

Significance of the Problem

- Intravenous Acetaminophen (IVA) is 451 times more expensive than Oral Acetaminophen (POA).

- 1 g IVA cost \$81.50
- 975 mg PO cost \$0.11



- One medication error reported monthly regarding acetaminophen double dosing since 2022.

Purpose

- For adult elective perioperative patients (P), does the use of preoperative oral acetaminophen (I) compared to perioperative intravenous acetaminophen (C) reduce expenses at Naval Hospital Jacksonville (O)?

Project Design

- Discontinue routine use of perioperative IVA.
- Educate Anesthesia providers about the cost of IVA.
- Empower Surgeons to easily prescribe pre-op acetaminophen.
 - 975 mg POA equivalent to 1 g IVA⁷
- Remove IV formula from room pyxis. Reserved for pediatric, obstetric, NPO, and emergency cases.
- Train pre-op Nurses who will administer PO dose.

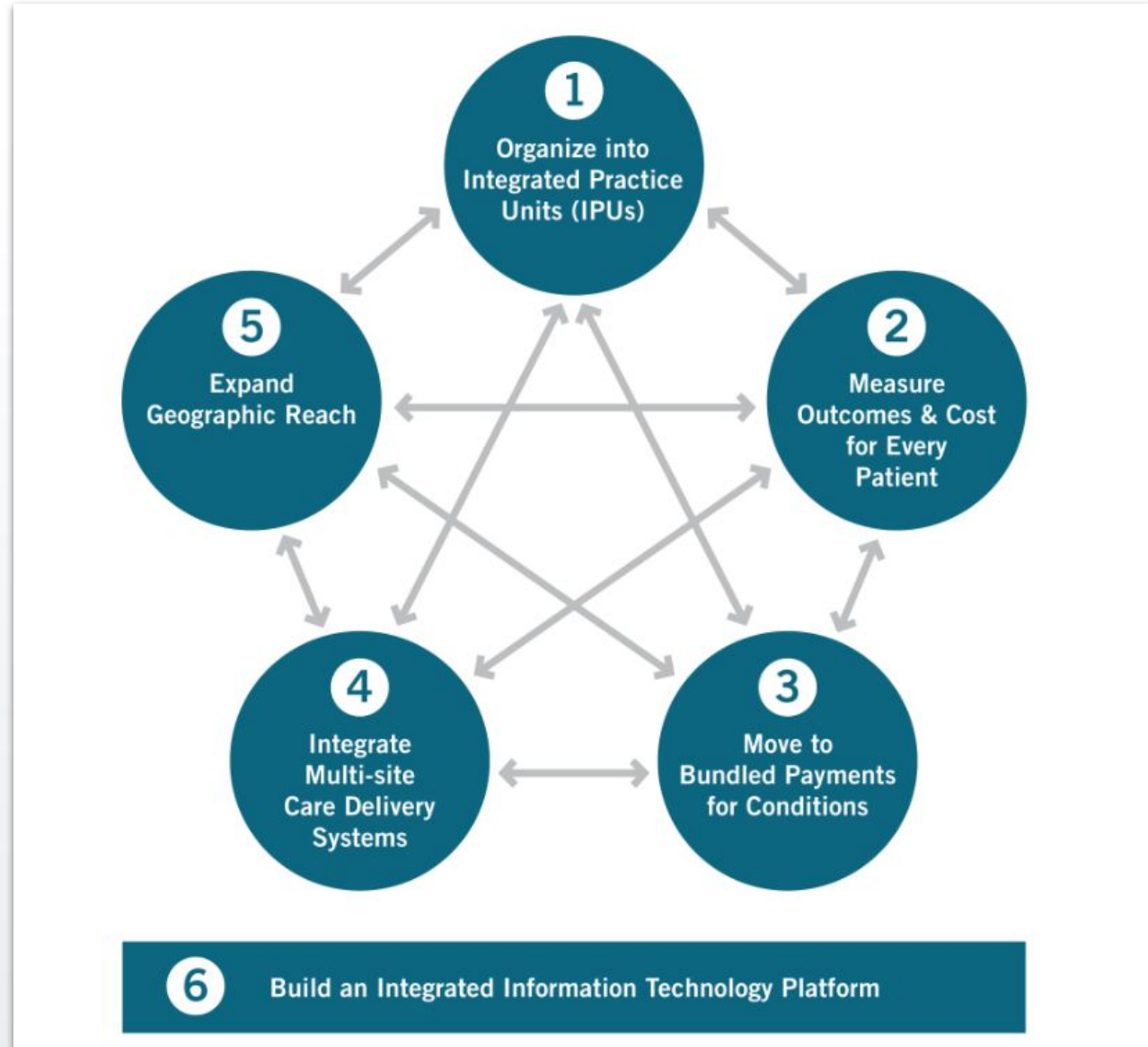


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Organizing Framework

Values Based Health Care:

- (2) Measure Outcomes & Cost for Every Patient.
- The goal of healthcare delivery should be to generate value for patients.⁶
- Not seeing the price does not mean we should not care about the cost.



Project Results

Five months post implementation:

↑ 80.5% increase in POA administration in preoperative holding

↓ 36% decrease in IVA administration in PACU

→ \$153,577 annual savings

→ No acetaminophen related medication errors

Analysis of the Results

- Pharmacy records were unable to discern IVA administration from individual OR room medication dispensary units.
- The use of POA instead of IVA was used to estimate annual cost savings.
- Cost savings was achieved by influencing choice of medication route.

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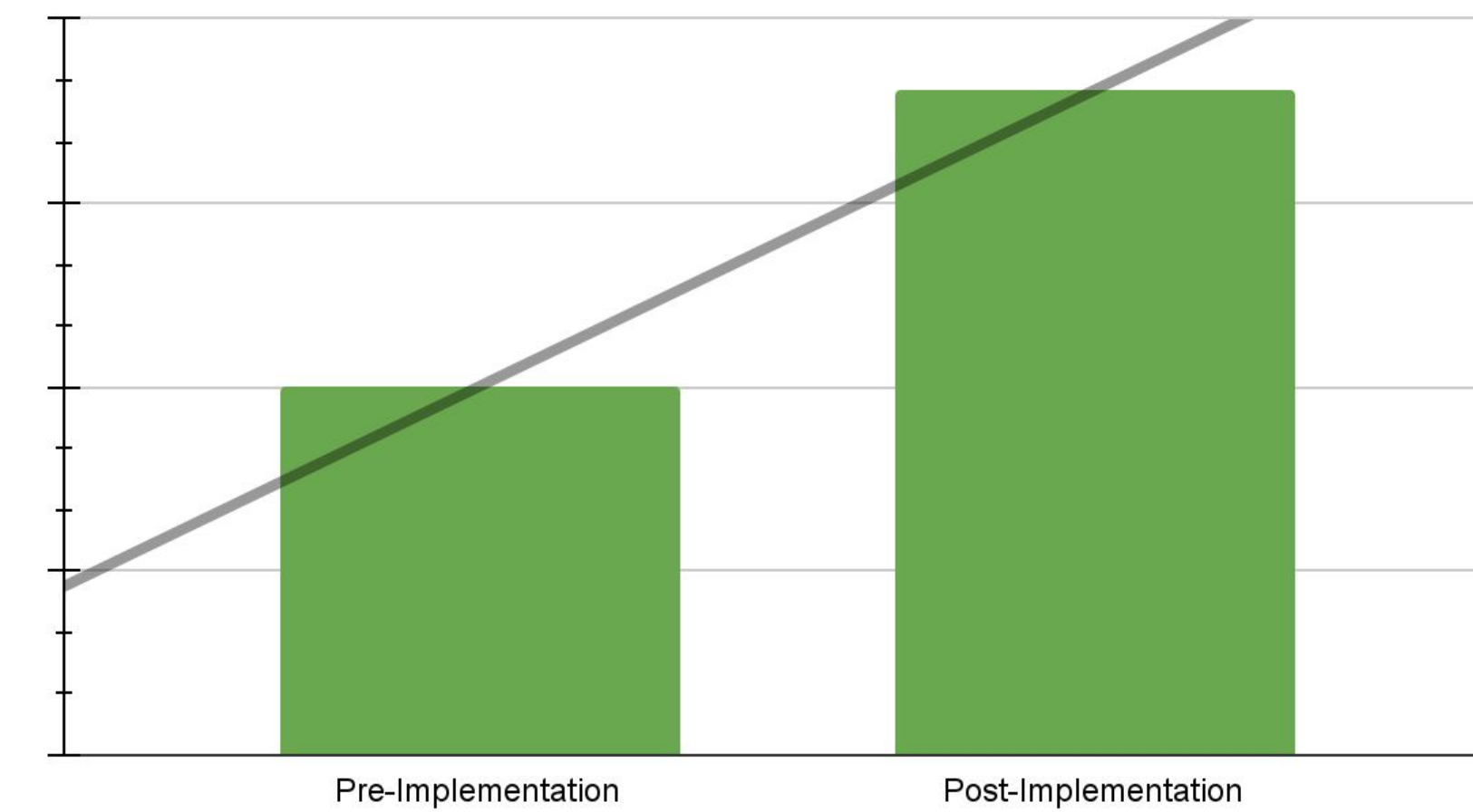
Recommendations for Improvement

- Administration of POA instead of IVA should be considered when clinically applicable.

Organizational Impact

- Values Based Health Care encourages spreading methods of cost-savings across the enterprise.¹
- Responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars should be sought out.

Pre-operative holding acetaminophen administration



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