



Family Participation in Multidisciplinary Rounds



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Background

Family attendance at Multi-disciplinary Rounds (MDRs) is a standard practice within many Intensive Care Units. Evidence shows that families that participate in MDRs enjoy improved feelings of support due to better communication within the whole inter-professional team.

Purpose

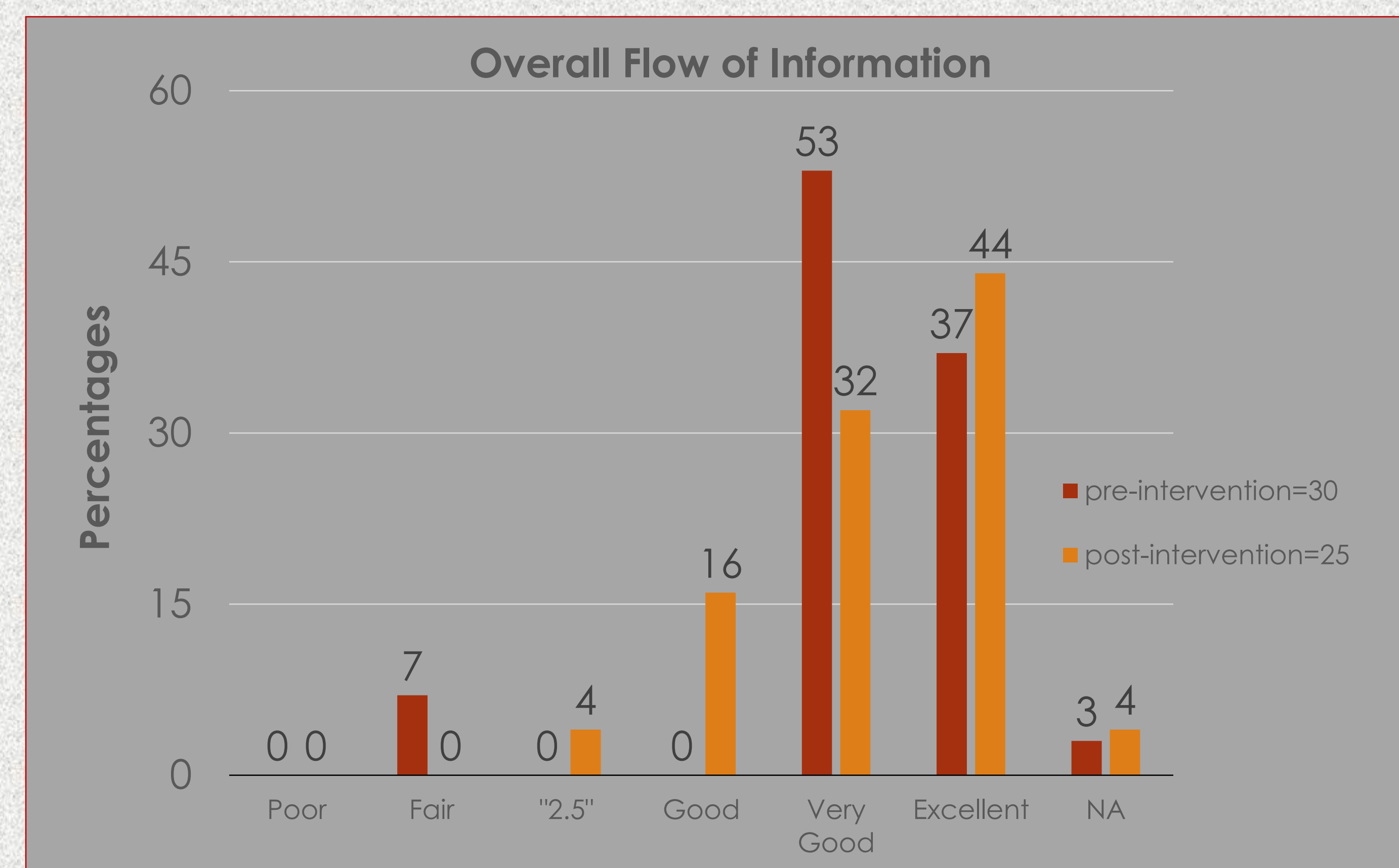
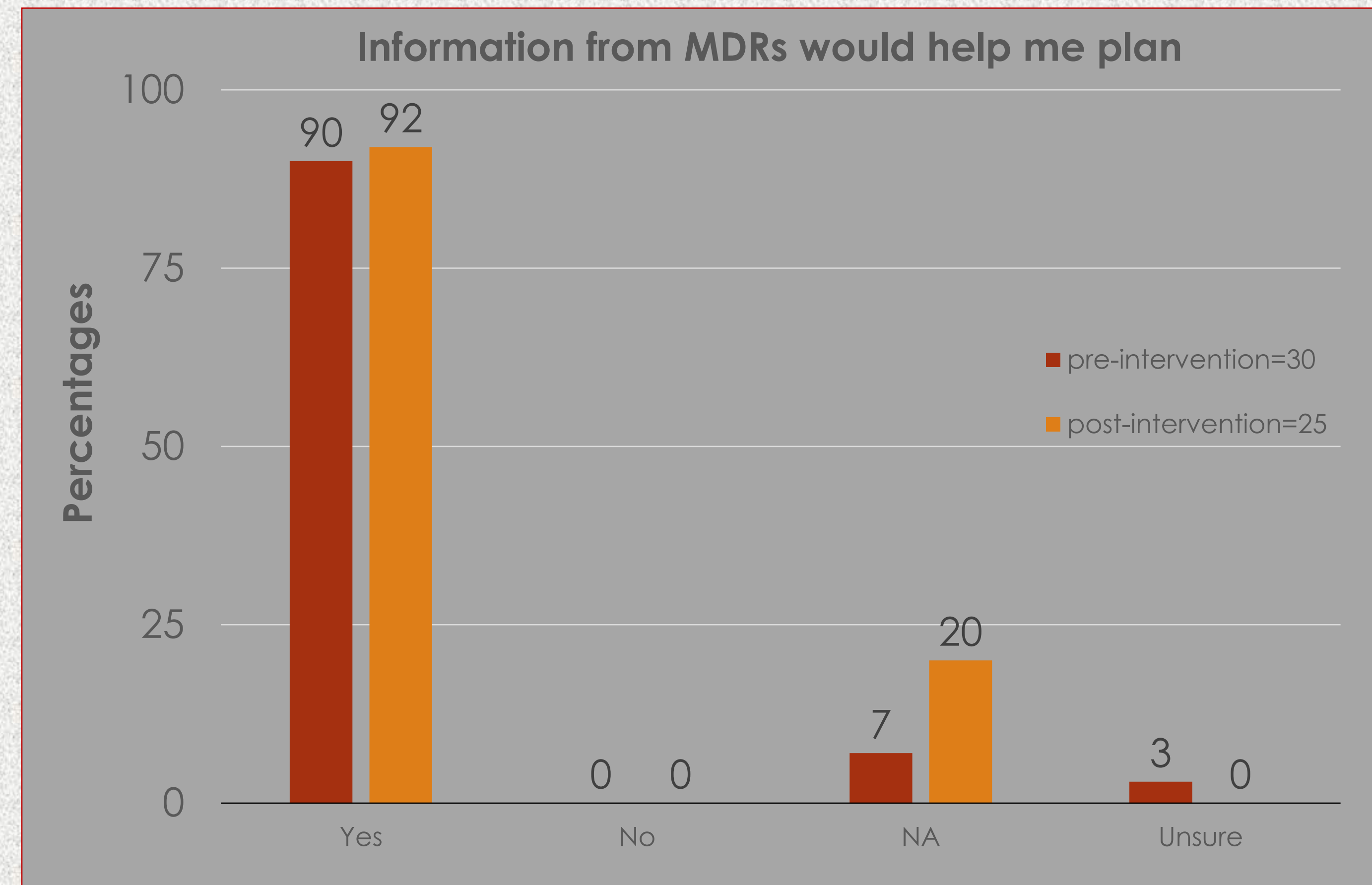
To assess family understanding of the purpose of Multi-disciplinary Rounds (MDRs) at baseline and secondly to improve the experience of the family members by providing a discussion template and designing a set of instructions for team members.

Methods

Quality Improvement Study

- Pre-intervention to address understanding of daily MDRs and flow of information between families and health care team members (n=30)
- Nurses educate families to attend MDRs and invite family representatives to stand with interdisciplinary team with prepared questions from template
- Identical post-intervention to evaluate after promotional interventions (n=25)

“Tell me what you know, what you don’t, and what is going to happen next.”



Results

Majority of the pre- and post- intervention responses concluded

- Most responders were female: wife, mother, or daughter
- Age of relative typically between 51-70 years
- Increase in satisfaction and rated excellent for “Overall flow of Information” after planned intervention (7% increase)
- Comment to question “What would you like us to know about your experience in the Intensive Care Unit?”

1. Families want to be available for MDRs (>80%)
2. MDRs help families understand what to expect (>90%)
3. A template helps families focus their questions (>70%)

Conclusion

- Keeping families updated with the patient’s plan of care relieves stress and anxiety
- One family suggested, “Tell me what you know, what you don’t, and what is going to happen next.”
- MDRs help families to feel like they are a part of the team to support the patient

References

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