



# Reduction of Prevalence of Pressure Injury in a Cardiology ICU using the Improvement Science

Hospital Sírio-Libanês, São Paulo, Brazil  
Aline Pedroso, RN - Quality Improvement Specialist



**Project Team:** Carla Behr; Wania Baia; Nilda Rosa; Aline Ramalho; Eliane Mazocoli; Karoline Razimaviscius; Natalia Balestra; Patricia Claus; Thiara Oliveira

## Background:

An opportunity for improvement was observed in the Institution's Cardiology ICU because it had a higher prevalence of pressure injury, with a median of 50% pressure injury between September 2017 and February 2018.

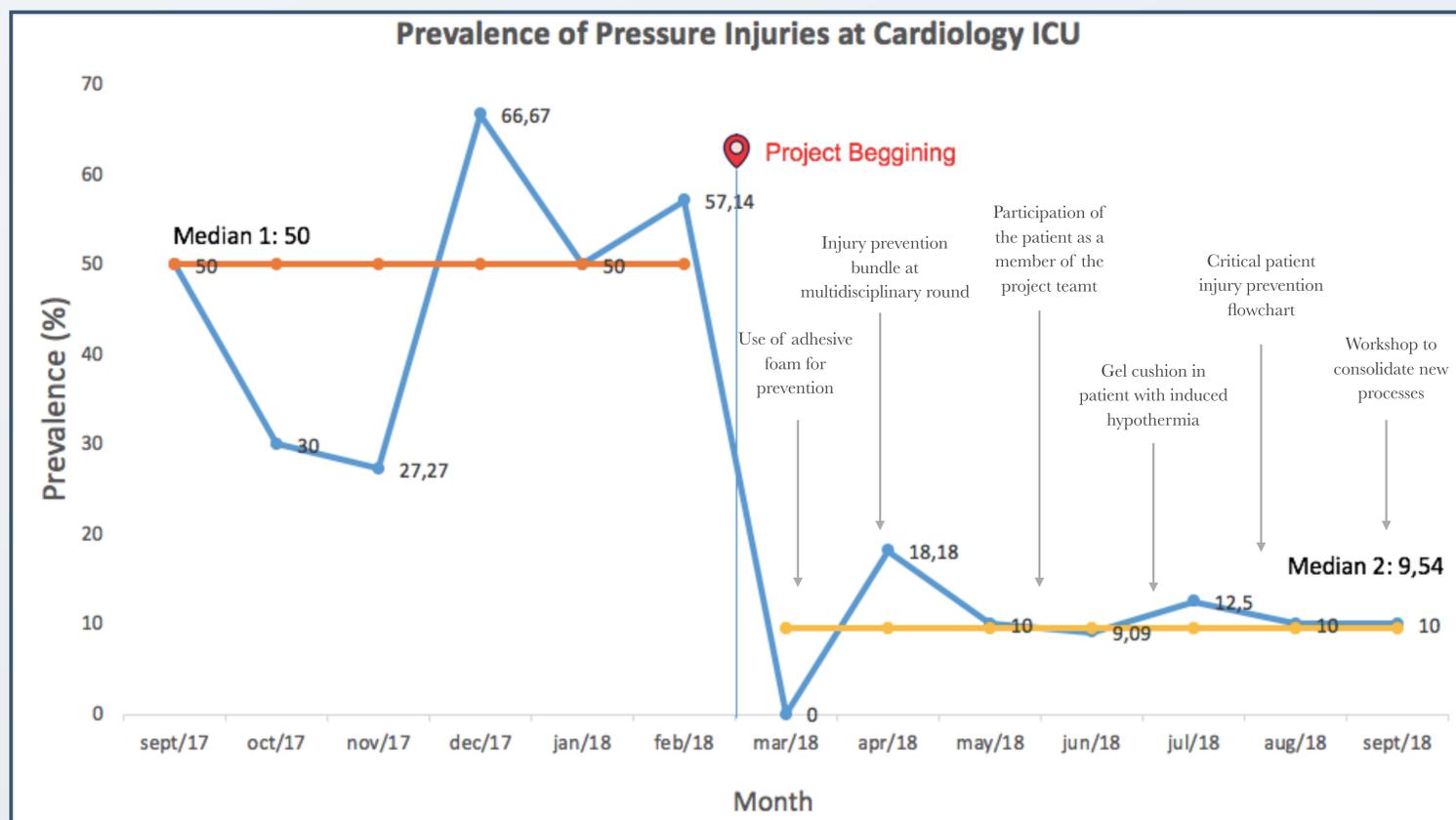
## Project Aim:

Reduce the prevalence of pressure injury by 50% in the Cardiology ICU by December 2018.

## Outcomes:

## Actions taken:

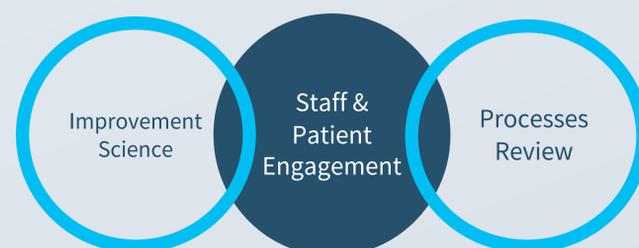
The actions carried out were based on four pillars of the driver diagram, which was built in conjunction with the local team, namely: providing service based on best practices, obtaining standardized processes, having multidisciplinary teams highly engaged and integrating patients and families in the processes of caution. Of these groups, change ideas have been set to achieve the goal. The tests were performed using the PDSA tool, rapid and small-scale tests that allow detailed study of the test responses. The change ideas tested and implemented are shown in the chart below.



Reduction of the prevalence of pressure injury by **81%** and by **69%** the pressure lesions of greater complexity in **six months**, with 83% follow-up of the bundle of prevention of skin lesions. With this, we avoided new pressure injuries in **720 patients** and reduced the length of stay in the ICU by 20%.

## Lessons Learned:

The key factors for the positive outcomes we would like to share are: Science of Improvement, Employee and Patient Engagement, Process Review. Involving the patient and the local team in the project was a differential to achieve improvements.



## Next Steps:

Spread the concepts of change to another ICU with high prevalence of pressure injury, ensure pressure injury management by local staff, apply the methodology in other challenges by disseminating the culture of safety and continuous improvement by the institution.