

# Waiting to Go Home

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# Aim

To decrease the avoidable harm experienced by older people waiting for discharge.

Scale: 40+ older people ready for home at RBH alone.  
(7% of total beds)

Latest study on one ward  
Showed 5 people over 2  
months died whilst  
medically ready for discharge



10 years loss of function

*Kortebain P,  
Journal of Gerontology,  
2008*

# The SAFER Patient Flow Bundle

We know  
what should  
work

**S - Senior** Review. All patients will have a senior review before midday by a clinician able to make management and discharge decisions.

**A – All** patients will have an **Expected Discharge Date and Clinical Criteria for Discharge**. This is set assuming ideal recovery and assuming no unnecessary waiting.

**F - Flow of patients** will commence at the earliest opportunity from assessment units to inpatient wards. Wards that routinely receive patients from assessment units will ensure the first patient arrives on the ward by 10am.

**E – Early discharge**. 33% of patients will be discharged from base inpatient wards before midday.

**R – Review**. A systematic MDT review of patients with extended lengths of stay ( > 7 days – ‘stranded patients’) with a clear ‘home first’ mind set.

## ons to help patient flow

| Three  | Four  | Five   |
|--|---|--|
| Senior Review  | Length of stay reviews  | Pull from admission areas  |
| Do a daily board round   | Do all patients have a clear management plan in their records?                | Be prepared to accept your first transfers before 9am                                  |
| Daily ward round ordered by:<br>Sick unstable patients<br>Potential discharges<br>The remaining patients | Review your long stay patients and escalate for action                        | Update EBM and inform admission wards within 30 minutes of a patient leaving your ward |
| A record of the round, with clear management plans is written in the patients notes                      | Is the patient waiting for any procedures or tests?<br>Do these need chasing? | Know who and where your admissions are – check the daily bed report on intranet        |
| TTAs prescribed in real time<br>Diagnostics ordered in real time<br>Identify tomorrows discharges        |   |  |
| Update EBM with EDD and flags  |   |  |

“Clinician non compliance”

Blame culture: “if this goes wrong it is my head, my ward and my staff.”

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 4pm  |   |
| Non-use of the discharge lounge by exception             |   |
| Keep patients and relatives informed of discharge plans. | Resolve medicines reconciliations queries |
| Give patients a discharge planning leaflet on admission  |   |
| Ensure property packed                                   |   |



Let it flow!

# Methods

WARD 4.



Endearing 95



# Measures

## Outcome Measures

- Increase patient and carer engagement and satisfaction
- Increased staff engagement and satisfaction

## Process Measures

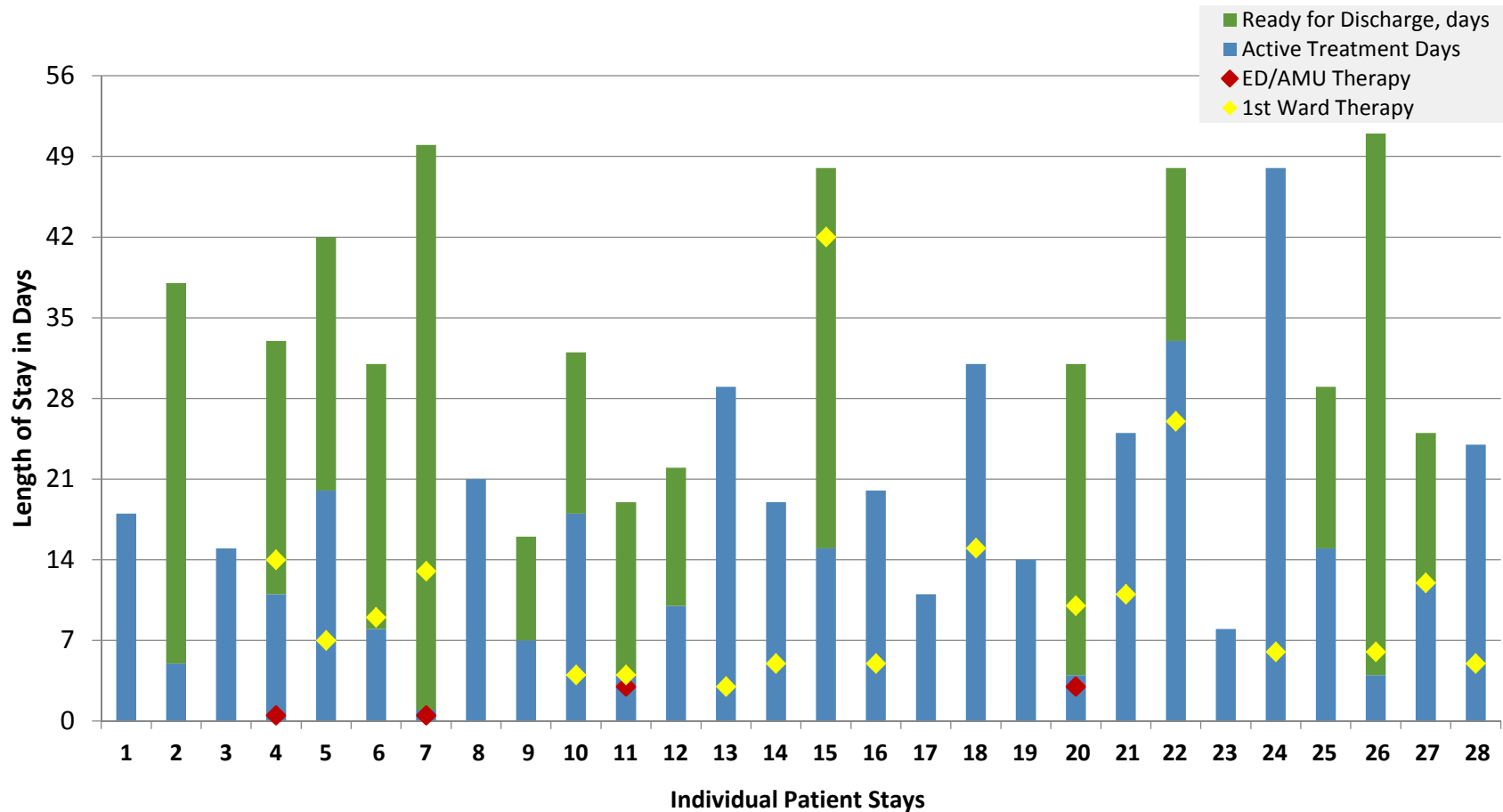
- To increase discharges to 16 per week by June 2016
- To increase proportion of discharges by midday to 33% by June 2016

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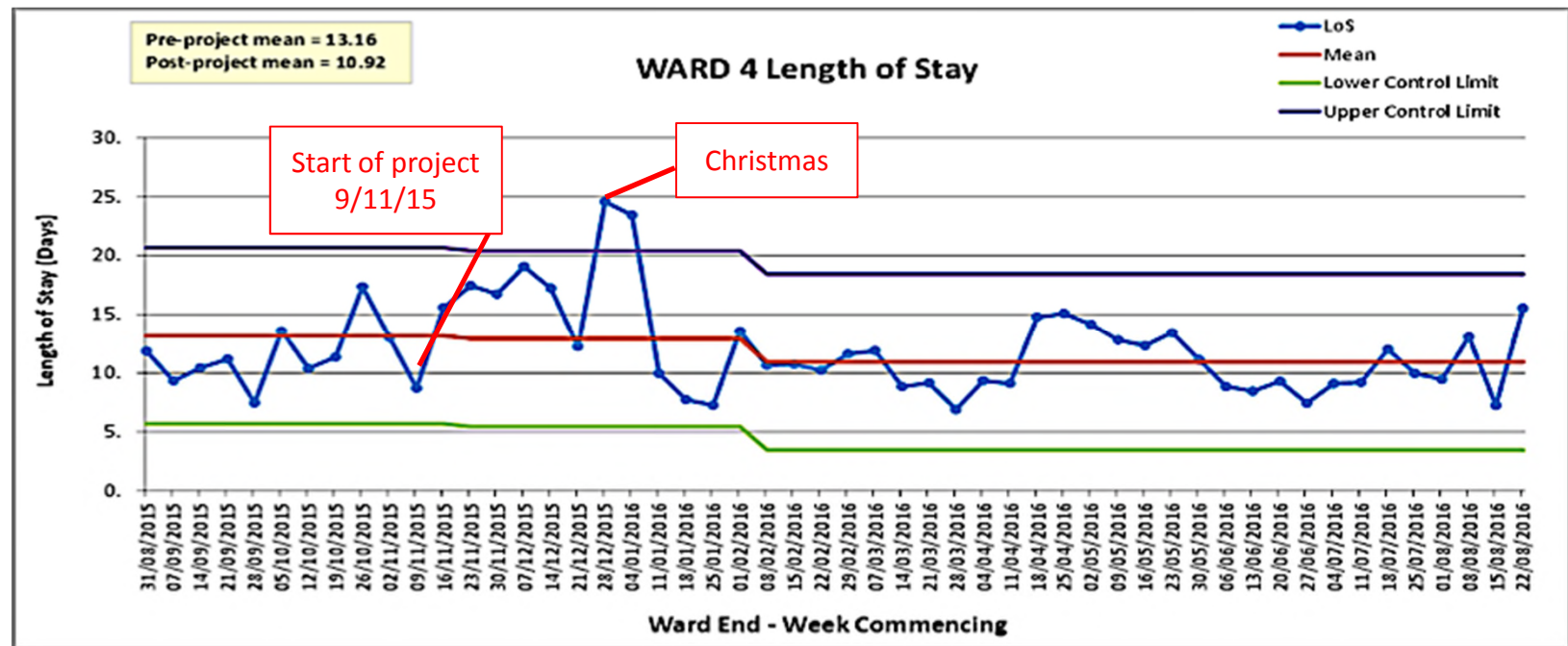
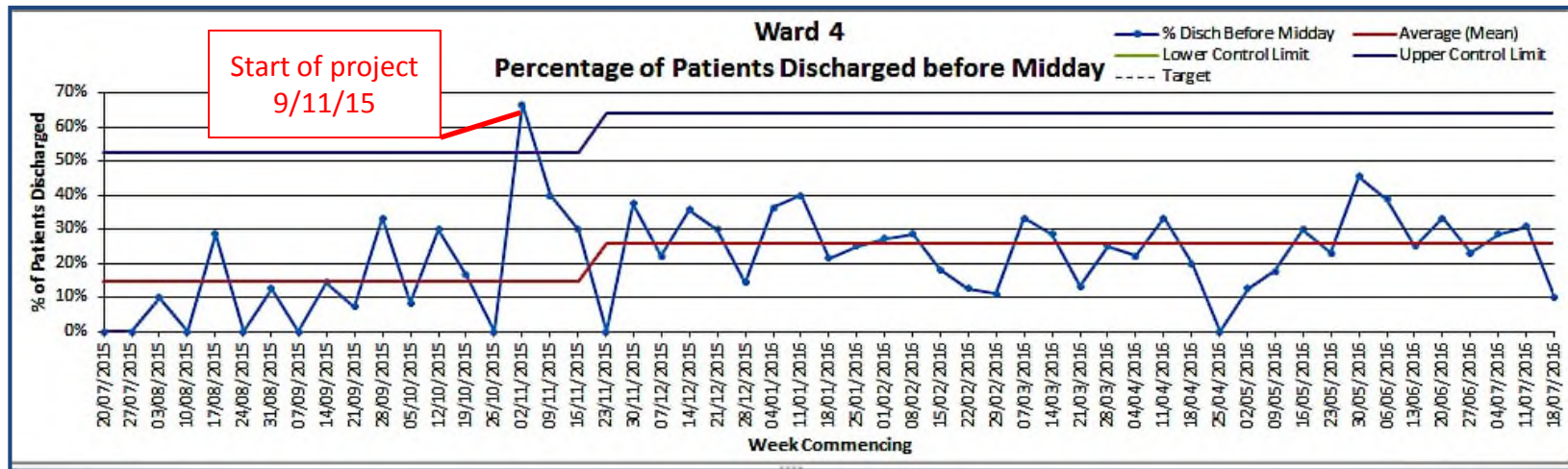
## Balancing Measures

- Duration of MDT
- Allocation of tasks by person

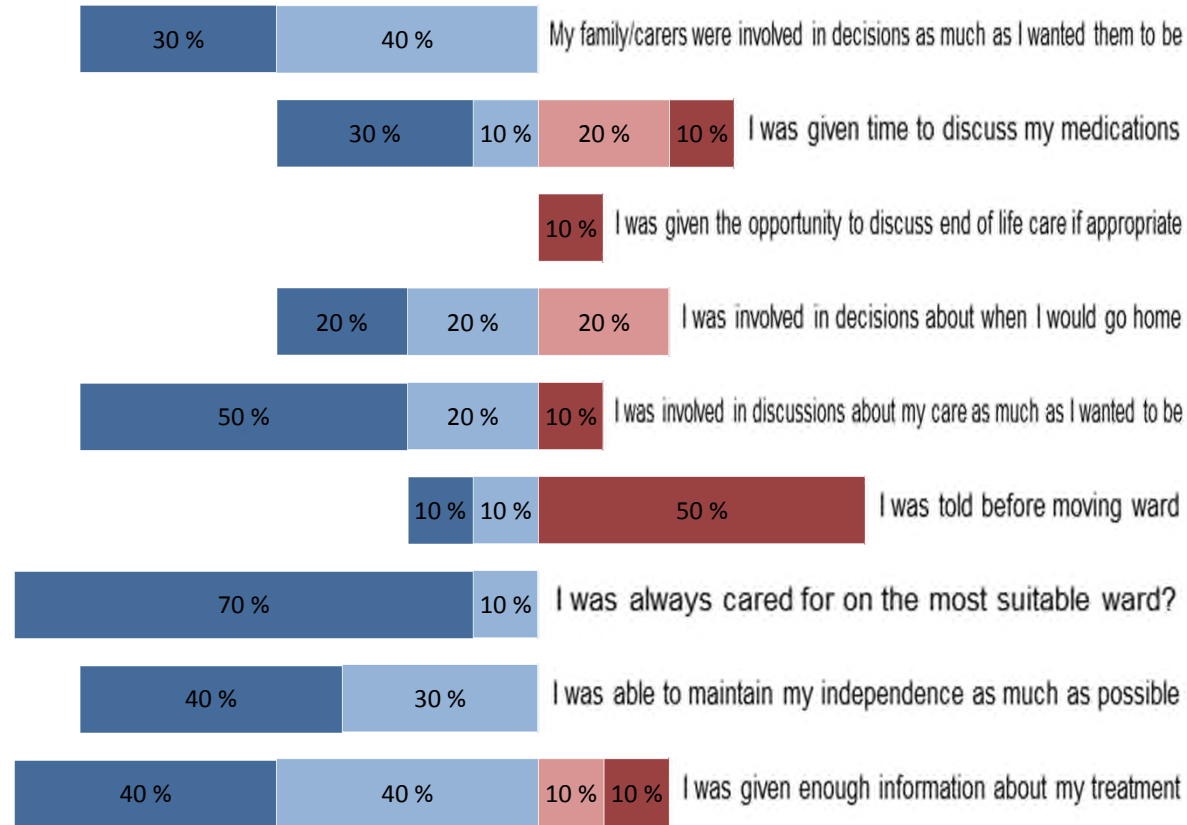
# Analysis



The ability to quickly identify who has been delayed if medically ready for discharge is recorded



# Patient survey of ward experience



Neutral or absent responses have been removed

# Sustainability

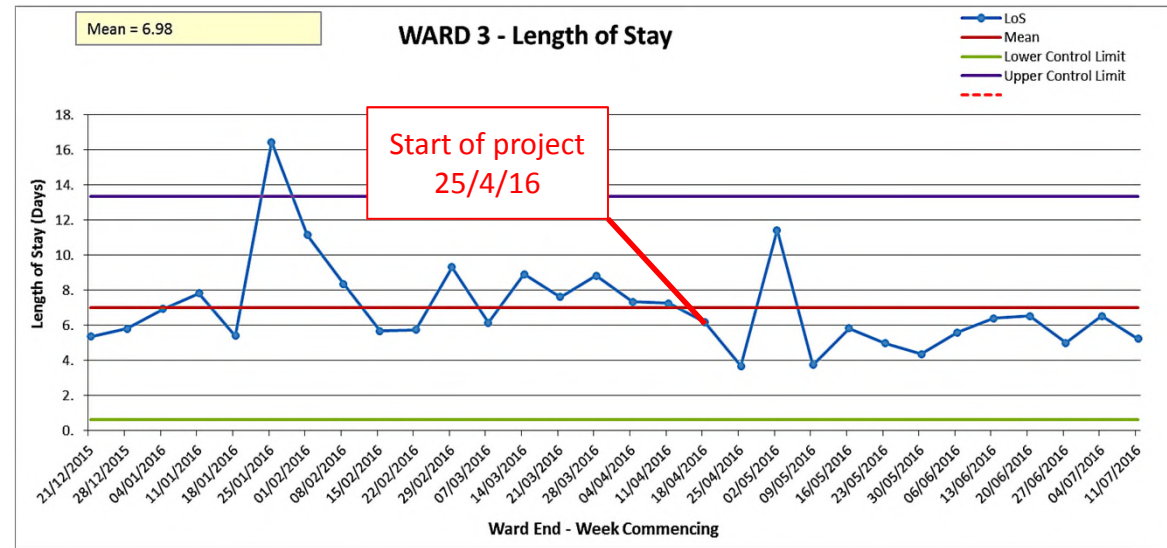
Mixed results on the surrounding wards.

Different wards, different cultures and values

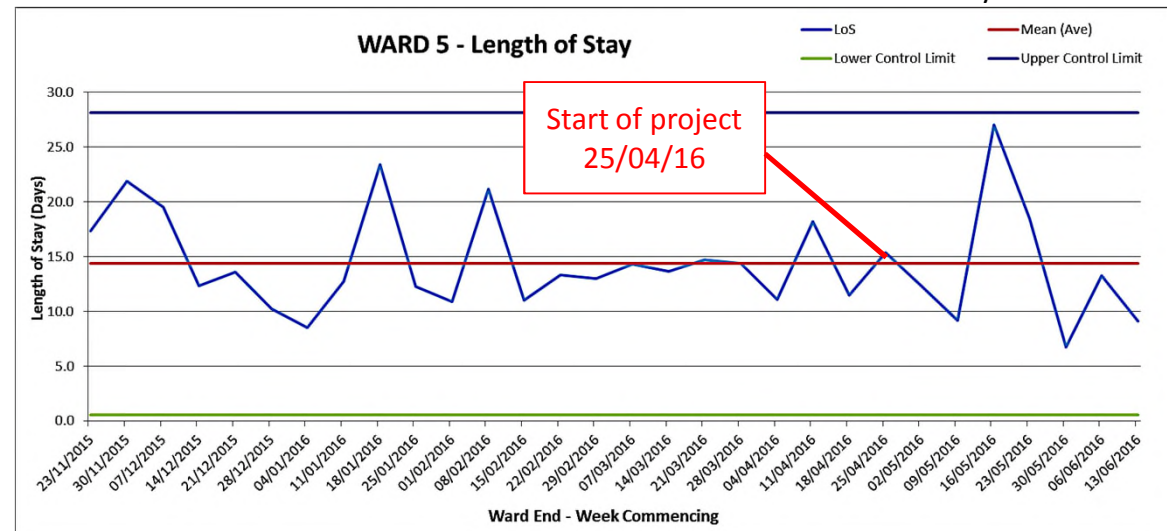
Ideas and definitions of terms being adopted trust wide

“It has changed the way we work, so that we are thinking every day about what action we can take to move our discharges forward, rather than saying people are medically fit and then just waiting”

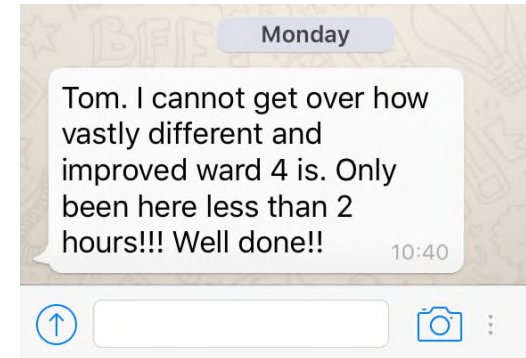
General Medical Ward



Elderly Care Ward



# The Ward Paradigm Shift



## Now a whole trust paradigm shift

# Key Messages:

- Good teachers make you want to teach
- Time to ponder, time to do, time to reflect
- Implementing EBM and best practice is in practice trial and error