

# Northland DHB

## *Safe use of opioids*

### TEAM

Alan Davis – Clinical Lead

Karen O’Keeffe – Improvement Advisor

Helen Dunn – Pharmacy Manager

Chanchal Ajoda – Anesthetist Pain Team

Sarah Preston – Specialist Nurse Pain Team

Bryce Kivell – Medication Safety Pharmacist

Sharon Kerwin – ACNM Surgical Ward

John Lengyel – General Surgeon

Sharon Scott – Pharmacist Mania PHO

# Available data

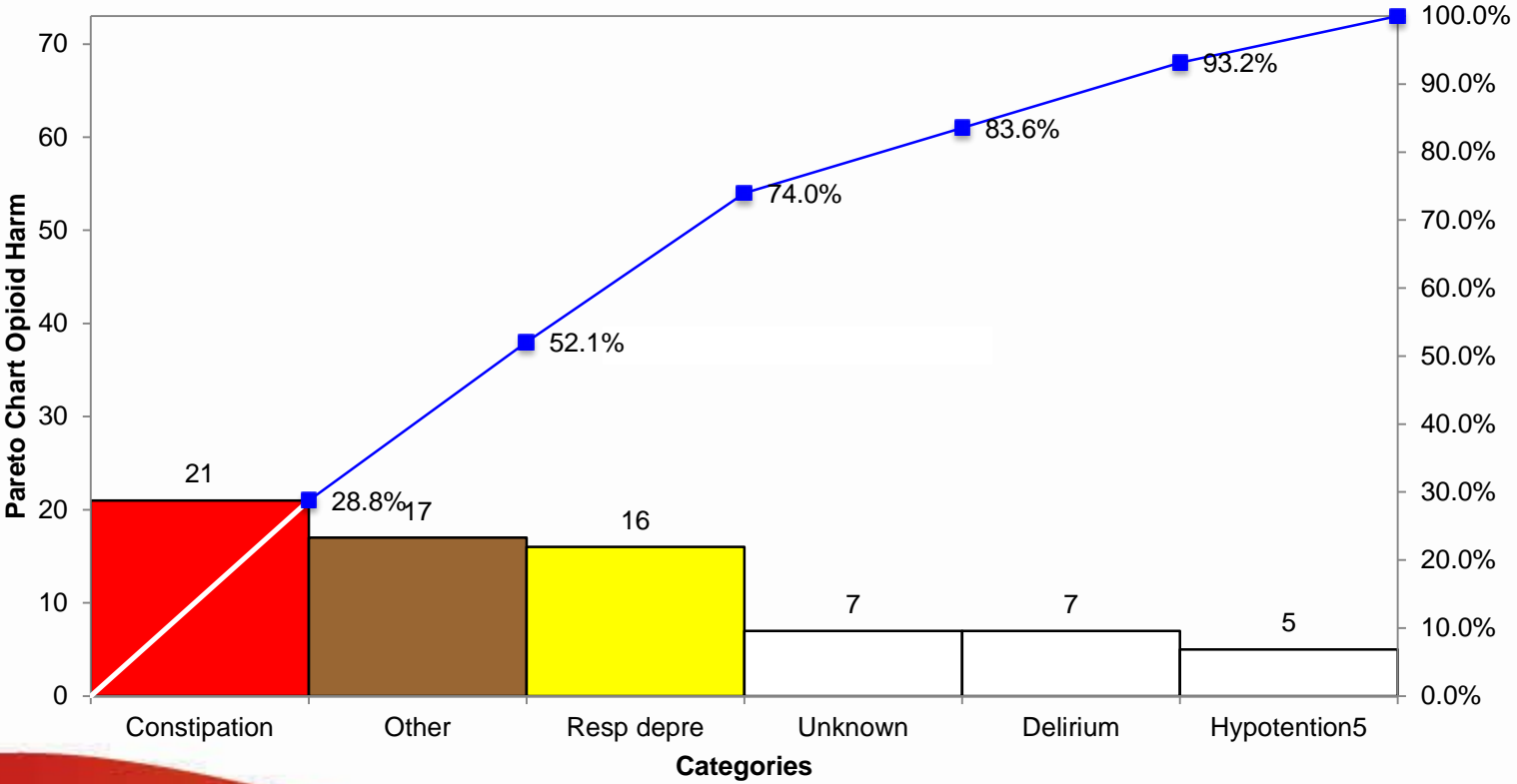
- BPAC –
- Prescribing
- GTT
- Incident
- Chart review –unplanned ICU
- Coding data ( Y450 )

# GTT 135 patient reviewed

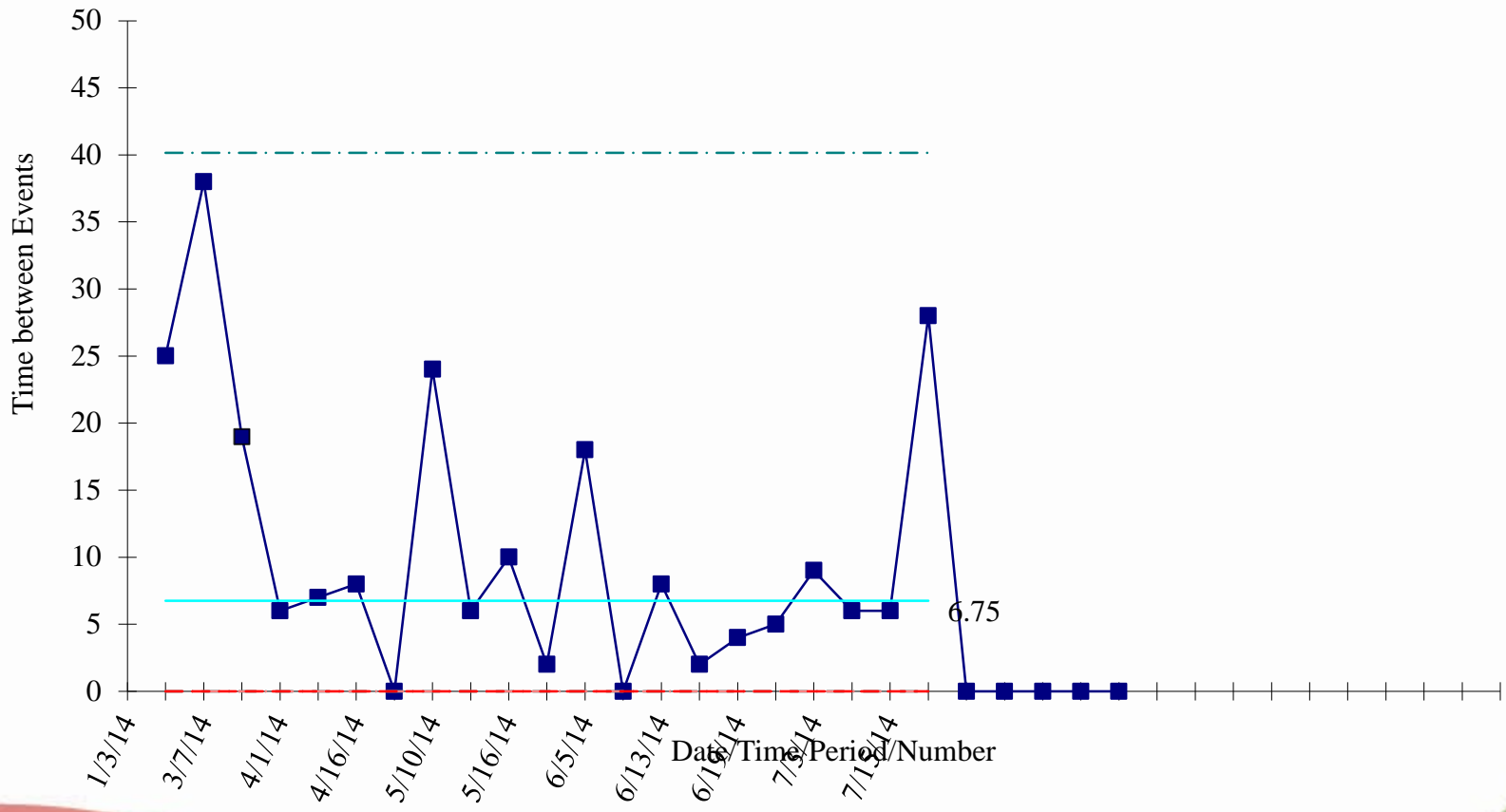
Harm Category Breakdown									
Count of Harm Cat		Where						Not Recorded	Grand Total
Sub Cat	When	Med	Ortho	Surg	Dargaville	Other	Not Recorded	Grand Total	
Abnor Bleed	During Admission			1				1	
Med Glyc	During Admission		1					1	
Med Hypoten	During Admission	1						1	
Med N+V	During Admission	2	3	3		1		9	
	Not Recorded						2	2	
PI	During Admission	1						1	
PI 1 or 2	During Admission	3	1	1				5	
	Not Recorded		1					1	
Not Recorded	During Admission	4	1	4				9	
	Not Recorded						3	3	
Fall / Inj	During Admission			1	1			2	
Patient Care Other	During Admission	1						1	
Med Other	During Admission	1	4	1		1	1	8	
	Not Recorded		1				1	2	
SSI	Prior to Admission						1	1	
	During Admission			1				1	
Med Diarrhoea	During Admission	1						1	
Med Delirium	During Admission						1	1	
PI 3 or 4	During Admission		1					1	
Resp Inf	During Admission	1	1					2	
CAUTI	During Admission	1	1	1				3	
DVT/VTE	During Admission					1		1	
Med Allergy	During Admission			3				3	
Med Bleed	Prior to Admission					1		1	
Surgery Other	During Admission		1					1	
Events Related to Surgery / Other Procedures	During Admission		1				2	3	
	Not Recorded						1	1	
Grand Total		16	17	16	1	4	12	66	

# Review of 87 charts with Y450 code opioids causing adverse effects

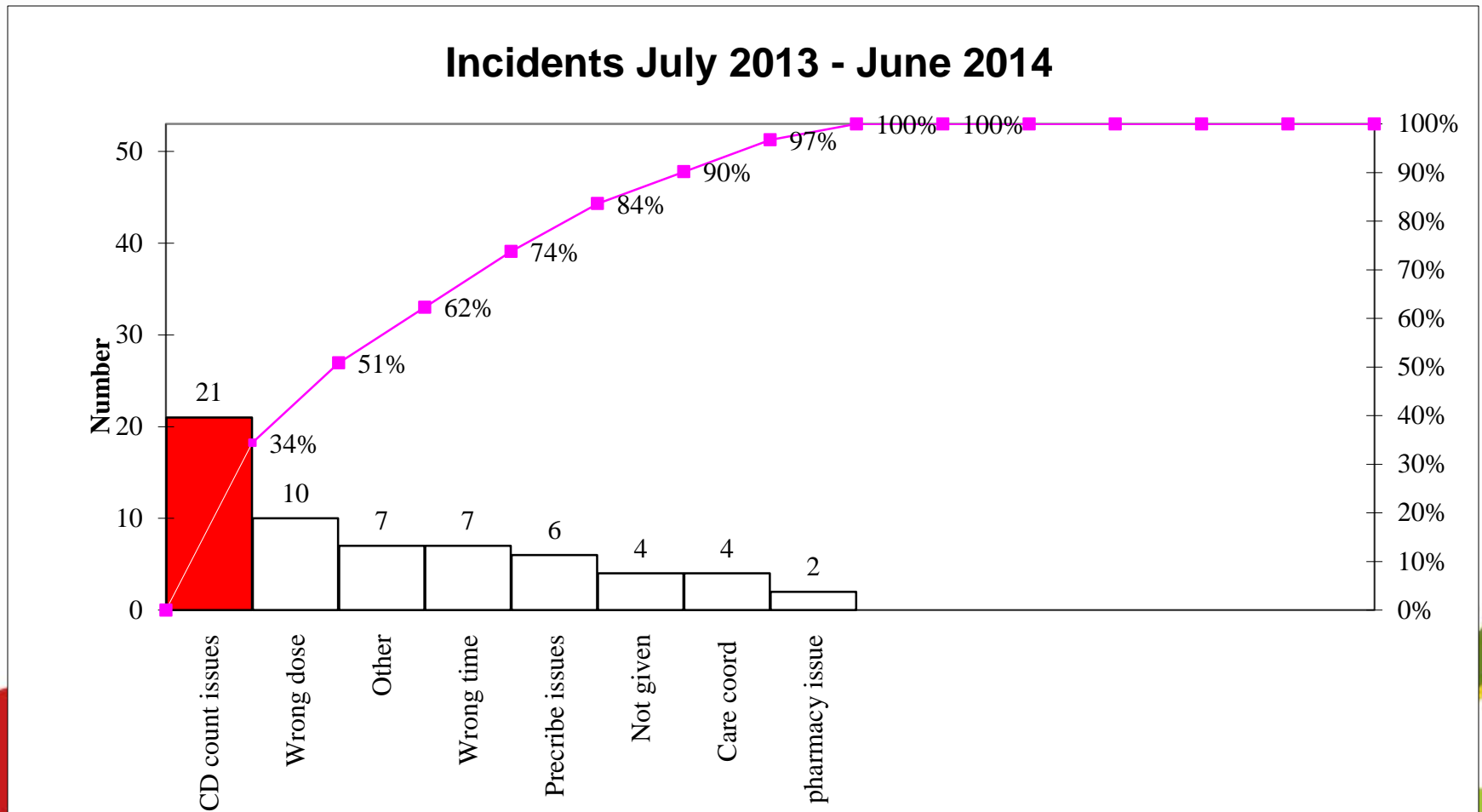
## Pareto Chart Opioid Harm

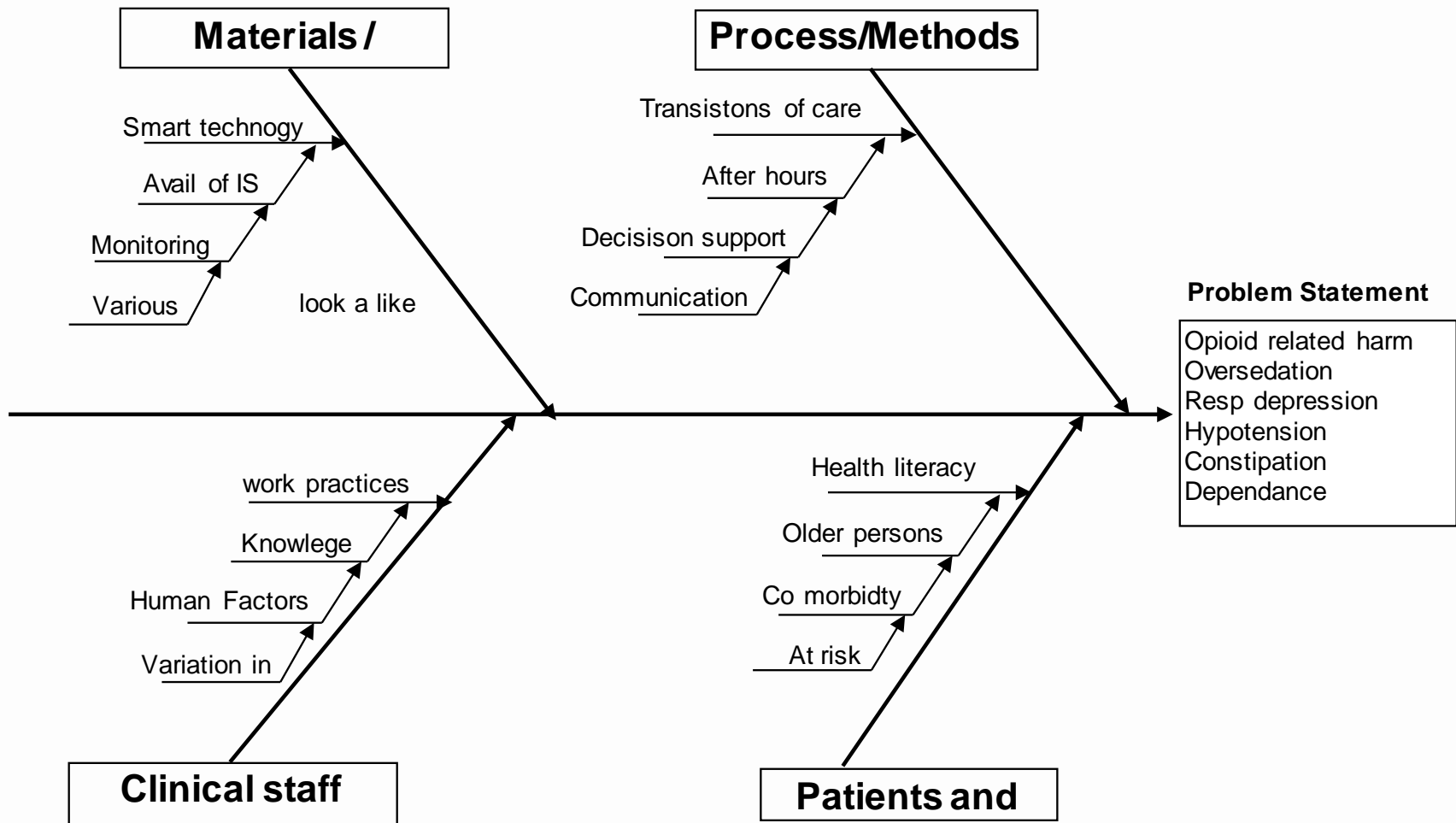


# Time between resp depression



# Incident data reviewed





[Ishikawa Fishbone Diagram](#)  
[Cause Effect Analysis](#)

# What we've learned so far

- Respiratory depression much greater than we expected.
- Constipation a real issue – readmissions, patient experience.
- Significant variation in pain management practices.
- Lots of opportunity for improving processes.
- Challenges to finding good measures
  - Coding Y450 looks promising



# Driver diagram intial draft

## Goal:

To reduce opioid related adverse events.

## Outcome

## Measures:

1. Reduce constipation related to opioids (GTT)
2. Reduced use of oxycodone on discharge
3. Reduced opioid hypotension.
4. Reduced community opioid use.
- 5.

## Primary Drivers

Reliable pain management processes

Coordination of care

Patient centered care

Safety Culture

## Secondary Drivers

Standardised protocols / decision support algorithms.

Reduce variation of practice

High risk patient protocols

Regional blocks

Pain management plan

Transition process –  
Communication with primary care.

- Education
- Alternative pain regimes
- Health literacy - medications

Safe medication systems

Learning systems

Human factors

## Changes Ideas

Pain management order set

Pre-printed laxitive orders

SpO2 monitoring for at risk patients.

Oxycodone education

Time limited opioid perscription

Limit oxycodone prescriptions

Medicaition reconcilliation

Pre-op educaiton

Patient handouts

Release improvement staff to attend Learning session

Involve in spread strategies

# Issues to consider

- Time frame for this project is 18 months
- How we can demonstrate improvement
  - Outcome, process
- Good idea to scope – project –
- Evidence change ideas
- Team