# Breaking Down Barriers & Reducing Restraints in the Intensive Care Unit

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### **PURPOSE STATEMENT**

In intubated Intensive Care Unit (ICU) patients, how many unplanned extubations occur in unrestrained patients compared with those restrained with soft wrist restraints?

#### **BACKGROUND**

Non-violent soft wrist restraints total hours in restraints

**FY19** 

**FY20** 

2,745.9 hours

7,742.8 hours

**FY21** 

**FY22** 

8,584.3 hours

753.2 hours

**FY23** 

0.5 hours

Documentation compliance consistently <90%











Scan the QR code for references and contact information.

# PRACTICE CHANGE & IMPLEMENTATION

#### **AUGUST 2021**

Standard of care: Place soft wrist restraints on all patients on a ventilator upon arrival to the ICU, or when intubation occurred for airway protection, and because we felt this was the best way to keep these patients safe. We knew that we had opportunities for improvement and began researching what other organizations were doing, how we could improve our documentation compliance, and how we could improve patient and family experiences in our ICU.

#### **JUNE 2021**

American Hospital Association mock survey

#### **JULY 2021 SURVEY RESULTS**

Utilization of restraints without regard to physical behaviors Lack of Physician orders Lack of updated care plans Lack of RCA on prolonged restraint use Policies needed updated

#### **AUGUST 2021**

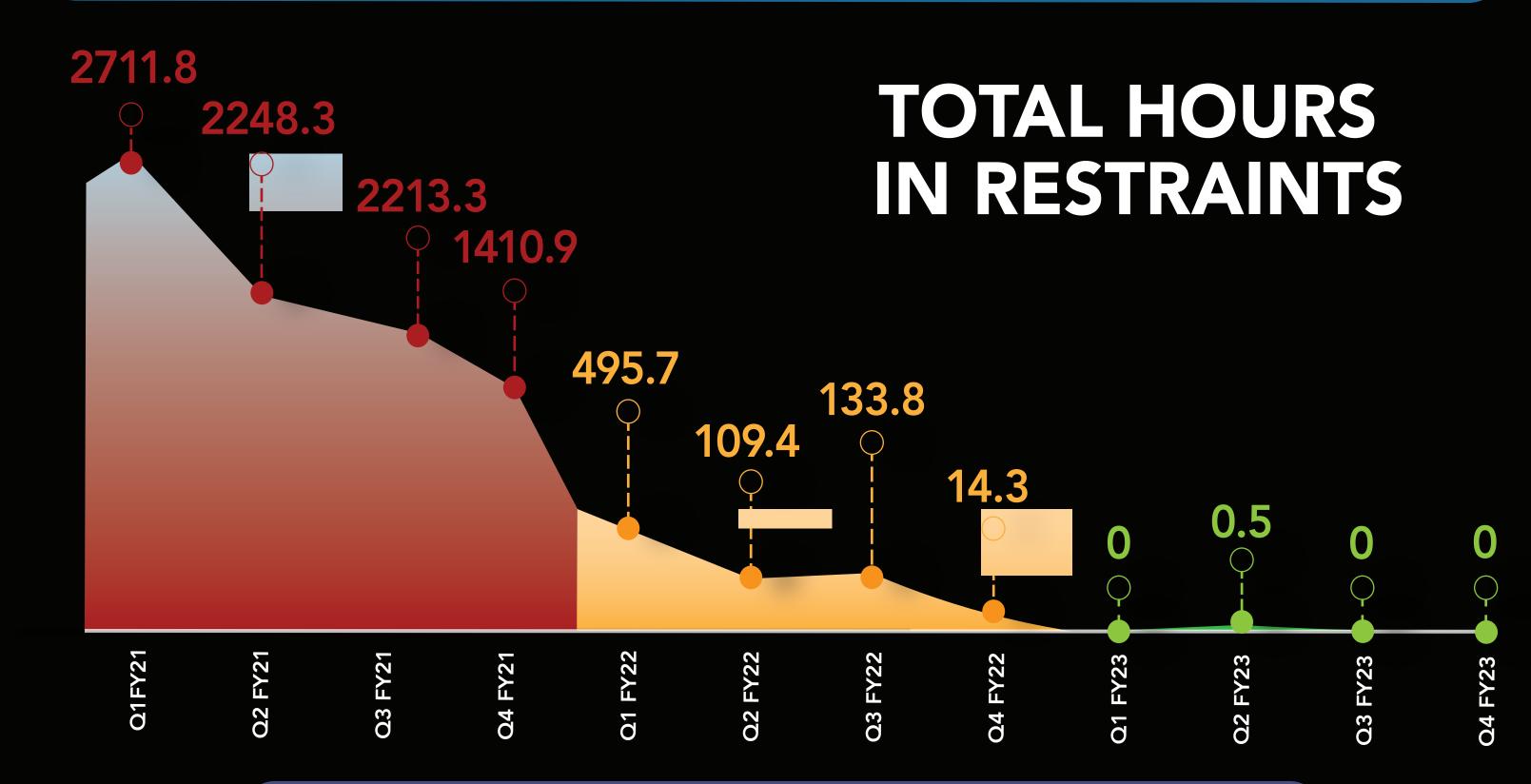
Developed new standard of care Updated policies (removed unsecured mitts) Educated staff and providers Trial with five patients

#### **SEPTEMBER 2021**

Full implementation and roll out "No restraint use" standard of care.

## **EVALUATION**

Historically, we have audited charts with patients that have been restrained for greater than 72 hours. However, we recognized that we were unable to prevent prolonged restraint use because they had already been restrained greater than 72 hours when the audit occurred. We also we unable to meet the goal of 90 percent compliance in our documentation. We made the decision to add to our audit tool, and audit charts of patients that have been restrained greater than 24 and greater than 48 hours. This provides us with an opportunity to prevent prolonged restraint use and continue to improve patient outcomes.



# **CONCLUSIONS & IMPLICATIONS** FOR PRACTICE

Soft wrist restraints have been REDUCED BY >99%

Q1 2022: 20 patients physically restrained Q2 2022: 4 patients physically restrained

Q3 2022: 7 patients physically restrained

Q4 2022: 1 patient physically restrained

Q1 2023: 0 patients physically restrained

Q2 2023: 1 patient physically restrained

Q3 2023: 0 patients physically restrained

Q4 2023: 0 patients physically restrained