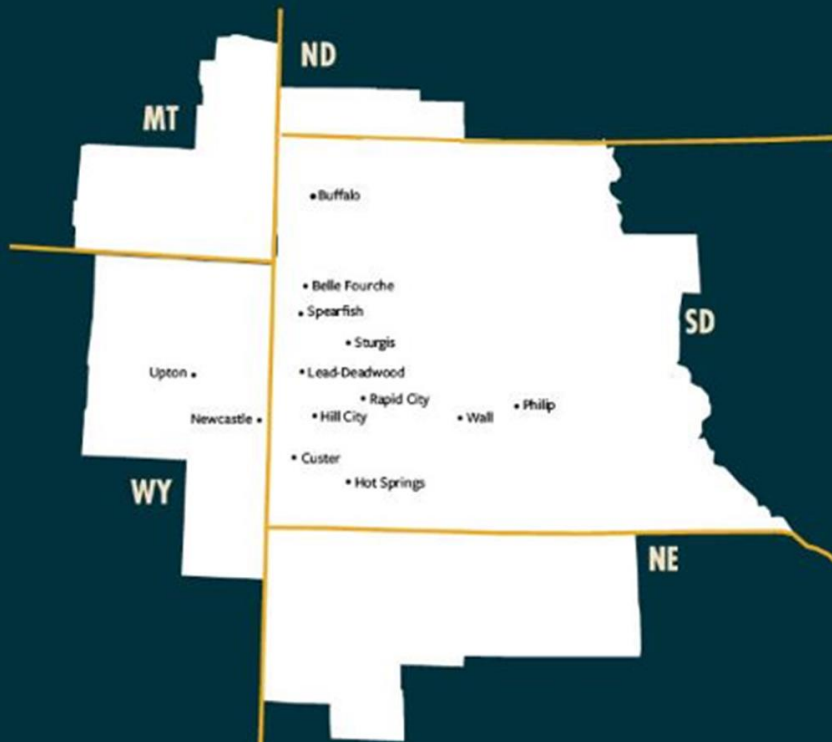


Collaborative Approach to Manage Hospital-to-Nursing Home Transitions

Nita Dunham, MS, RN, CMAC,
CDP, NE-BC

Senior Director Case
Management





LARGEST HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IN WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA

5 hospitals | 2 managed hospitals

24 clinic locations

1 assisted living facility | 2 care centers

6 urgent cares

8 specialty treatment centers:

John T. Vucurevich Cancer Care Institute,
Heart & Vascular Institute, Rehabilitation Institutes (2)
Behavioral Health Center, Dialysis Centers (2)
Surgery Center, Orthopedic and Specialty Hospital





VISION

It starts with heart.

Our vision is to be one team, to listen, to be inclusive,
and to show we care.

To do the right thing. Every time.

VALUES

Trust
Respect
Compassion
Community
Excellence

PRIORITIES

Deliver high-quality care
Provide a caring experience
Be a great place to work
Impact our communities
Be here for generations to come

MISSION

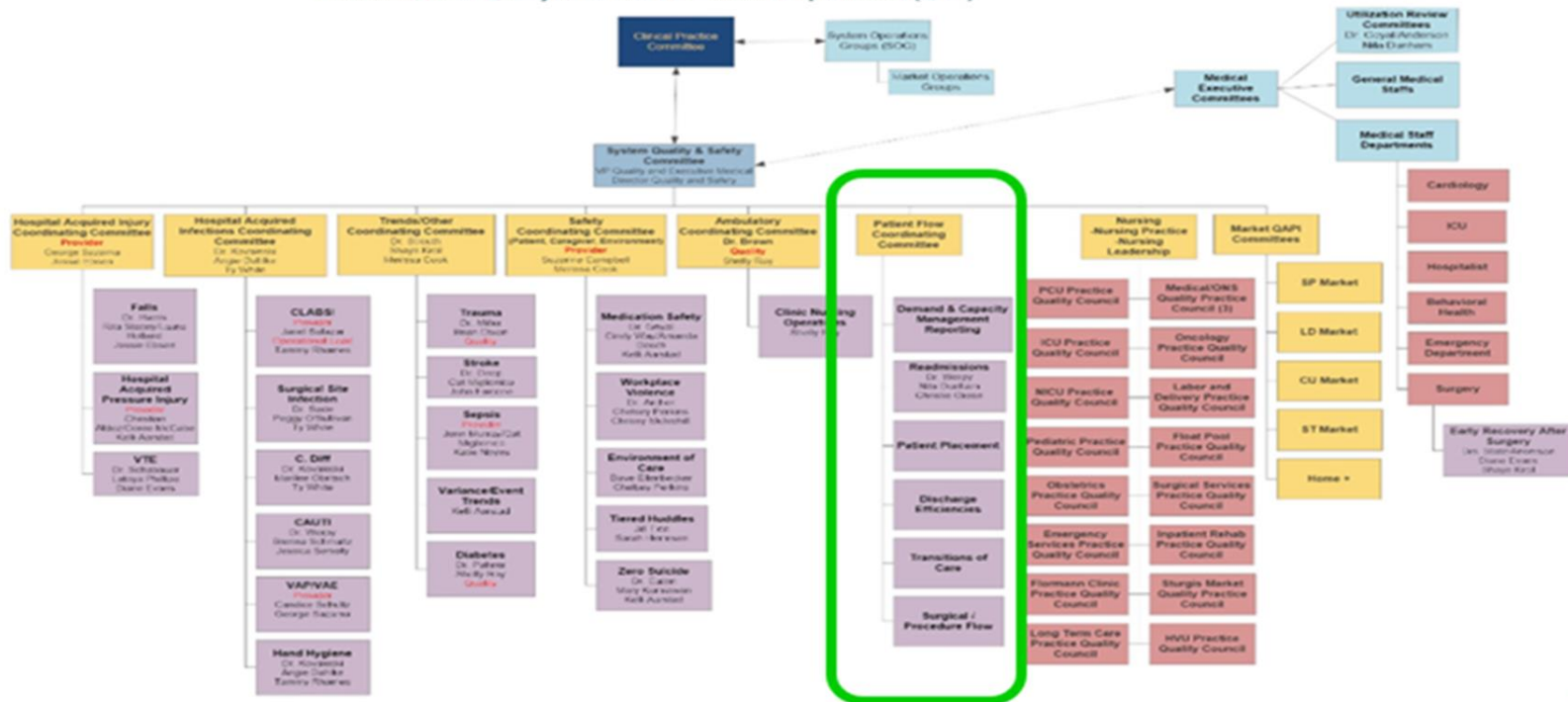
Make a difference. Every day.

Learning Objectives

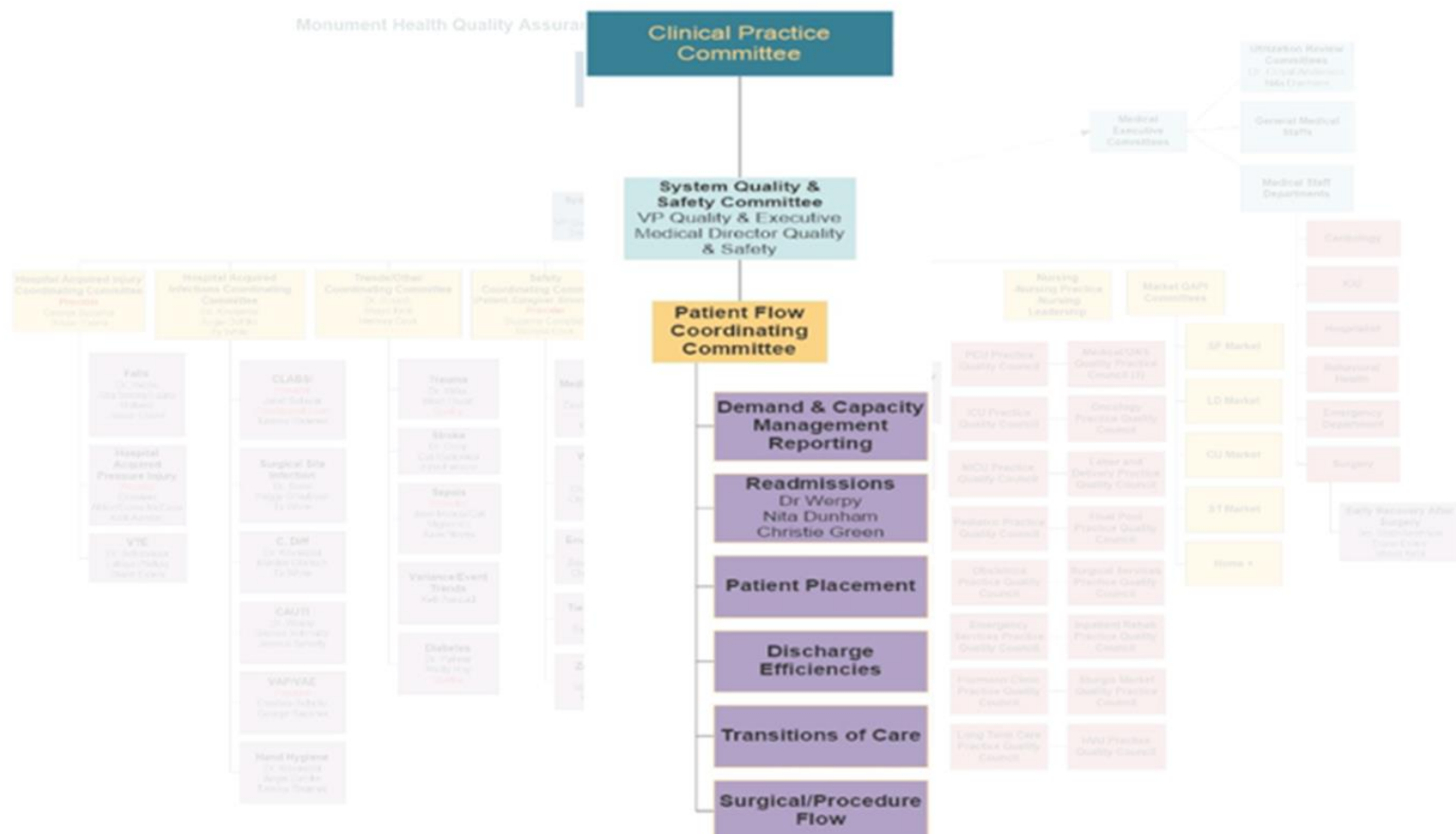
1. Review the processes for creating the Geriatric Forum Collaborative and integrating improvement strategies.
2. Discuss regulatory requirements that impact transitions in care, including formalized Nursing Home Transfer Agreement.
3. Describe standardized workflows and the sustainability plan for continued success.

Quality Assurance Performance Improvement (QAPI)

Monument Health Quality Assurance Performance Improvement (QAPI)



QAPI - Patient Flow Structure



Opportunities and Charter Development

Problem / Opportunity Statement:

Lack of consistent workflows, expectations and understanding of regulatory requirements between hospital and Nursing Homes, leads to inefficiencies, communication issues, safety concerns and delays in transitions in care.



Top Challenges

Multiple inefficiencies that contribute to concerns about patient safety and impacts caregiver / provider satisfaction with the current process.



Black Hills Geriatric Collaborative Team

- Performance Management
- EMR colleagues
- Nursing Leadership
- Case Management
- Geriatric Nursing Home Providers
- LTC Directors of Nursing
- Hospitalist Leadership
- Ad Hoc: Pharmacy, Wound Care,
- Therapy, Medical Equipment



Committee Objectives Goals:

Areas of focus:

- Discharge Orders
- Ancillary Services
- Case Management Workflows
- Medications
- Nursing Home expectations
- Provider expectations
- Nursing contributions
- EMR functionality



Projects Identified - Orders



Standardized Admission Orders for LTC

- All Nursing Homes had different admission Orders
- Providers didn't know what to do

Optimized Discharge Orders for SNF discharges

- Created Nursing Home specific discharge order set



Community Based Projects

- **Pharmacy:**
 - Home medication
 - Diagnosis expectations
- **Nursing Home expectations:**
 - Referral/Response expectations
 - Nice to have vs Have to have
- **Geriatric provider workflows & expectations:**
 - FAQs
 - Nice to have vs Have to have
 - Hospice Orders workflows / order completion

Case Management Focused Projects



Discharge
Timeout
Checklist



Expectations
between LTC
and Case
Management



Expectations
around
Covid



Improved
Case
Management
Workflows



Funding for
Post Acute
Care

Projects Identified con't

Therapy Progression:

- Prior Level of Functioning
- Capacity for continued progress

Wound Care:

- Instructions / Recommendations for post acute care treatment

Nursing:

- Nurse to Nurse report
- Patient prepared for transportation
- Behavioral documentation
- Telemonitoring



Regulatory Compliance



- Hospital Regulatory Requirement
- Nursing Home: F843 Transfer Agreements
- Resident Rights & Protection
- Monument Health Transfer Agreement

Hospital Regulatory Requirement

§ 482.43 Condition of participation: Discharge planning

The hospital must have an effective discharge planning process that focuses on:

- Patient's goals and treatment preferences
- Includes the patient and his or her caregivers/support person(s)
- Be consistent with the patient's goals for care and
- Reduce the factors leading to preventable readmissions.

Nursing Home – F843 Transfer Agreements

Nursing homes must have in effect a written transfer agreement with one or more Medicare/Medicaid-certified hospitals in their geographic area.

The agreement has to provide:

- Reasonable assurance that the nursing home's residents will be transferred to the hospital and
- Ensured a timely admission when the attending physician has determined it is medically appropriate.

Resident Rights & Protection



Protection Against Unfair Transfer or Discharge:

Except in emergencies, nursing homes **must give** a 30-day written notice of their plan and reason to discharge or transfer.

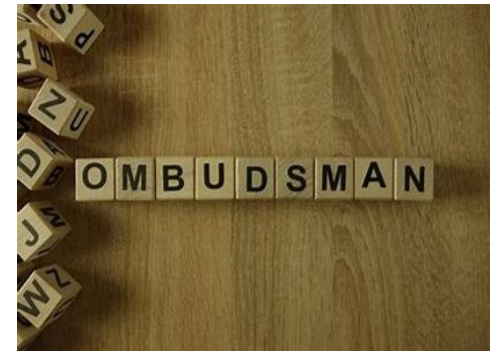
Must also include:

- The proposed effective date
- The location of discharge (must be specific, appropriate, available and agreeable to admit)
- Appeal rights and administrative hearing option

Nursing Home Discharge Rights

- **Discharges are the #1 complaint received by Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs across the nation.**
- Individuals have the right to return to the facility following hospitalization, including the right to return to their bed or first available bed.
- Being admitted to the hospital does not relieve the facility of the responsibility of following the discharge requirements.

http://theconsumervoice.org/get_help



Monument Health Transfer Agreement

- Nursing Home agrees to accept the return admission of the patient within 24 hours if/when the hospital physician has deemed the patient no longer needs the specialized capabilities of the hospital, regardless of the status of bed hold, ability to pay and intended duration of stay.





Standardize & Sustain

- Referral Denial Reasons
- Provider to Provider Handoff
- Discharge Timeout Checklist / Variance Tool
- Sustainability Plan

Referral Denial Responses

Request Status

Accepted Considering **Declined** Pending

Declined Reasons

[+ Add](#)


Wound Care Isolation Medication Bariatric Staffing No Bed Funding

Patient Complexity

Original Version

Declined Reasons

[+ Add](#)

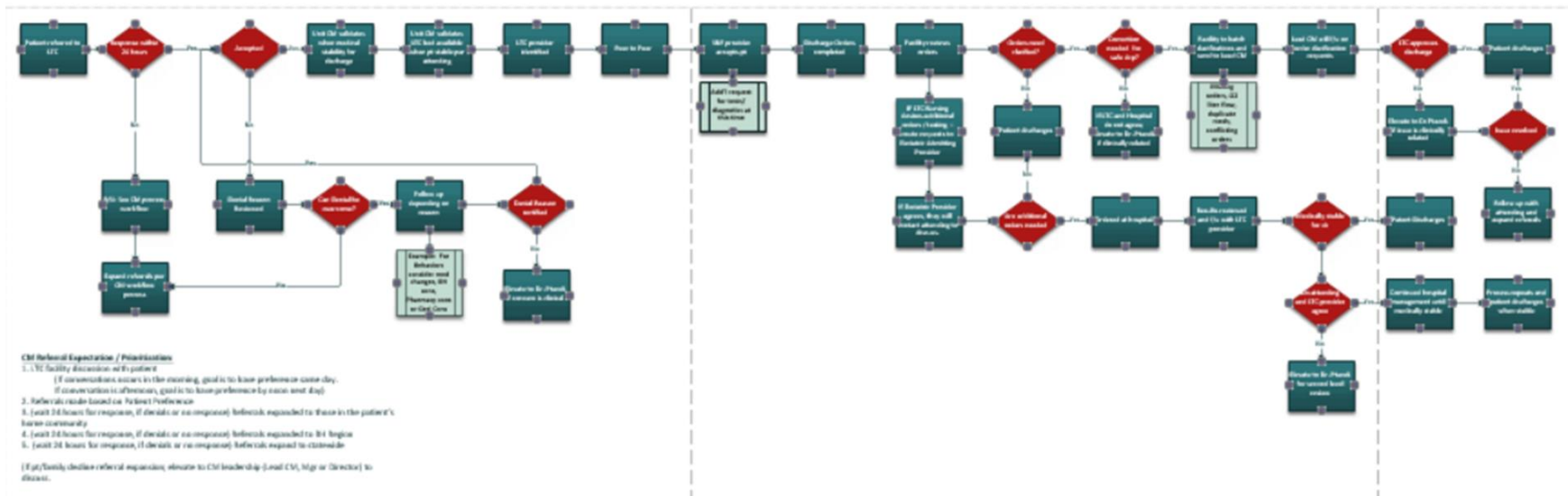
Wound Care No Bed Available Need for Specialty F/U O2 Needs Medication Funding Unclear Final Disposition 
Thought/Behavior/Social Complexity Bariatric Staffing Does not meet Admission Criteria
Eligible for re-referral, add comment Not eligible for re-referral, add comment Isolation Dialysis Not a locked facility

Internal Comment

[+ Add Comment](#)

Updated Version

Provider to Provider Handoff



Discharge Timeout & Variance



The Case Manager will arrive 15 minutes prior to discharge to initiate the timeout procedure.

Receiving facility name: _____ Phone number for report: _____
 Does the facility have access to Epic? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 Transfer date: _____ Time: _____ Mode of transportation: _____
 Oxygen for transport? ☐ Yes ☐ No Nurse to send oxygen with patient? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 Case Manager Name PRINT: _____ Phone number: _____ Disposition code: _____

Nursing / PCC Tasks	Print Name	Notes
Verify initiate discharge order placed in Epic (PCC)		
Notify Case Manager of order (PCC)		
Follow-up appointment scheduled with specialty providers (PCC)		
Report called to facility (Nurse) - must be called prior to the patient leaving		
RED Packet-Facility Information		
Implantable device card included in red packet		(example: PICC line card)
EPIC In-Patient After Visit Summary		
Case Manager Tasks	Print Name	Notes
Covid Testing (if requested/applicable)		
Order(s) for Occupational Therapy		
Order(s) for Physical Therapy		
Order(s) for Wound Care		
Order(s) for Speech Therapy		
Order(s) for Activity		
Order(s) for Weight Bearing Status		
Order(s) for Oxygen		
Order(s) for Diet		
Discharge with Transfer Order(s) - faxed to facility		
Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) completed and copy included in red packet		
Paper Rx for controlled substances for new and home medications. (applies to nursing homes only)		
Quantity / Diagnosis included in Rx		
Verification of Important Message from Medicare (IMM) completed		
Verification of Provider to Provider hand-off		

PATIENT TRANSFER VARIANCE

Fax to (605) 755-7707

Route to Nurse Manager of Care Management

(Revised 9/1/2020)

Patient Information:

Account Number: _____

Medical Record Number: _____

Date Admitted to SNF: _____

Description of issue:

- ☐ Missing orders: _____
- ☐ Follow up appt/diagnostics: _____
- ☐ Order clarification: _____
- ☐ Patient/family feedback: _____
- ☐ Pharmacy issues:
 - ☐ Medications _____
 - ☐ Prescriptions _____
- ☐ Other: _____

Description of discrepancy: _____

Signature: _____

Director of Nursing / Facility representative

Date: _____

Better Together – Next Steps!



Sustainability Plan

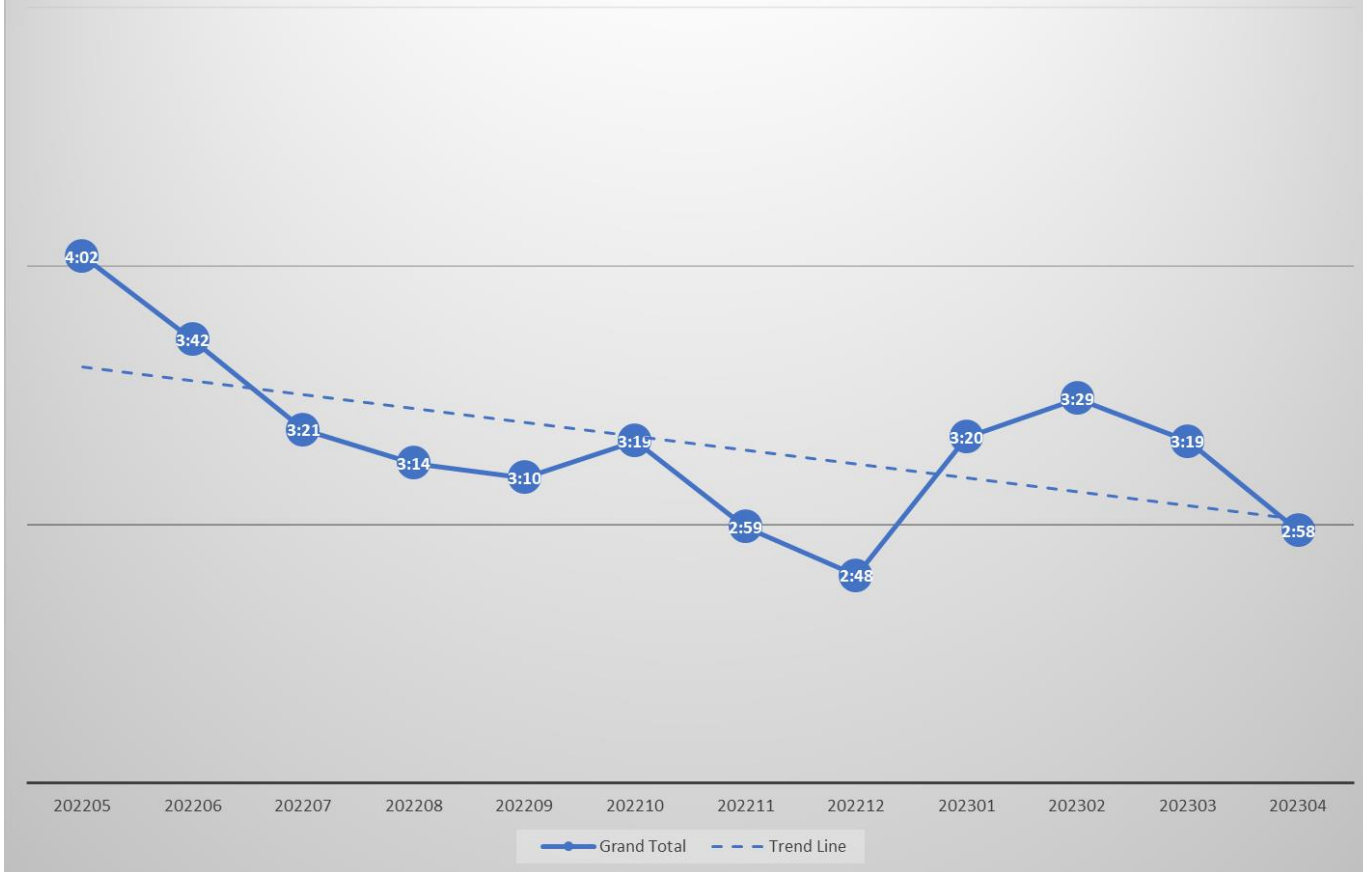
30-60-90 Day Review

Standardized Agenda:

- Data review
- Regulatory changes
- Facility process change requests
- Variance Trends
- Open Discussion – New topics



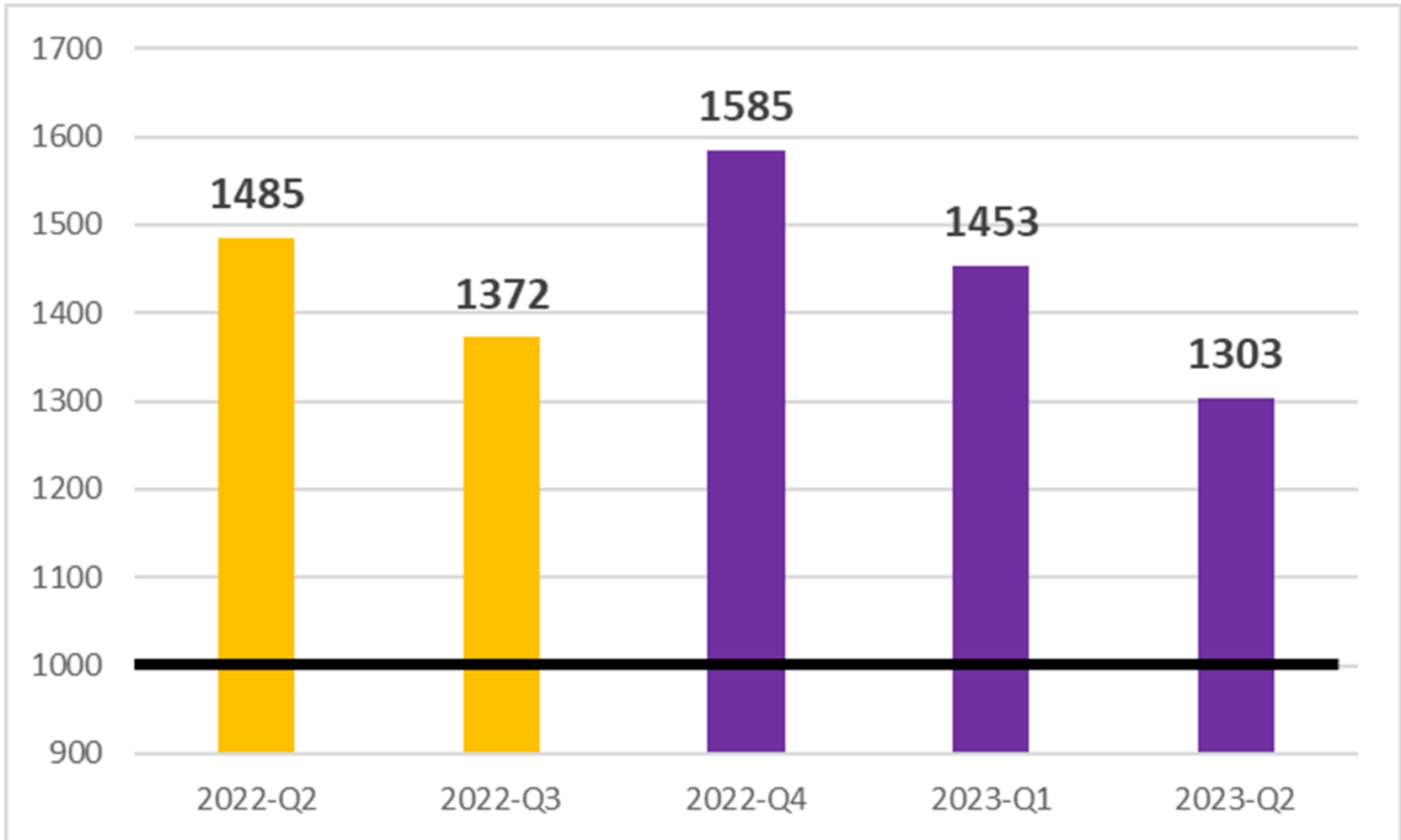
RCH Average Time Between Discharge Order and Discharge for Patients Discharged to SNF



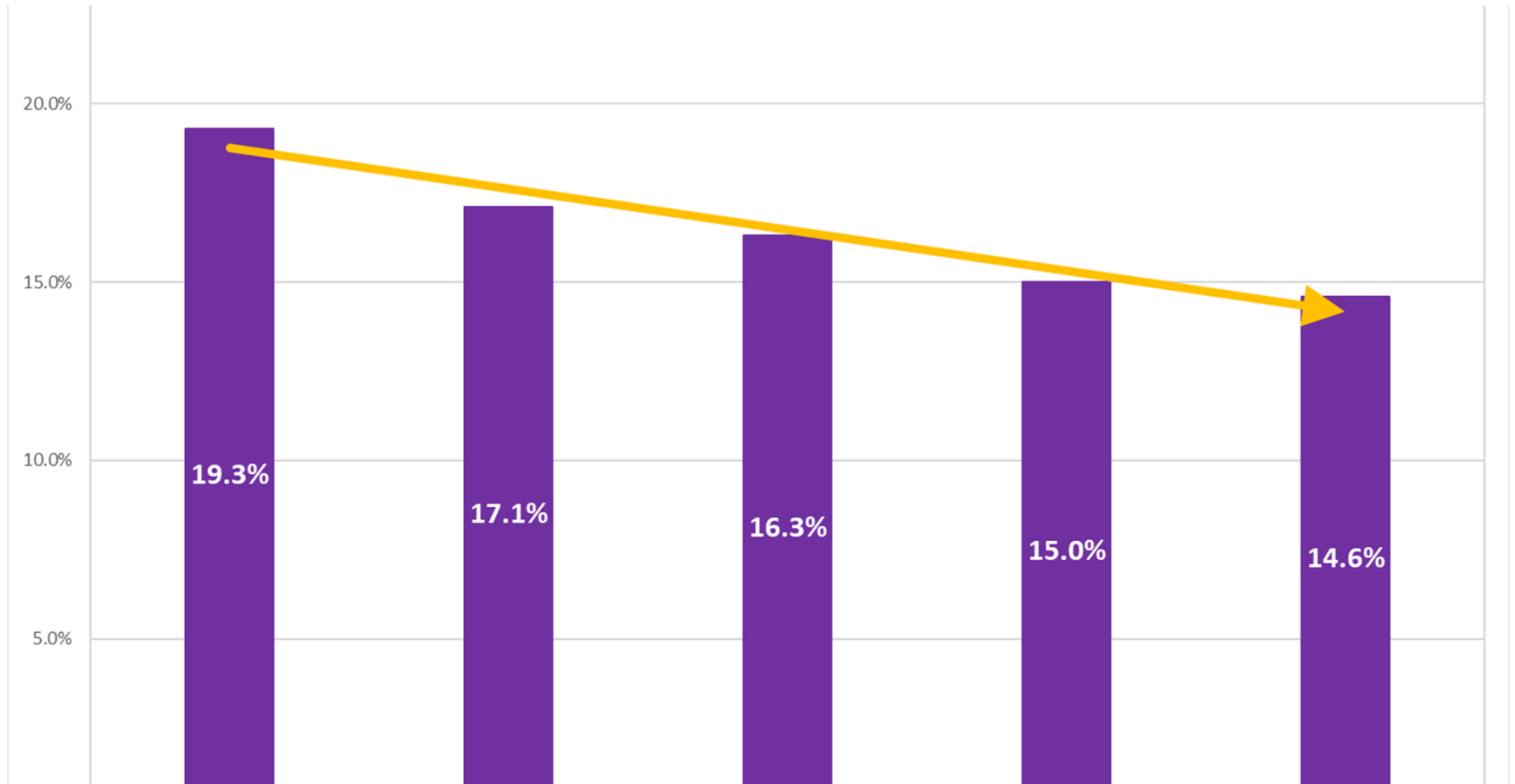
Outcomes



Excess Days in the Hospital for Nursing Home discharges



Readmission Rates 2018-2022



Consensus doesn't
happen by magic... You
have to drive to it.

Christine Quinn

- Seek to Understand
- Learn the regulations
- Challenged old norms
- Understand competing priorities
- Relationships are key



**LESSONS
LEARNED**

Possible Q&A

- Funding for Post Acute care:
 - Barriers / Opportunities
 - Partnerships
 - Impact of Medicaid Expansion

Community education

- Community expectations
- Community education regarding levels of care in healthcare (right service, right place, right time)

References

- <https://cmscompliancegroup.com/2021/03/19/ftag-of-the-week-f843-transfer-agreement/>
- 42 CFR § 482.43 - Condition of participation:
Discharge planning
- § 483.10 Resident rights.
<https://www.cms.gov/.../residents-rights-quality-care>
- <https://dhs.sd.gov/ltss/ombudsman.aspx>
- Effective Management of Long-Term Care Facilities
Third Edition, Singh, 2016

*Thank
you!*