

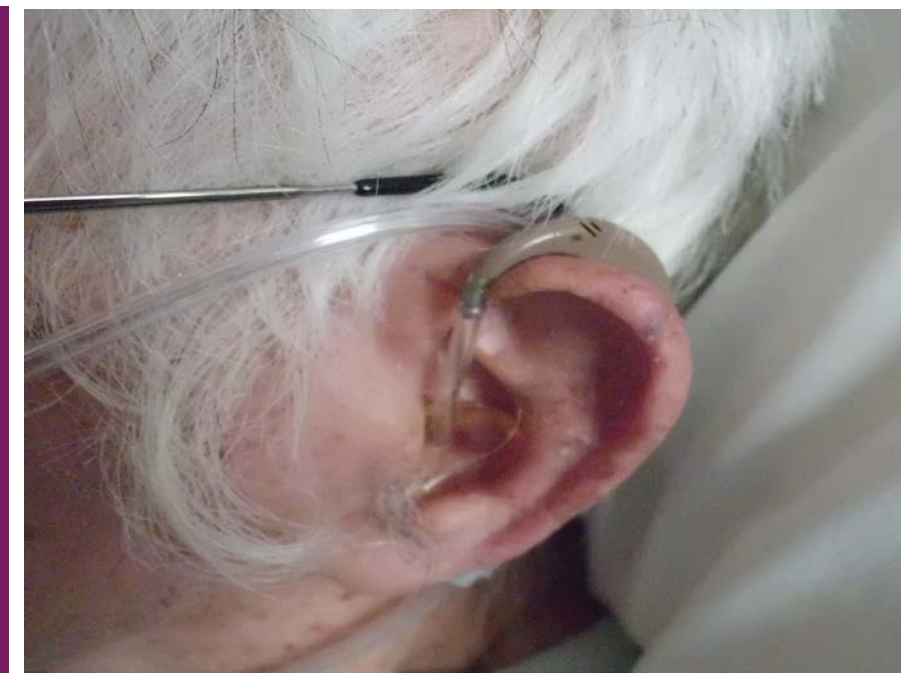
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UPMC Passavant

## Project Aim

To decrease the number of ear Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcers (HAPU) related to the use of nasal cannulas in the adult, acute population by at least 50 percent.

## Description of the Problem

- ⚓ Audits identified greater than 25% of HAPUs occurred over the ears related to the use of nasal cannulas.
- ⚓ Analysis of the problem: revealed that pressure ulcer development was the result of the use of rigid oxygen tubing



## Background

- ⚓ A Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcer (HAPU) is a negative outcome from a quality of life and a financial reimbursement standpoint, and all healthcare providers play a role in protecting the patient from this adverse event.
- ⚓ "Skin Saver" team audits, provide hospital wide monthly snap shots of pressure ulcer prevalence utilizing the NDNQI criteria.

### References

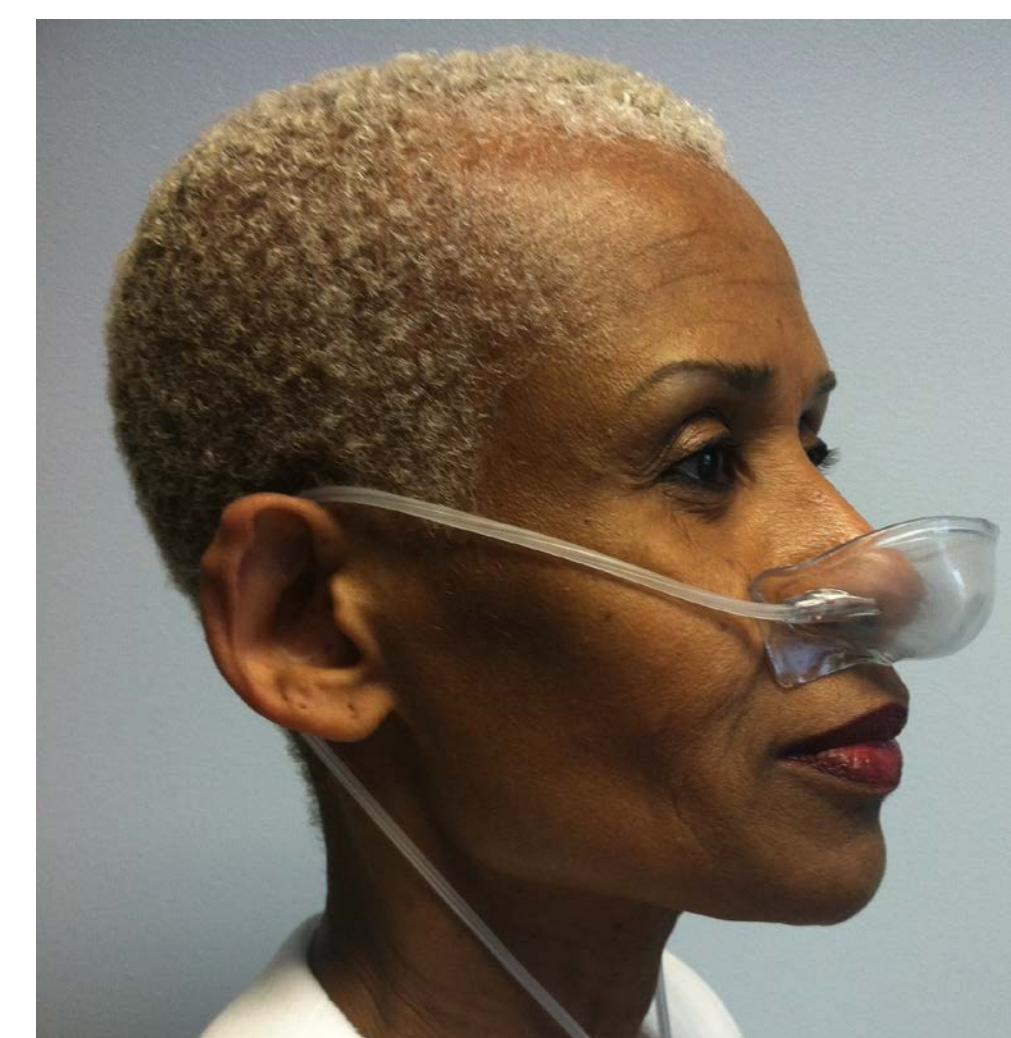
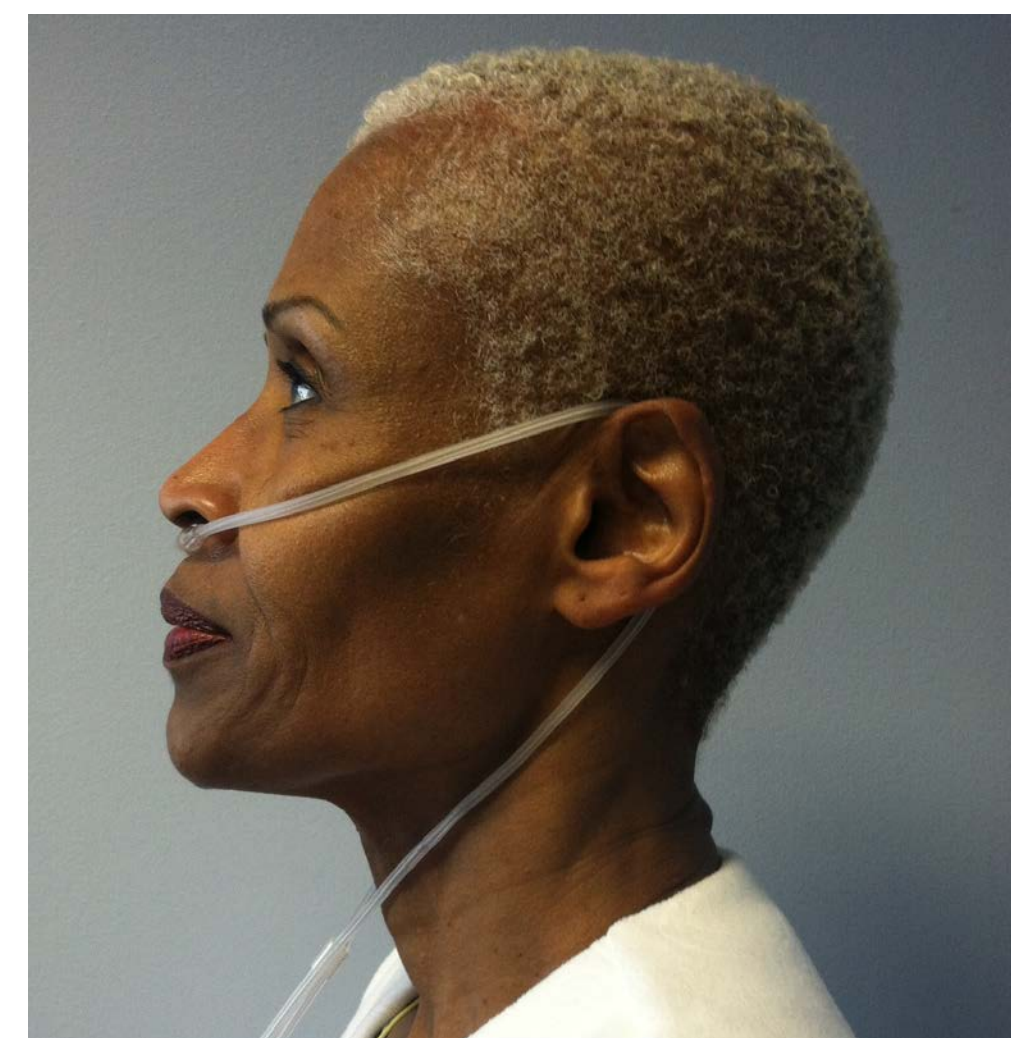
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Bryant, R., Nix D. (2012). *Acute & chronic wounds current management concepts: Skin pathology and types of damage*. St Louis, MO: Mosby.  
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## Actions Taken

A multidisciplinary team, comprised of Skin Savers, Wound Care, Central Distribution, Nursing, Respiratory and Quality, convened to perform a FOCUS PDSA and formulate an action plan.

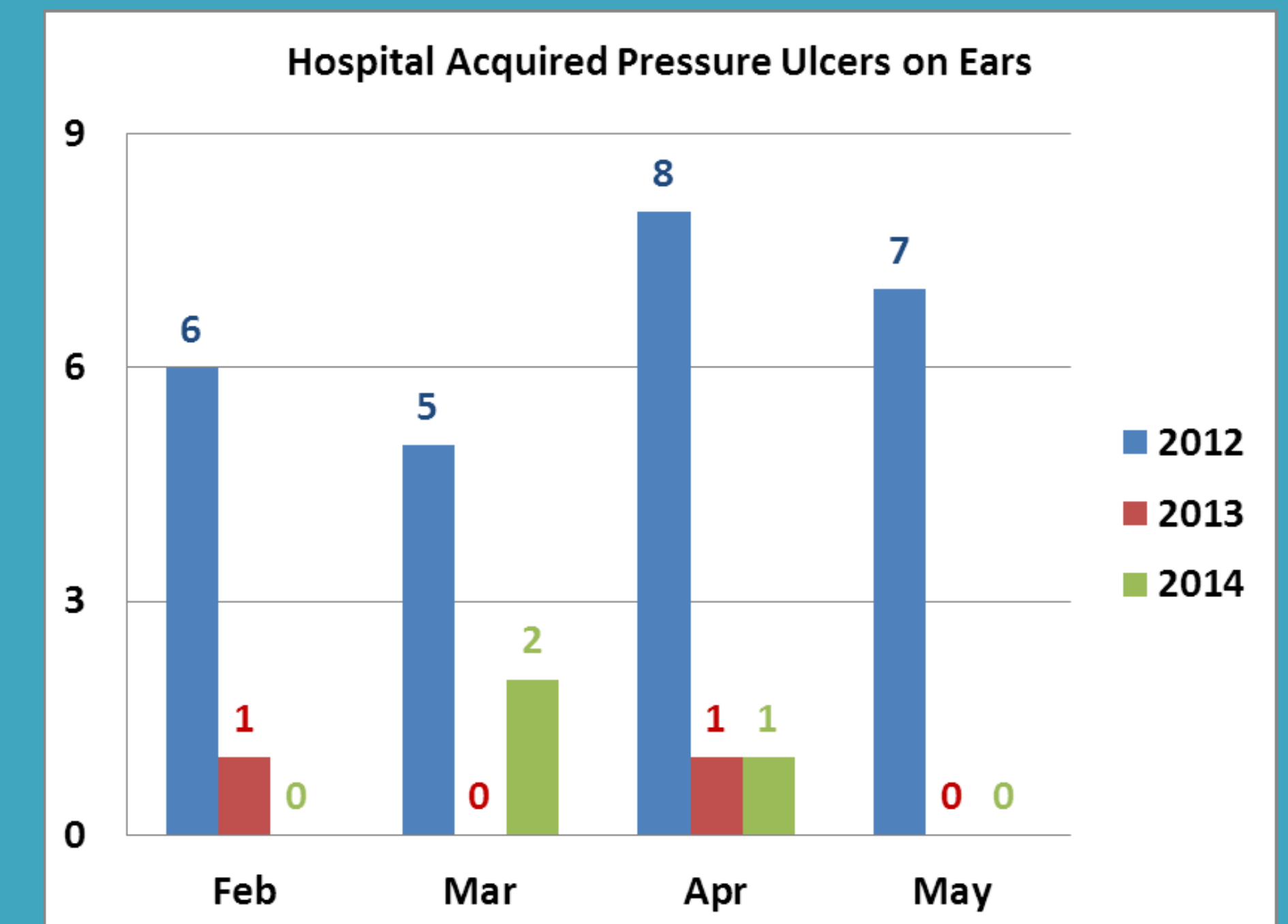
Decision/Action Plan:

- ⚓ Trial a soft nasal cannula, on a designated nursing unit, and compare pressure ulcer prevalence to like units utilizing the existing product comprised of a rigid plastic material.
- ⚓ Education to staff on appropriate application of the nasal cannula and the importance of daily assessment, and early intervention.



## Summary of Results

- ⚓ The trial resulted in a decrease in the number of pressure ulcers on the designated unit of 100%.
- ⚓ Sustained improvement with greater than 90% decrease in the prevalence of pressure ulcers related to the ear over the past two years



### Project Team

- ⚓ Janet Mullen BSN, BEd, RN, CWOCN, CFCN, Sr. Professional Wound Care Nurse
- ⚓ Jessica Johnston, BSN RN, COCN, Professional Staff Nurse, Wound Care
- ⚓ Yvonne Weideman, DNP, MBA, RN, CNE, Professional Staff Nurse, Wound Care
- ⚓ Janet Surrena, MSN, RN, Unit Director, Wound Care
- ⚓ Constance Pearson, MPM, CPHQ, RN, Quality and Risk Department
- ⚓ Linda Bryner, RRT, Director, Respiratory Therapy
- ⚓ Tom Schall, Director, Central Distribution
- ⚓ Cindy Stauber, MSN, RN, Unit Director, 3 Main
- ⚓ Terrie Craig, MSN, APRN, BC-RN, Nurse Clinician, 3 Main
- ⚓ Melanie Jackson, BSN, RN, Nurse Clinician, 3 Main
- ⚓ Carol Gorman, RN, Senior Professional Staff Nurse, 3 Main
- ⚓ Melissa Godfrey, RRT Lead Respiratory Therapist, Quality Council Representative
- ⚓ "Skin Savers" Skin Care Team Unit Representatives



## Impact on Organization

- ⚓ \$50,000 savings for Passavant Hospital
- ⚓ Propriety elastomeric medical thermoplastic Nasal Cannula implemented throughout facility and health system
- ⚓ The Wound & Skin Department adopted the PDSA Focus as the template for all future quality improvement efforts.