

# Reducing the hospitalization length of patients with diabetic foot ulcer admitted to the surgical ward

Hôpital Saint Nicolas / Saint Marc, Haiti

L. Nazon MD, J. Léosthène MD, O. Saintéran, MD, E. Régis MD, M. Alerte RN



## Description

Diabetic foot is one of the most severe complications of diabetes with approximately 20% of prolonged and costly hospitalizations. There are ways to improve the evolution of the diabetic foot that do not require an exorbitant expenditure of financial resources. One of them is to reduce the hospitalization duration of these patients with a multidisciplinary approach to therapy.

**Aims:** Decrease the average hospitalization length of patients with diabetic foot ulcer.

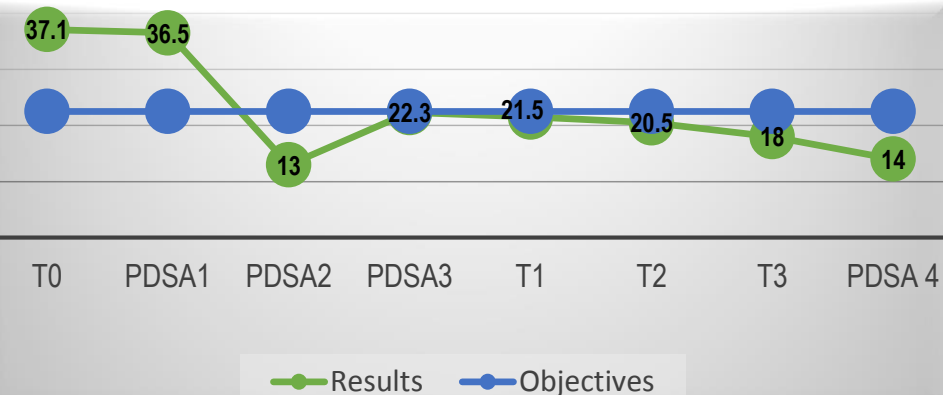
**Goal:** Decrease the average hospitalization length of patients with diabetic foot ulcers to 22.5 days in the HSN Surgery Department from August 2017 to August 2018.

## Methodology

Continuous Quality Improvement Method has been used to investigate the root causes analysis and process strategies. Training on wound care, staff awareness were the main strategies used to implement the changes in the surgery ward.



## Results



## Lessons learned

In settings with limited resources, the use of affordable and available items is a good alternative in the management of patients with diabetic feet.

Multidisciplinary participation is essential for good management of patient with diabetic feet.

Continuing education of staff and patients on wound care play a major role in the favorable evolution of wounds.

Training and awareness help with sustainability.