

Improving Colorectal Cancer Screening Rates Sanford Wahpeton Clinic

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Objective

The objective is to improve colon cancer screening rates to 75% by the June 20, 2019. Baseline was 66.3% in January 2019.

Background

According to the American Cancer Society, in 2017 in the US, an estimated 135,430 people will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and about 50,260 people will die from the disease. Making it the 3rd most commonly diagnosed cancer in men and women. It is estimated that more than half of all cases could have been prevented by regular screening!

Sanford Wahpeton Clinic noted to have a significant number of patients overdue for screening. As an enterprise, Sanford strives to reach an 80% colon cancer screening rate for our patients aged 50-75. As of January 2019, Sanford Wahpeton Clinic had a 66.3% screening rate.

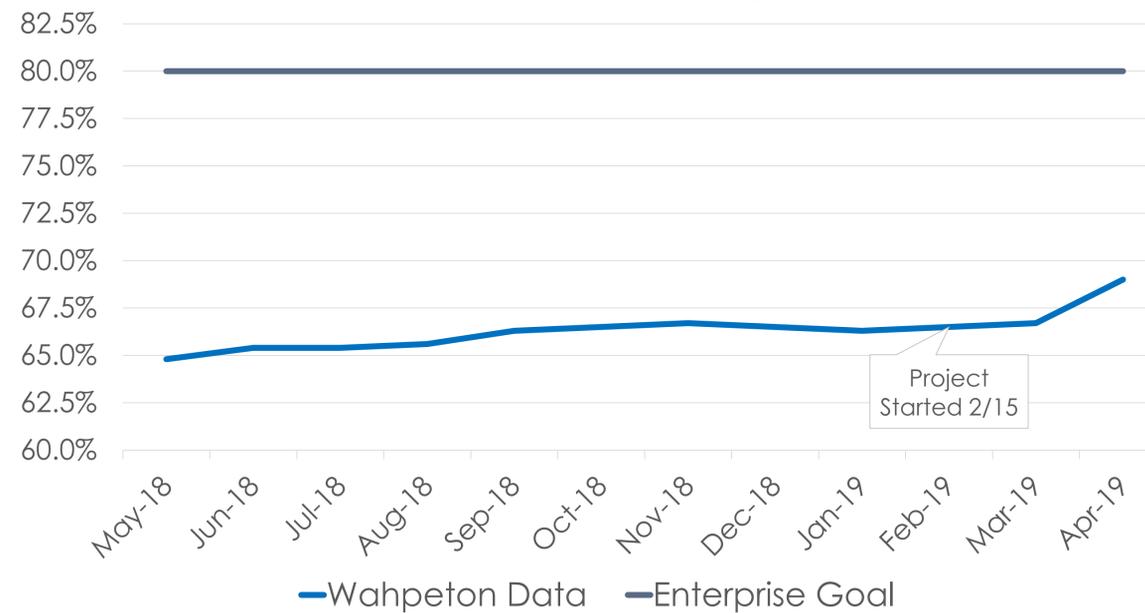
Actions Taken

- Project Charter completed, regular weekly meetings set up and monthly reports outs
- Educated care team on the quality measure, screening options and resources available
- Set up reports within EMR for nurse
- Train nurse on the workflows for outreaching patients
- Nurse began outreaching to patients overdue for screening and educated them on the three available screening options
 - Colonoscopy, Cologuard or FIT testing
 - If patient was willing to do FIT, we were offering to mail this to the patient free of charge and include return postage
- If patient was agreeable to screening, nurse placed orders per protocol
- Staff participated in Colo-Bingo which was offered during the month of March
- Window painted with a catchy saying and patient education available in lobby during the month of March
- Performed clean up of the registry to ensure that we were outreaching to our correct patient population.
- Obtained access to Cologuard portal

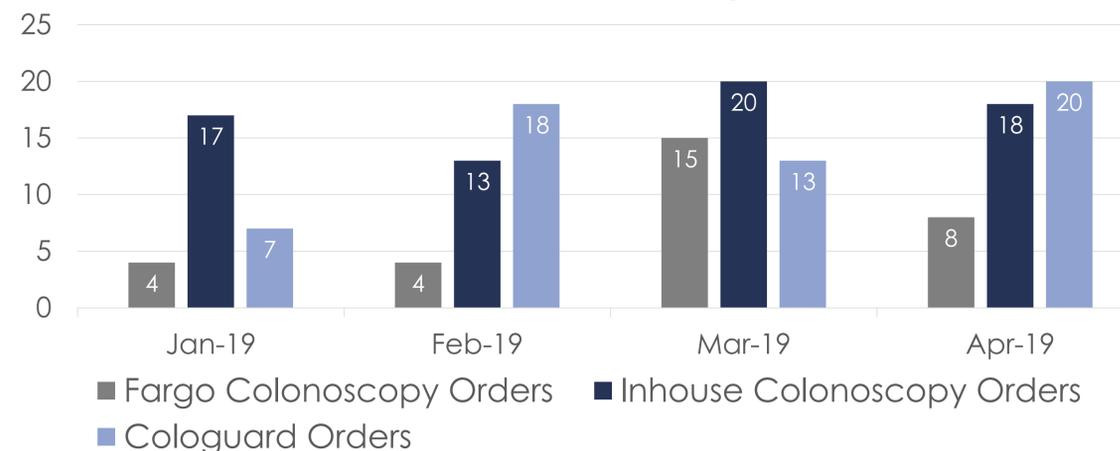
Metrics

As of April 2019, we were able to improve our colon cancer screening rates to 69%. We are trending towards our goal of 75% by the end of June.

Colon Cancer Screening Rates



Colon Cancer Screening Orders



Analysis

Nearing the end of our grant, we feel confident that we have been able to improve our colon cancer screening rates. Our quality data through the month of April 2019, shows an improvement of 2.5% since the start of this project. Prior to this, we had been stagnant near 66% for the last year. We are hopeful to get near our goal of 75% by the end of June.

Some of the lessons learned throughout this process:

- We were much more successful with a nurse doing outreach vs an unlicensed staff
- We had zero patients request FIT testing, opting for colonoscopy or Cologuard instead
- Dedicated clean up resulted in 249 patients being removed from our panel

Overall this grant has aided in education on colon cancer screening throughout our care teams.

Next Steps

- Continue to have nurse do outreach on a monthly basis to patients that are overdue for colon cancer screening
- Involve all members of the team to ensure we are offering when the patient is in for an exam (Patient access staff on check in, rooming nurse and provider upon exam)
- Utilize Cologuard portal to watch for patients that have not returned their screening and/or follow patients with positive results to ensure appropriate follow up has been made.
- Continue to watch our monthly quality scores
- Share best practices with other sites



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