# Proposal for Resource Nurse on Inpatient Oncology Unit

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#### Situation:

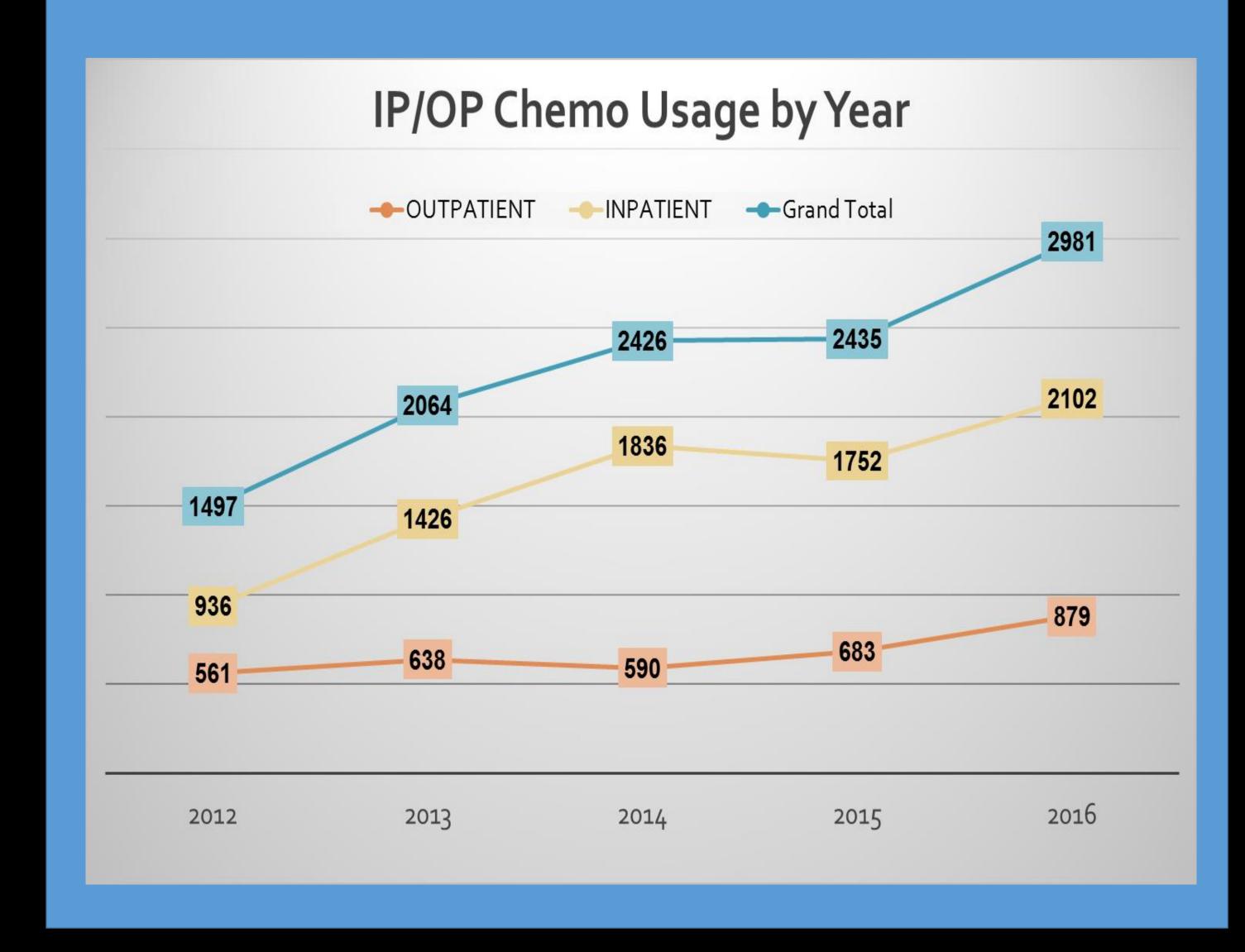
July 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016, the Inpatient Oncology unit was responsible for administering 485 chemotherapy drugs. This means that 485 times, 2 chemotherapy certified nurses were responsible (combined would be 970 occurrences) to administer chemotherapy house wide.

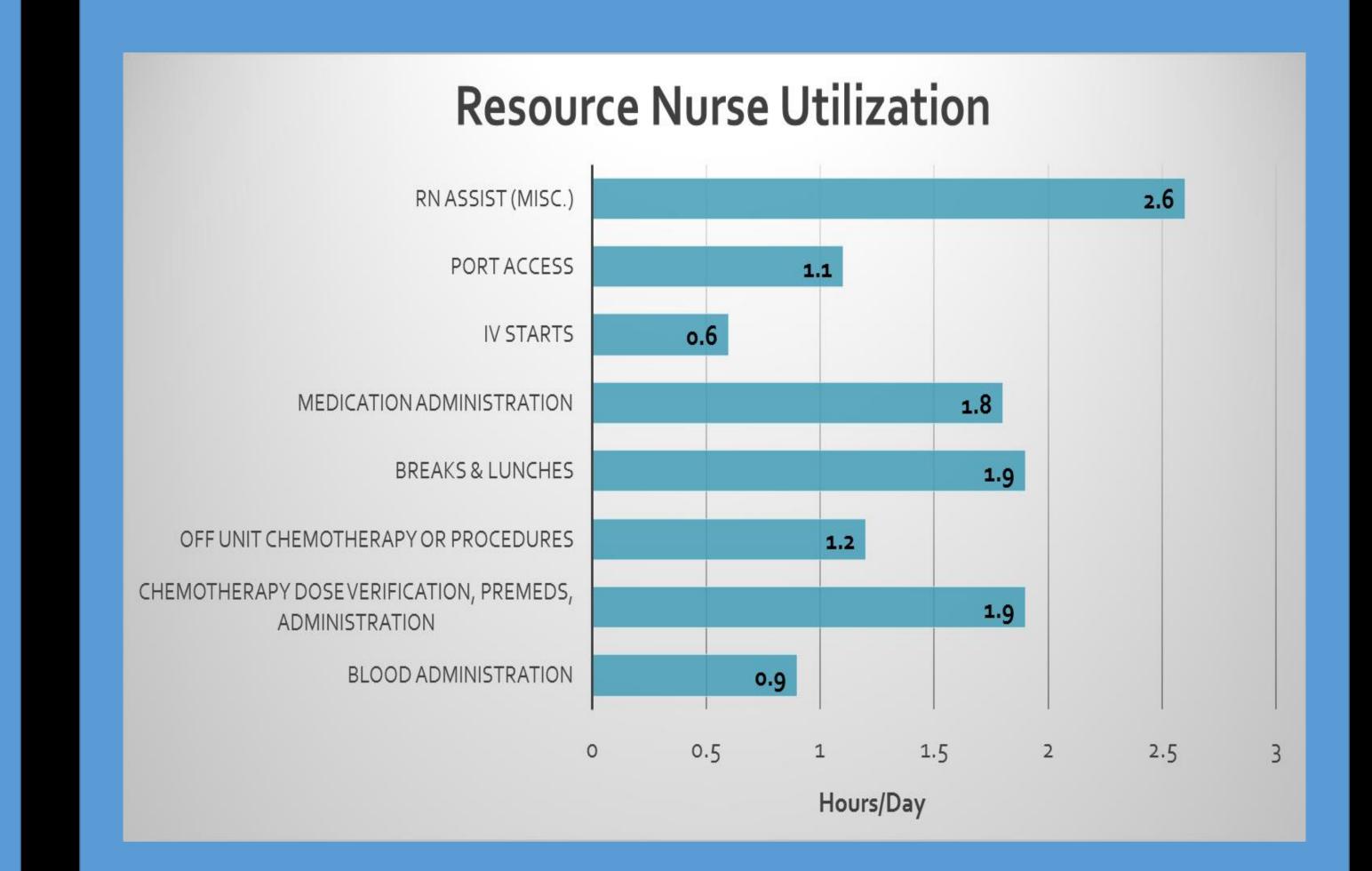
## Background:

Chemotherapy medication administration can be administered only by RNs who have been specifically trained. A trained Oncology RN who has a current ONS/ONCC Chemotherapy Biotherapy Provider card is required to administer chemotherapy on a unit where a trained RN is not available.

## Problem Identification:

Inpatient Oncology has maintained their staffing grid and have not increased nursing resources to account for the 99% increase in chemotherapy administration house wide during the past 5 years.





### Resource Nurse Trial:

Inpatient Oncology Unit conducted a trial from July to October 2016. During the trial a resource nurse was used on 65 shifts. Data collected showed that on average the resource nurse was spending 1.9 hours/day on chemotherapy tasks on the unit and 1.2 hours/day on chemotherapy or other off unit procedures.

## Recommendation:

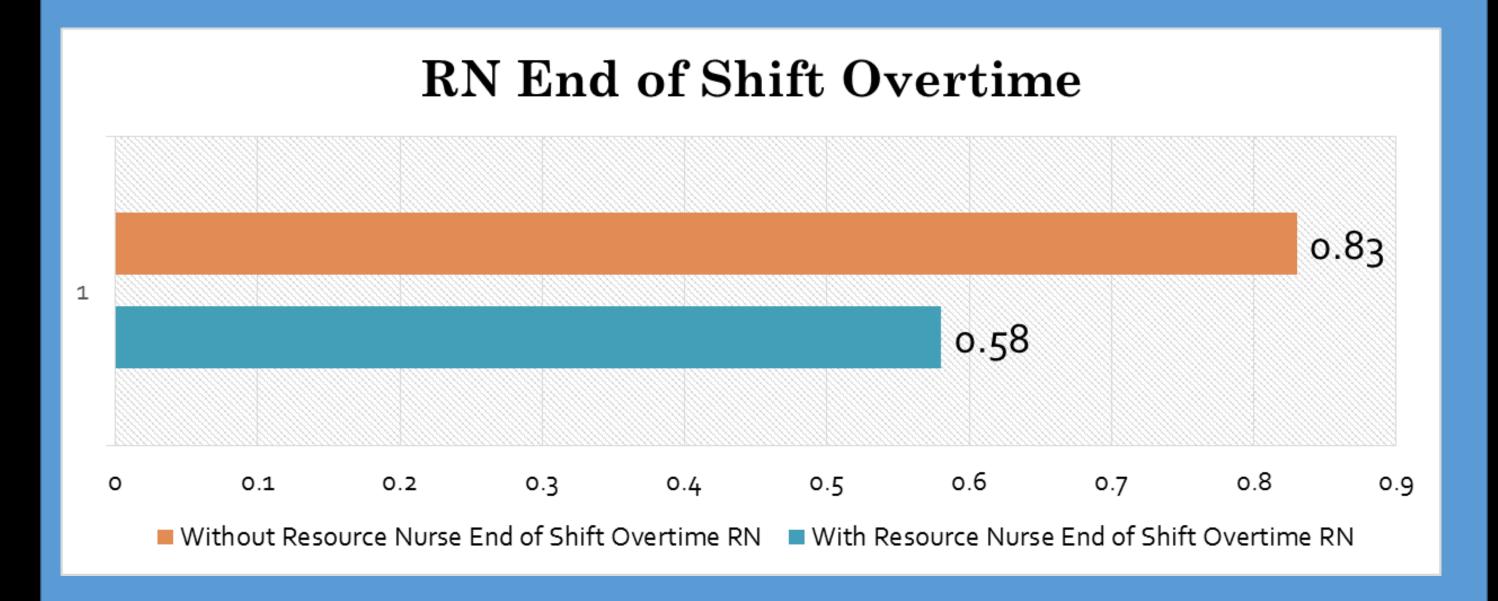
Recommend that the Inpatient Oncology unit be approved to staff a resource nurse Monday through Friday from 0900-2130. This would impact the expense/UOS with an increase of \$12.62. Budged UOS target for FY17 was \$547.65 expense/UOS. Rolling 12 month expense per unit of service was green at \$538.75.

Resource nurse position was approved and began on July 1, 2017.



#### Results:

End of Shift overtime with and without resource nurse during trial period.



#### Breaks and Lunches:

Compliance with breaks and lunches increased with the resource nurse. The resource nurse was able to check-in with staff throughout the day to ensure they received their uninterrupted 30 minute lunch in addition to breaks.

