

One Woman Army: Kick-Starting an Improvement in CHG Bathing compliance in a Pediatric Step-down Unit

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Daily Chlorhexidine bathing compliance improved through leader audits for every shift, combined with immediate leader feedback.

Background

- Daily 2% chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) bathing is widely supported in the literature, with studies showing significant decreases in CLABSI's when CHG is performed correctly and consistently.¹
- Chlorhexidine bathing, at least once in a 24-hour period, is an expectation for all pediatric patients - regardless of presence of vascular access - at our pediatric medical center.
- The internal benchmark is set at 95% compliance. The intermediate care unit had not been able to consistently achieve the 95% compliance mark.

Problem

- Prior to this intervention, the average CHG bathing compliance was consistently below 95% and identified as an area of opportunity.
- The unit had more CLABSIs than expected based on central line days for the previous year.
- Multiple PDSA cycles highlighted two main factors to be addressed:
 - (1) untimely, or lack of, charting indicating a CHG bath was done
 - (2) patient and/or caregiver refused a bath.

Methods

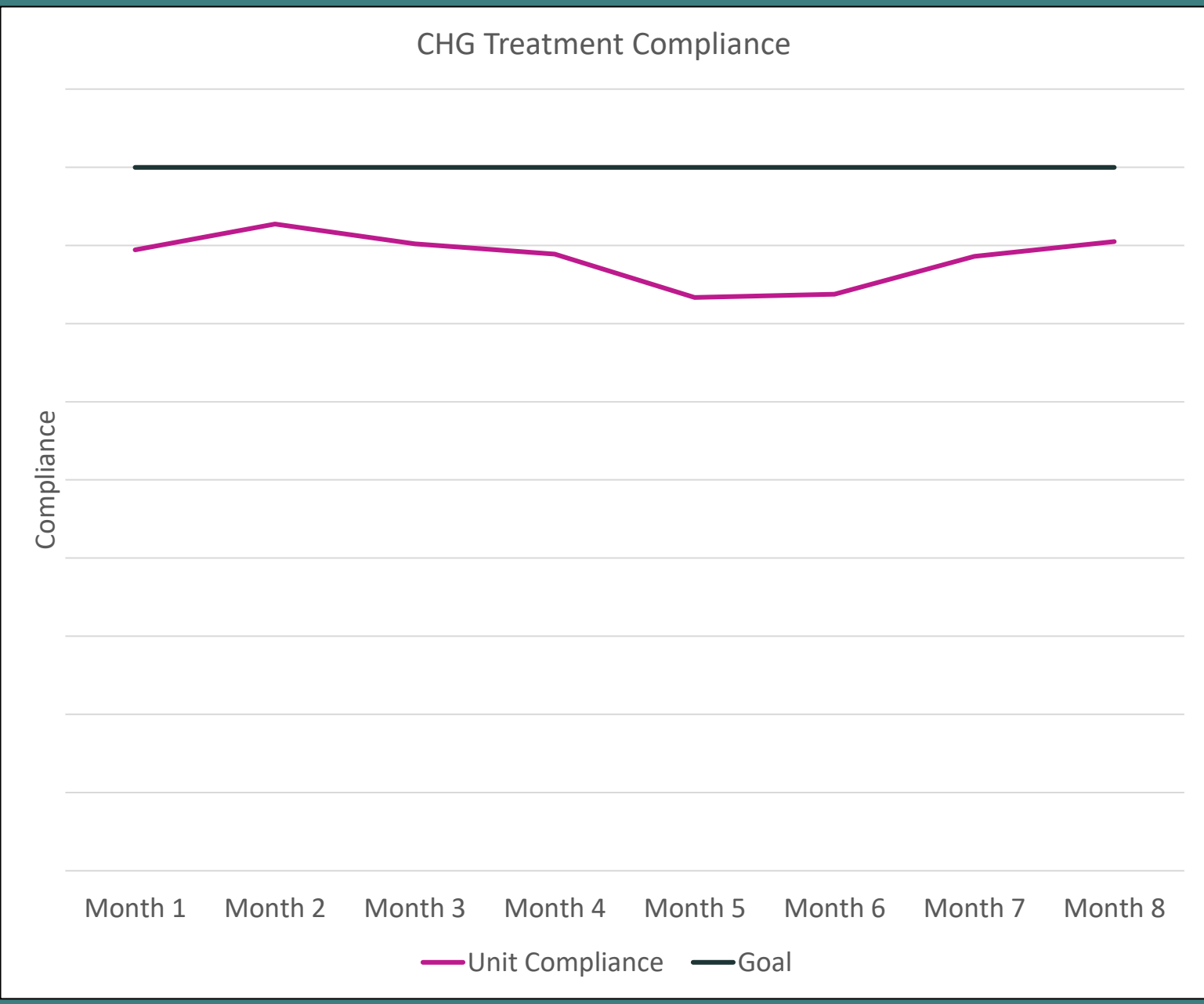
- Daily and weekly internal unit rounds by leaders serve as change agents and roles models.
- Just-in-time training and regular education events serve as education opportunities.
- The night manager of the unit initiated twice a day additional audits of the bathing compliance.
- Manager provided immediate feedback to the staff.

Results

- The average compliance rate increased by 10% within five months post implementation.
- This increase is statistically significant with a P<0.0001.
- Six months post implementation, the manager driven intervention was transitioned to the charge nurses.
- The CHG bathing compliance has maintained at goal level.


Discussion

This QI initiative is an example of a unique labor intensive and potentially unsustainable approach that can provide immediate dividends, while allowing more longitudinal-impactful approaches to be evaluated and implemented.



CHG Treatment Compliance

Pre-implementation CHG Bathing Compliance



MY CHILD'S DAILY CHG TREATMENT

What is a CHG treatment?

- CHG is a special cleaning product that kills germs. CHG kills many germs that plain soap and water do not.

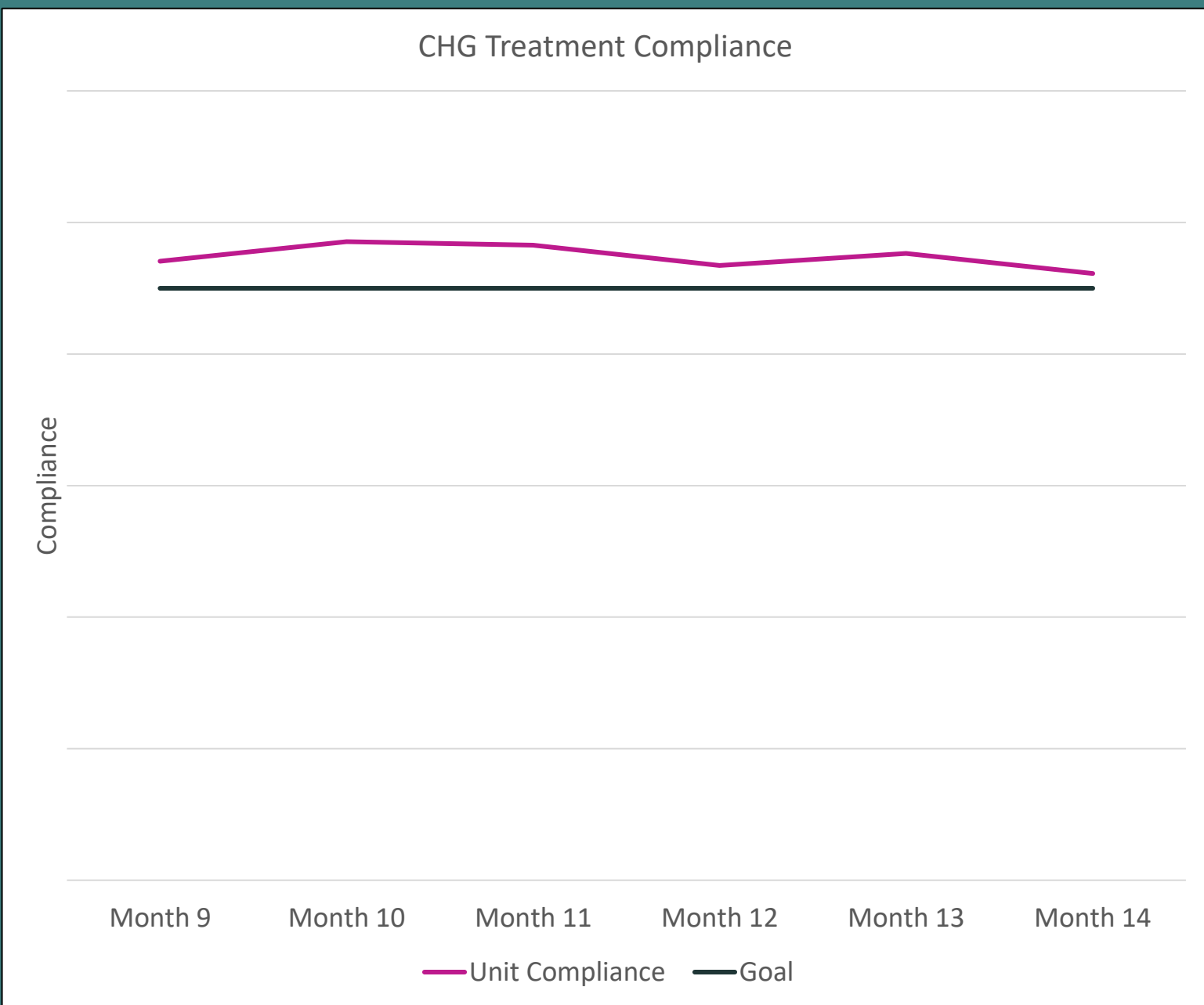
Why does my child need a CHG treatment daily?

- CHG helps prevent infections that can be caused while in the hospital.

Quick Facts about CHG:

- Your child may receive a regular bath prior to a CHG treatment. Be sure you allow the skin to fully dry between baths.
- You child's skin may feel sticky for a few minutes after using CHG cloths.
- CHG must air dry to be effective. Do not rinse or wipe CHG off of the skin.
- CHG should not be used on your child's face or genitals.
- Dress your child with clean clothes after their CHG treatment.
- Do not use any outside soap, lotion, or moisturizers. This will stop the germ-fighting capabilities of the CHG.

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CHG Treatment Compliance

Post-implementation CHG Bathing Compliance

