

**TITLE: Revolutionizing Patient Safety: Empowering Vital Signs Monitoring & MEWS Implementation for Enhanced Healthcare Outcomes**

**INTRODUCTION**

This initiative aims to enhance patient care standards by addressing critical issues in monitoring vital signs. It focuses on rectifying inappropriate techniques, commissioning, and Omission in documentation, as well as documenting vital signs at the right time on MEWS charts. Moreover, it aims to improve the timely escalation of concerns and adherence to MEWS protocols. By fostering a culture of swift intervention and effective communication, we strive to promote proactive patient care practices, ultimately ensuring safer outcomes. This Project underscores our commitment to elevating the accuracy of vital signs assessment, early warning sign recognition, and overall patient care efficacy.

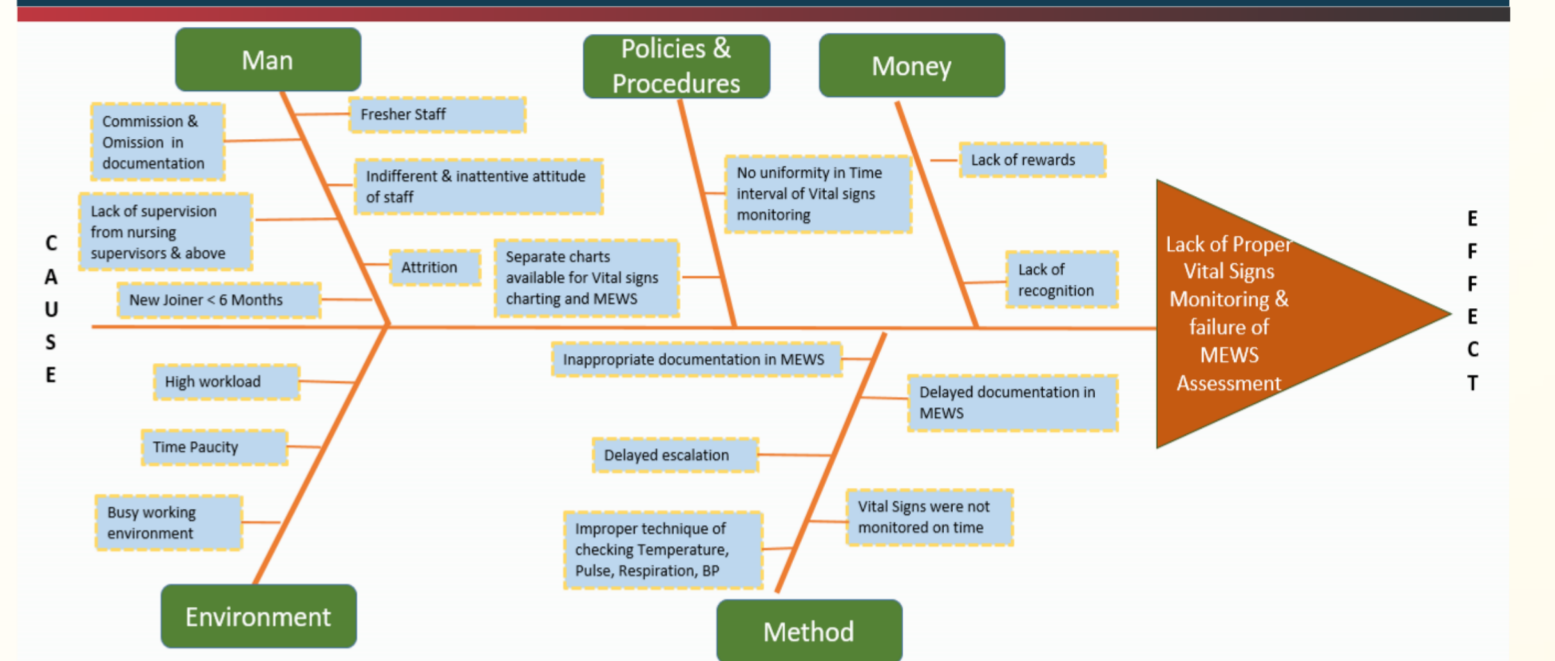
**OBJECTIVE:**

- To improve adherence to vital signs monitoring
- To effectively optimize the usage of MEWS chart.
- To enhance patient satisfaction in terms of vital signs monitoring.
- To ensure compliance and adherence to safety protocols for patient care.
- To reduce the morbidity and mortality of patients related to delayed escalation.

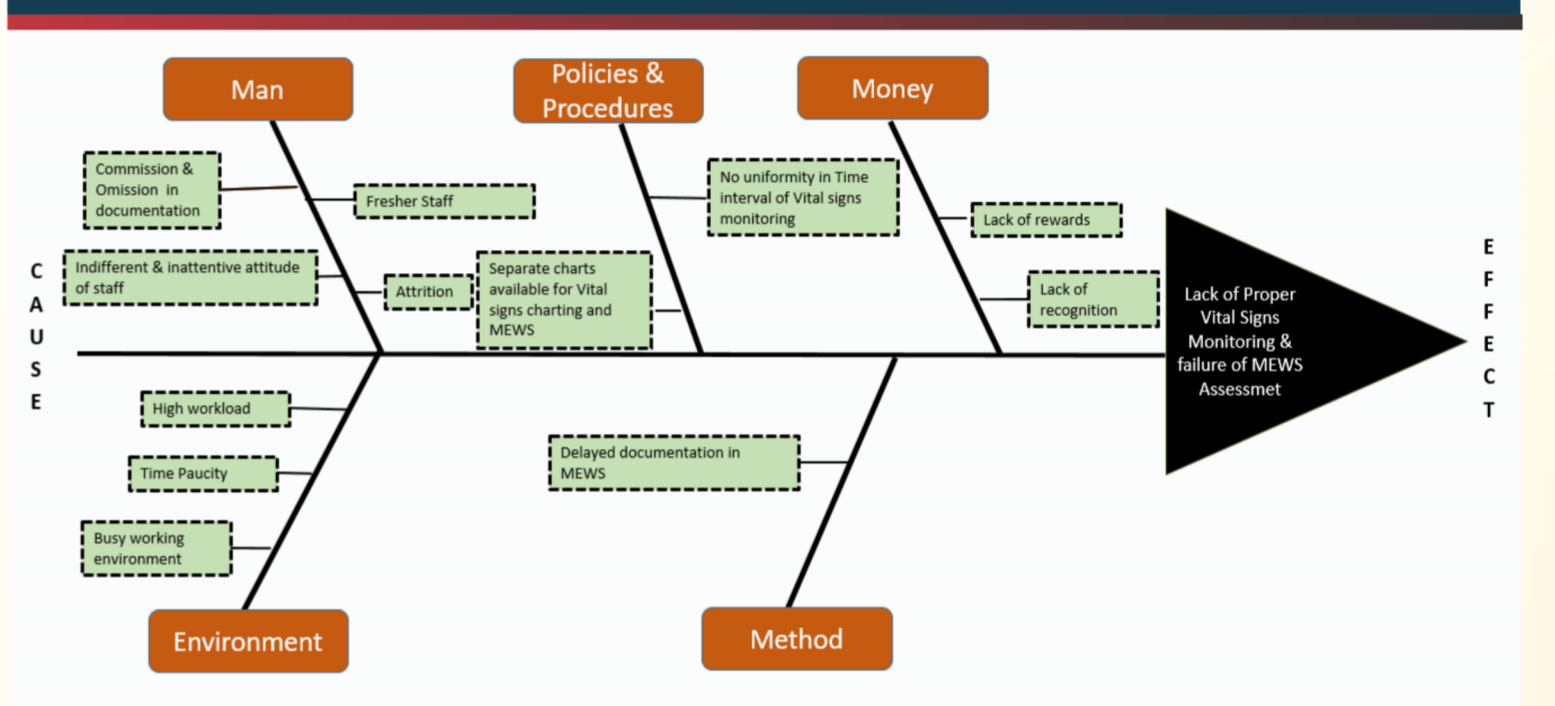
**METHODOLOGY:**

Project Type	Quality Improvement Project
Duration	6 Months
Setting	Non - Critical Care Areas
Sample	Patients admitted in Non - Critical Care areas
Sample Size	60
Sampling Method	Convenient Sampling
Data Collection Method	Direct & Indirect Observation; Interview technique
Data Collection Tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct Observation Checklist</li> <li>Interview Schedule</li> <li>Camera Surveillance checklist</li> </ul>
Assessors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct Observation Checklist</li> <li>Interview Schedule</li> <li>Camera Surveillance checklist</li> </ul>
Phases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment</li> <li>Planning</li> <li>Implementation</li> <li>Monitoring</li> <li>Evaluation</li> <li>Refinement</li> <li>Sustenance</li> </ul>

After analysing the data, the team has identified potential causes of inadequate vital signs monitoring and ineffective utilization of MEWS through a Fishbone analysis.



After the evaluation phase, a Root Cause Analysis was conducted, illustrated in the following diagram:



**DISCUSSION / FINDINGS: Assessment Phase**

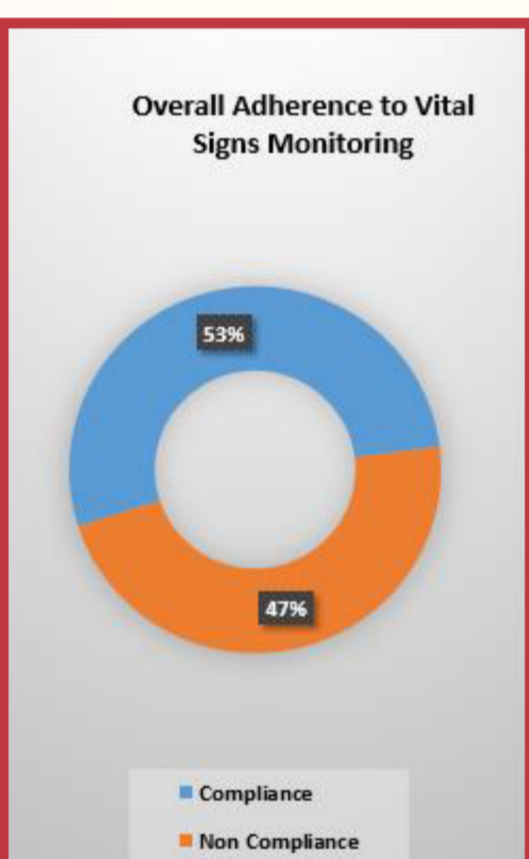


Figure 1: overall compliance to Vital Signs Monitoring

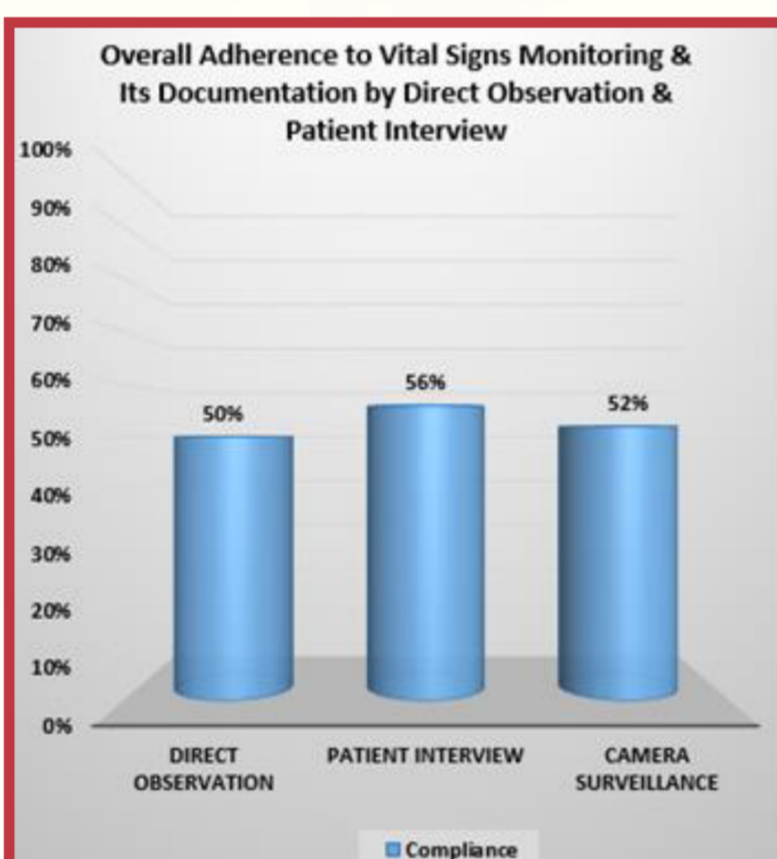


Figure 2: overall compliance to Vital Signs Monitoring & its documentation by various methods

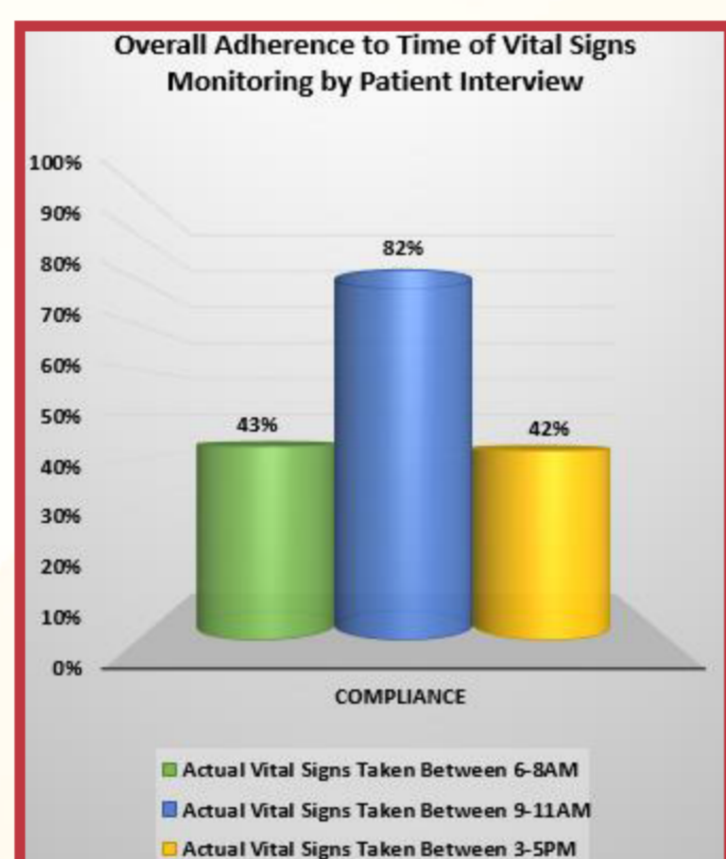


Figure 3: overall compliance to time of Vital Signs monitoring

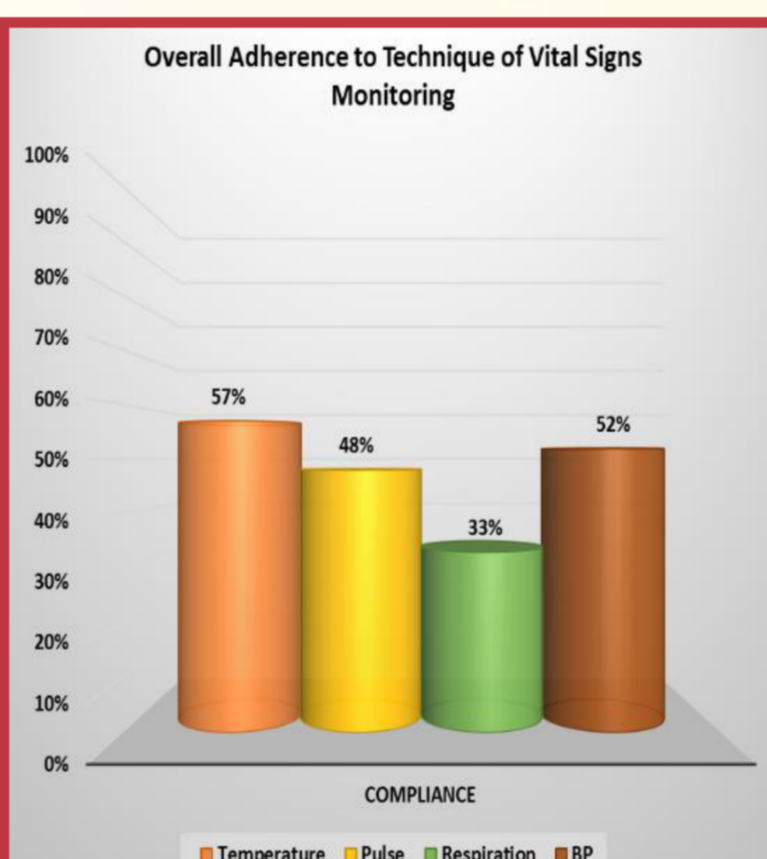


Figure 4: overall adherence to technique of Vital Signs

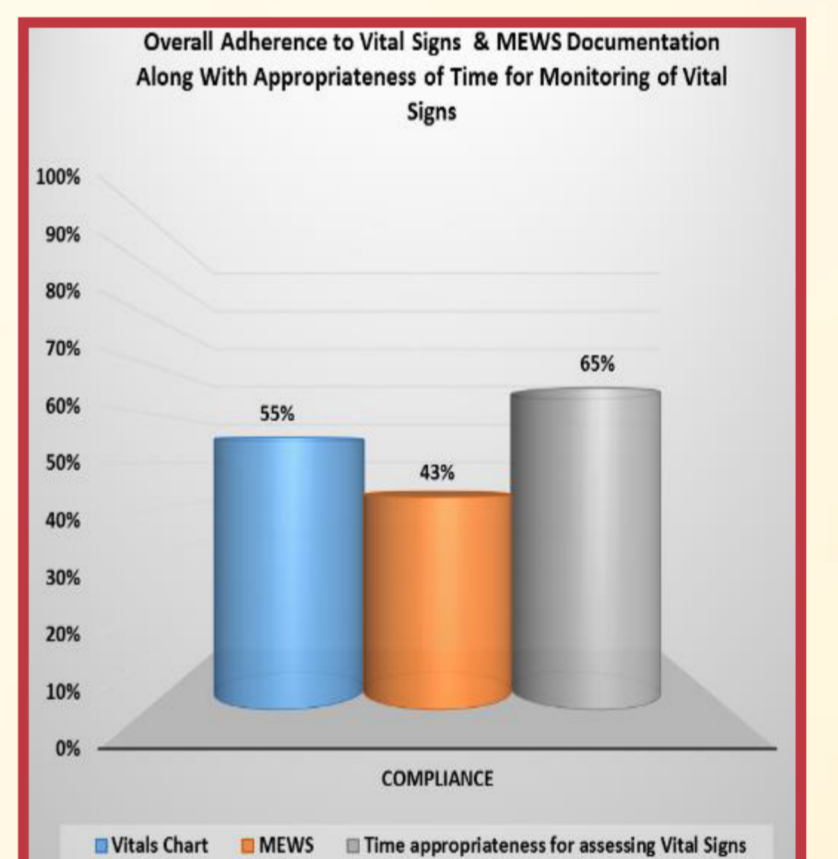


Figure 5: overall compliance to Vital Signs & MEWS documentation along with appropriateness of time

The following recommendations have been outlined:

- Awareness and reinforcement initiatives
- Supervision and monitoring measures
- Skill development programs
- Re-auditing procedures
- Competency assessments

**Evaluation Phase**

During this phase, a comparison was conducted between the two data collection phases.

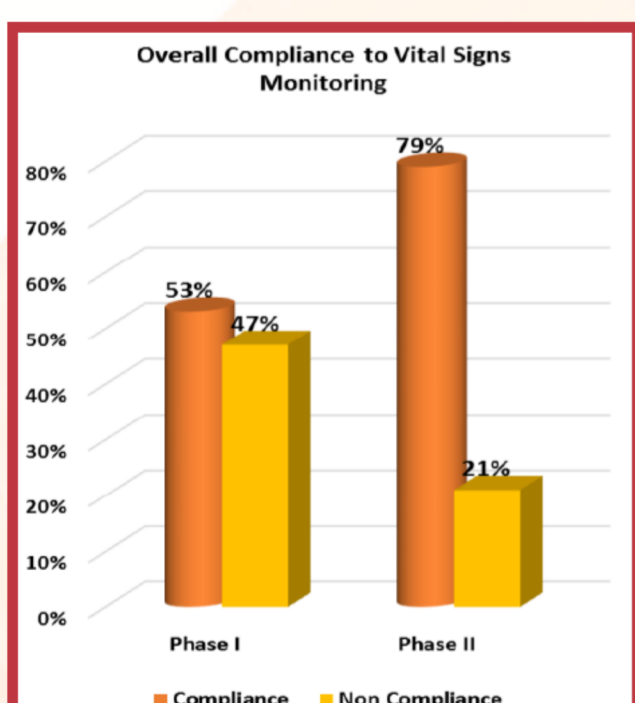


Figure 7: Improvement in overall compliance of vials signs monitoring

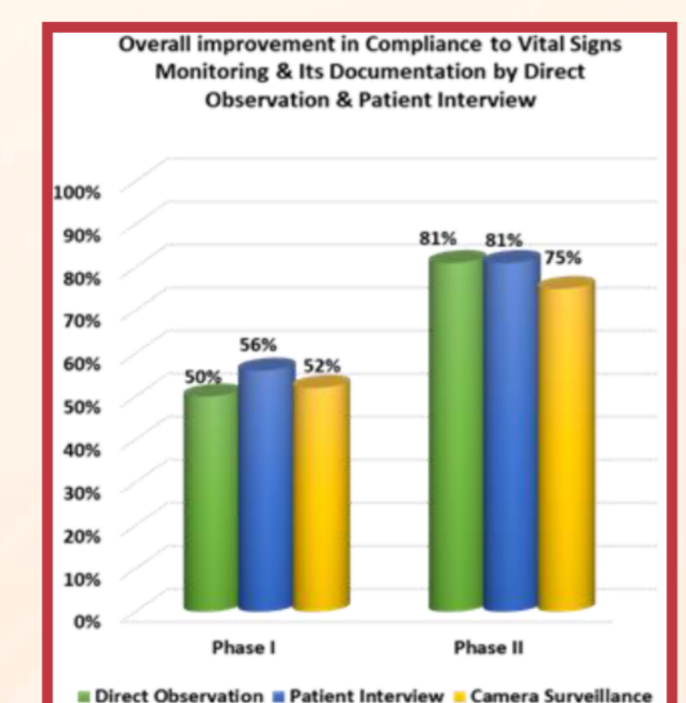


Figure 8: Improvement in overall compliance of vials signs monitoring

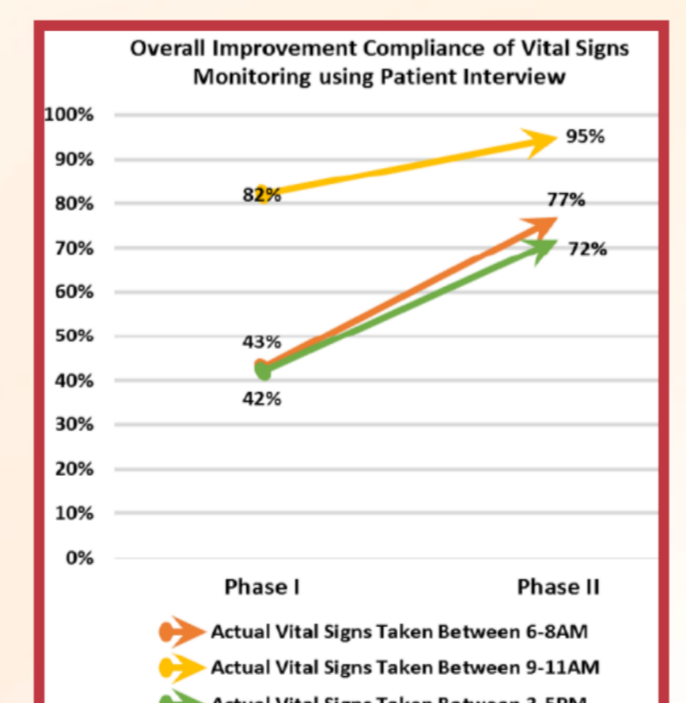


Figure 9: Improvement in overall compliance to time of Vital Signs monitoring

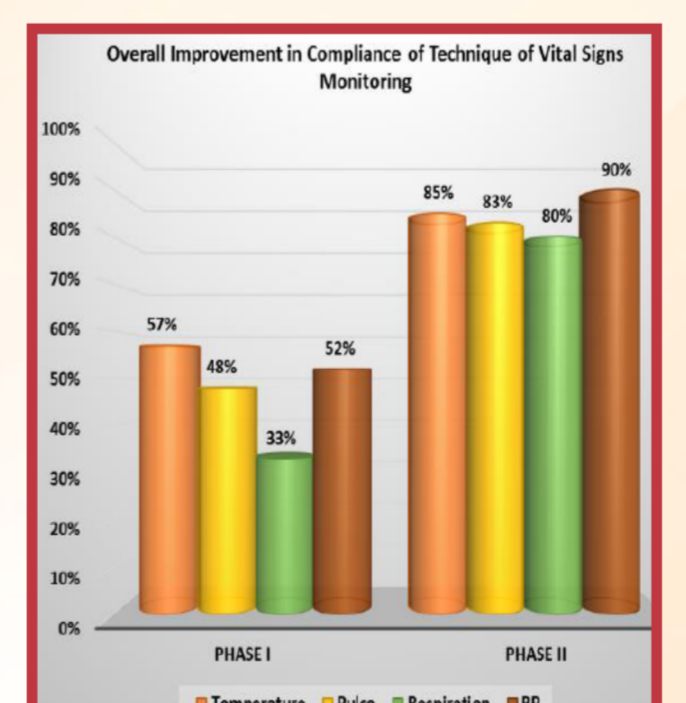


Figure 10: Improvement in overall adherence to technique of Vital Signs

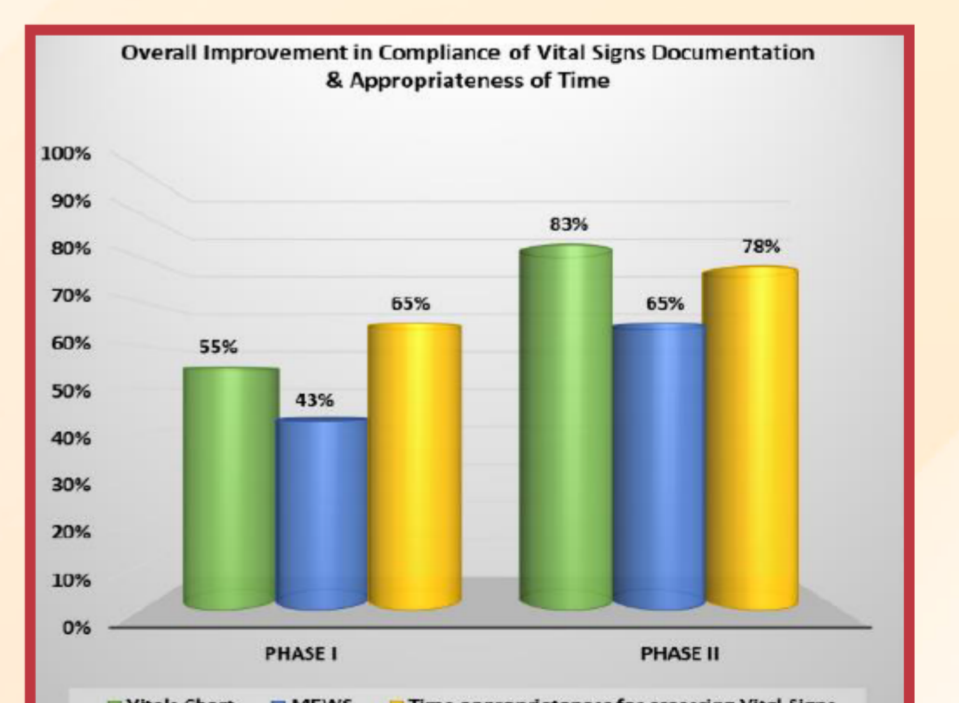


Figure 11: Improvement in overall compliance to Vital Signs & MEWS documentation along with appropriateness of time

- Proposals:-**
- Reassess the frequency of Vital Signs Monitoring
  - Enhance Process Tracking to address instances of Negligence
  - Integrate MEWS form with the Vitals chart

**CONCLUSION:**

The quality improvement project has demonstrated significant enhancements in adhering to timely vital signs monitoring with appropriate techniques, coupled with timely documentation and escalation using MEWS. Through revised monitoring frequencies, integration of MEWS forms with vital charts, and strengthened process tracking for negligence, notable improvements have been observed in patient safety and early condition detection. Staff training and clear communication have fostered a culture of accountability and diligence. These improvements signify a tangible advancement in patient care standards, underscoring the project's effectiveness in optimizing clinical outcomes and fostering a safer healthcare environment.