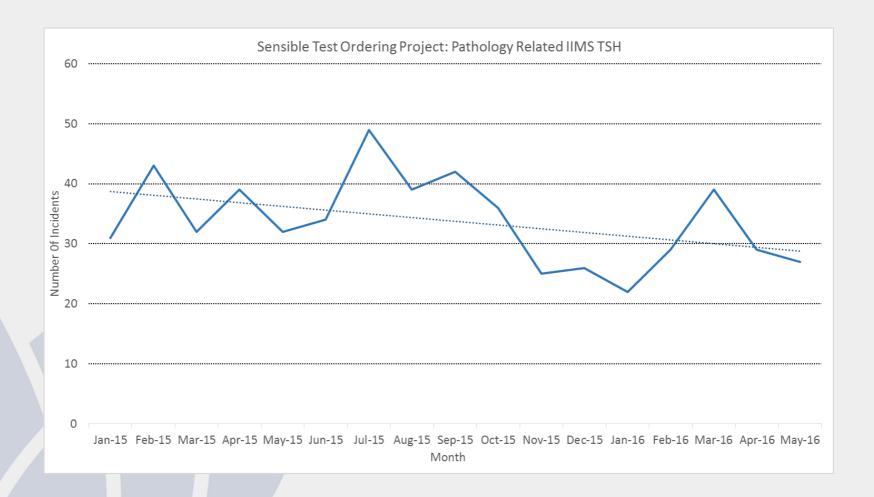
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Expansion of Project Across the LHD

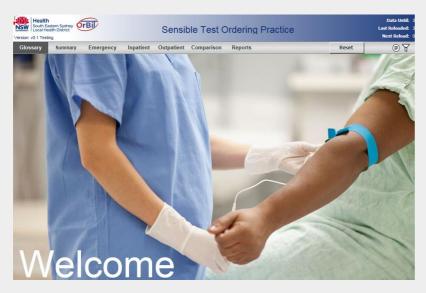
### Sutherland Hospital: Test Cost/Month Trend July 2014 - June 2016













### Sensible Test Ordering Project



### Key Ingredients For Sutherland Hospital STOP Success:

#### Target Low Hanging Fruit

- UMCS
- Top 8 test
- Swap in's (APTT or INR instead of Coagulation Profile, NA or K instead of EUC, HB instead of FRC)
- Privately referred non-inpatient/Outpatient billing

#### Target High Volume/High Cost Areas

- Emergency Department
- Intensive Care/Critical Care Areas
- Small reductions here account for huge \$\$ savings (1 less ABG per patient per day = \$700.00 per week!!)

#### Collaborate with Key Stakeholders

- Strong Executive sponsorship, in particular a medical sponsor
- Subspecialty intervention must be driven by the clinicians and tailored to their needs
- Find allies for the project.
- Present their data
- Ask them to identify where they think there is waste, only the experts in the field can tell you
  where there is waste.
- Top down, Bottom up.

#### Make data Meaningful

- This is a data driven project. Huge volumes of data must be meaningful to the clinicians
- Separate per speciality, per doctor
- Remove Critical Care areas and ED from specialty reports and report these as locations, not within specialities.
- Split data per presentation/separation/OBD (denominator TBC)

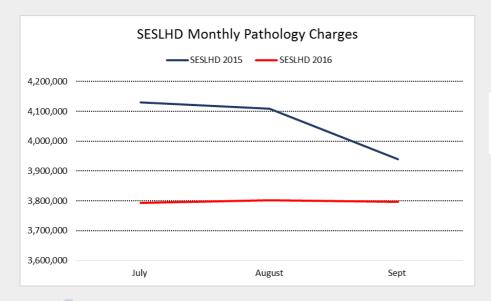
#### eMR

- Work as a district to identify valuable changes in eMR
- · Develop appropriate blocks in ordering (create some friction)
- Discuss value of adding price signalling to catalogue
- Develop specialty order sets to sit within EMR









\$804,154 or 6.61% reduction in cost

	This					YTD	
	Period	YTD	YTD	YTD	Ytd var Sept	PY1	
Facility or Equiv	Actuals	Actuals	Budgets	Variance	2015	Actuals	\$ Change
POW Hospital	1,352,980	4,022,309	4,098,278	75,969	-691,789	4,304,254	-\$ 281,945
Royal Hospital For Women	255,510	828,086	713,896	-114,190	-94,947	774,465	\$ 53,621
Sydney Hospital	136,891	410,367	380,685	-29,682	-77,785	438,375	-\$ 28,008
St George Hospital	1,421,619	4,329,622	4,405,354	75,732	-249,529	4,788,085	-\$ 458,463
Sutherland Hospital	533,893	1,592,160	1,521,630	-70,530	47,454	1,720,201	-\$ 128,041
Mental Health SESLHD	86,153	181,785	122,240	-59,545	-20,746	143,103	\$ 38,682
Total SESLHD	3,787,046	11,364,330	11,242,083	-122,247	-1,087,343	12,168,484	-\$ 804,154

