

## **Project Title**

Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) In Lumbar Spinal Fusion Surgery

## **Project Lead and Members**

Project lead: Dr Rajeesh George

Project members: A/Prof Gamaliel Tan, Asst Prof Deepak Joseph, Fione Gun, Dr Manu Jacob Abraham, Mathew Neo, Kellyn Lee, Amanda Ng, Cheong Siew Jing, Tang Min Yee, A/Prof Fareede Kagda

## **Organisation(s) Involved**

Ng Teng Fong General Hospital, Jurong Community Hospital

## **Healthcare Family Group(s) Involved in this Project**

Medical, Allied Health, Healthcare Administration

## **Applicable Specialty or Discipline**

Neurosurgery, Physiotherapy, Clinical Research

## **Project Period**

Start date: 2021

## **Aims**

We aim to compare the early outcomes of ERAS Protocol for our patients underwent LSF surgery (spinal fusion 1-2 level) from November 2020 to July 2021 (n=24) against LSF patients on Non-ERAS Protocol from November 2019 to October 2020 (n=25).

## **Background**

See poster appended / below

## **Methods**

See poster appended / below

## Results

See poster appended / below

## Lessons Learnt

- Pre-op patient education and prehabilitation improve patient expectations on Length of Stay and Discharge Planning.
- Implementation of ERAS Protocol in LSF surgery reduces the usage of Strong Opioids and facilitates early mobilisation and discharge.
- Good interdisciplinary communication between disciplines improves care – coordination and compliance to ERAS Protocol.
- A strong leadership and camaraderie between multidisciplinary team, regular updates and analysis of the programme are key success factors of ERAS Protocol in LSF surgery.

## Conclusion

See poster appended / below

## Project Category

Applied/ Translational Research, Quantitative Research, Care Continuum, Inpatient Care

## Keywords

Lumbar Spinal Fusion (LSF), Surgery, Clinical Indicators, Recovery Of Patients, Length Of Stay (LOS), Multidisciplinary, Multimodal Perioperative Care

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# ENHANCED RECOVERY AFTER SURGERY (ERAS) IN LUMBAR SPINAL FUSION SURGERY

**MEMBERS: DR RAJEESH GEORGE (CLINICIAN LEAD), A/PROF GAMALIEL TAN, ASST PROF DEEPAK JOSEPH, FIONE GUN, DR MANU JACOB ABRAHAM, MATHEW NEO, KELLYN LEE, AMANDA NG, CHEONG SIEW JING, TANG MIN YEE, A/PROF FAREED KAGDA (SPONSOR)**

- ✓ SAFETY
- ✓ QUALITY
- ✓ PATIENT EXPERIENCE
- ✓ PRODUCTIVITY

## Define Problem, Set Aim

### Opportunity for Improvement

Traditionally, a patient's journey undergoing Lumbar Spinal Fusion (LSF) surgery comprises of different stages during which various care plans are carried out by individual team. Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) conceptualises a multidisciplinary and multimodal perioperative care approach that aims to hasten the recovery of patients undergoing surgery. ERAS protocol, when applied to spine procedures, reduces the Length of Stay (LOS), accelerates return of function, minimise postoperative pain and saves cost <sup>1</sup>.

#### References

Elsarrag, M., Soldozy, S., Patel, P., Norat, P., Sokolowski, J. D., Park, M. S., Tvrdik, P., & Kalani, M. Y. S. (2019). Enhanced recovery after spine surgery: a systematic review, *Neurosurgical Focus FOC*, 46(4)

### Aim

We aim to compare the early outcomes of ERAS Protocol for our patients underwent LSF surgery (spinal fusion 1-2 level) from November 2020 to July 2021 (n=24) against LSF patients on Non-ERAS Protocol from November 2019 to October 2020 (n=25).

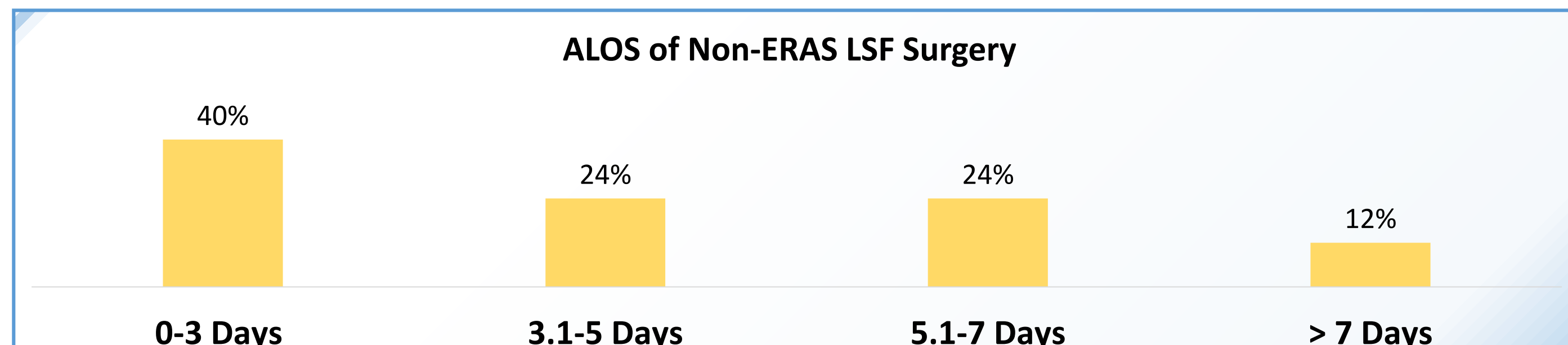
## Establish Measures

The patient cohort comprises of 49 patients who fulfilled the selection criteria underwent elective LSF surgery from November 2019 to July 2021 at NTFGH.

The 3 clinical indicators are:

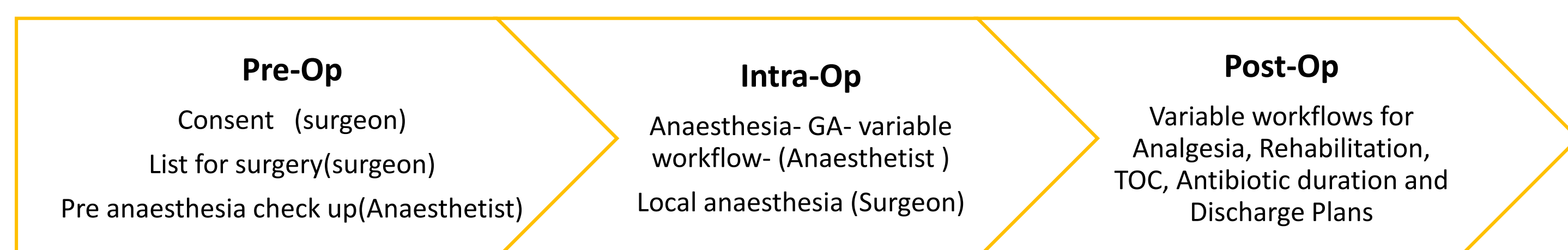
1.	Length of Stay (LOS)
2.	Duration of indwelling Urinary Catheter
3.	Strong Opioid (Oxycodone, Morphine/ PCA) usage post-operation

### Baseline Performance



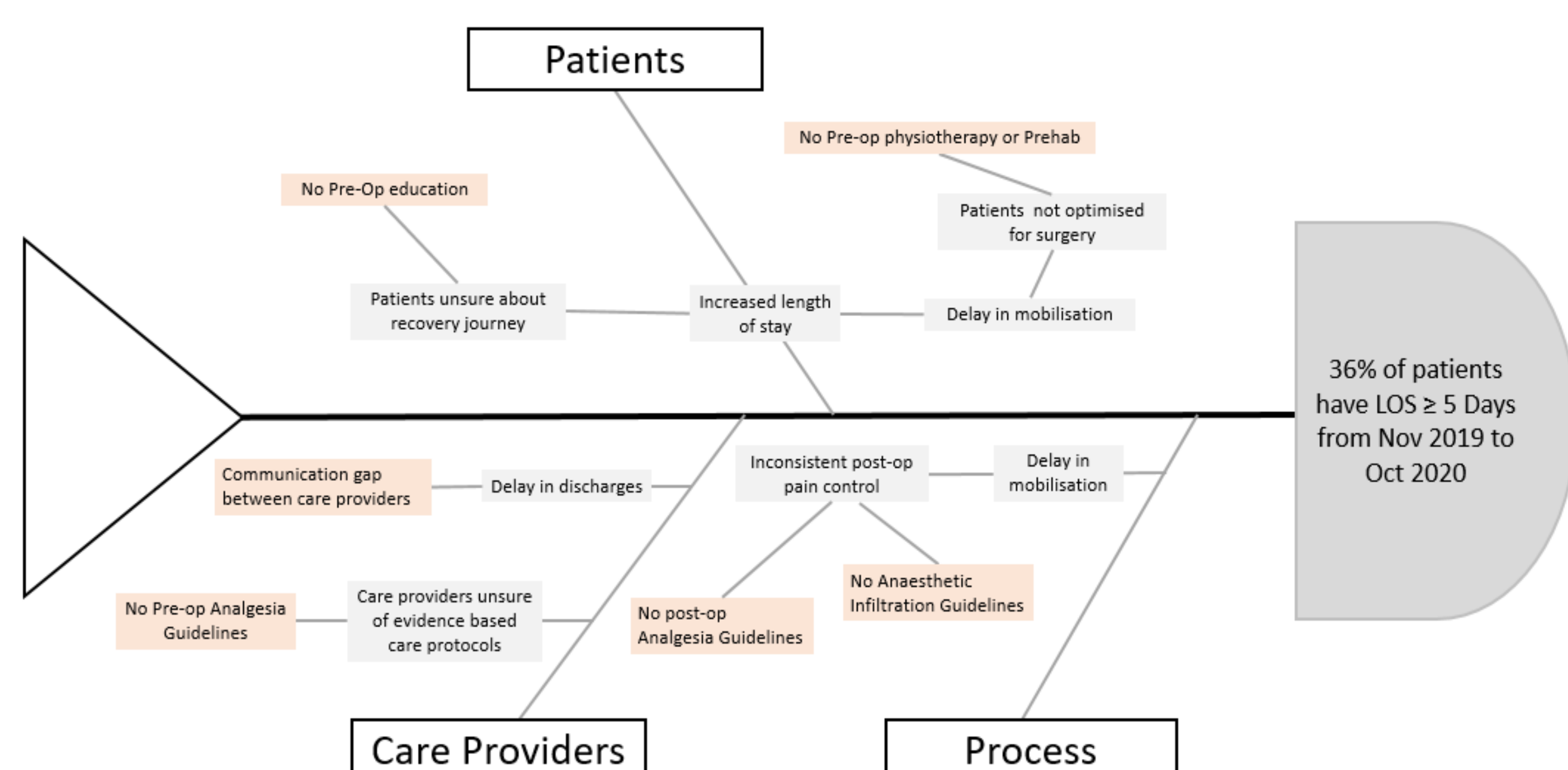
## Analyse Problem

### Interventions



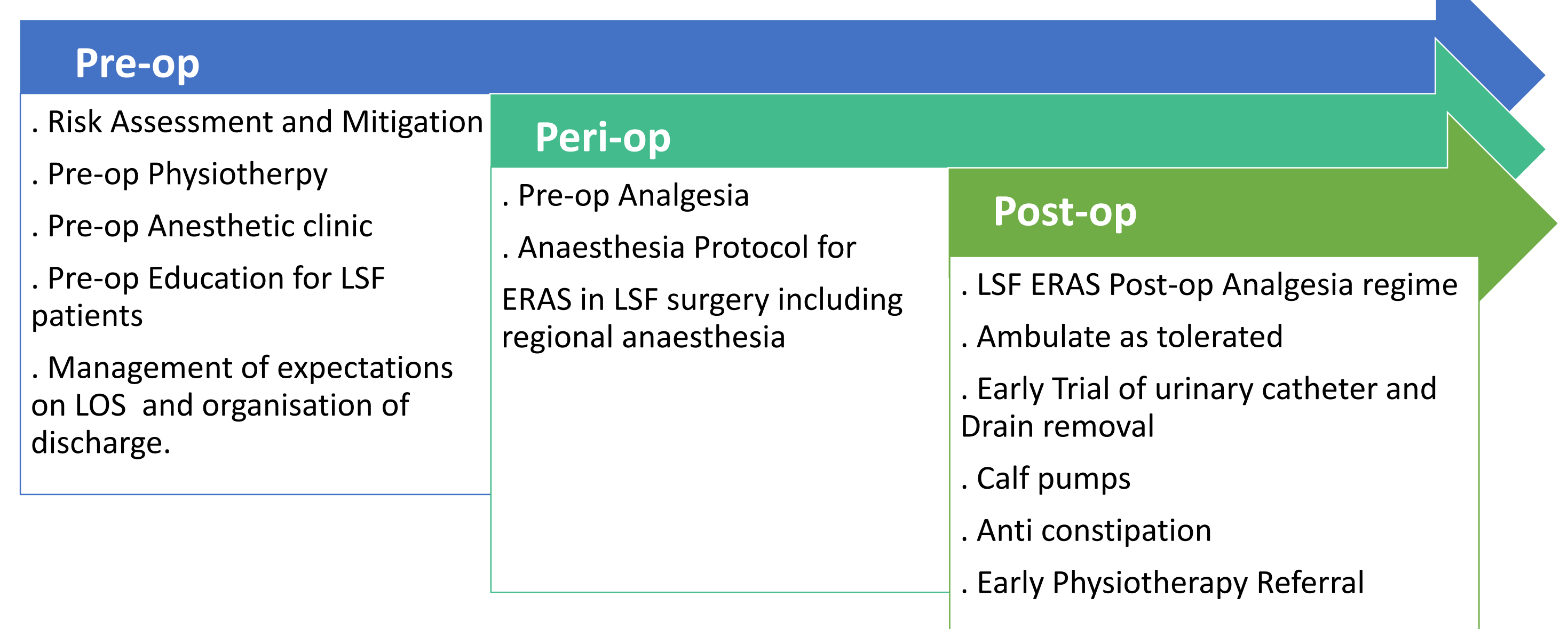
### Root Cause Analysis

Targeted areas of improvement:



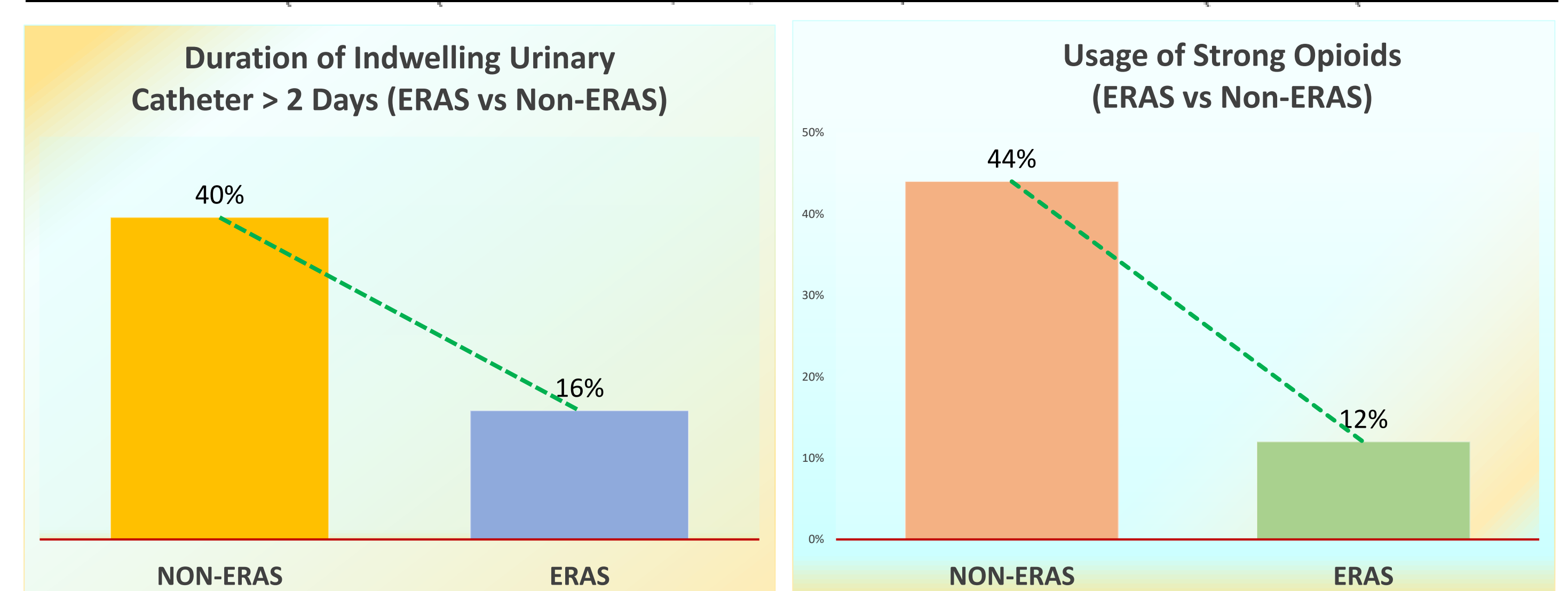
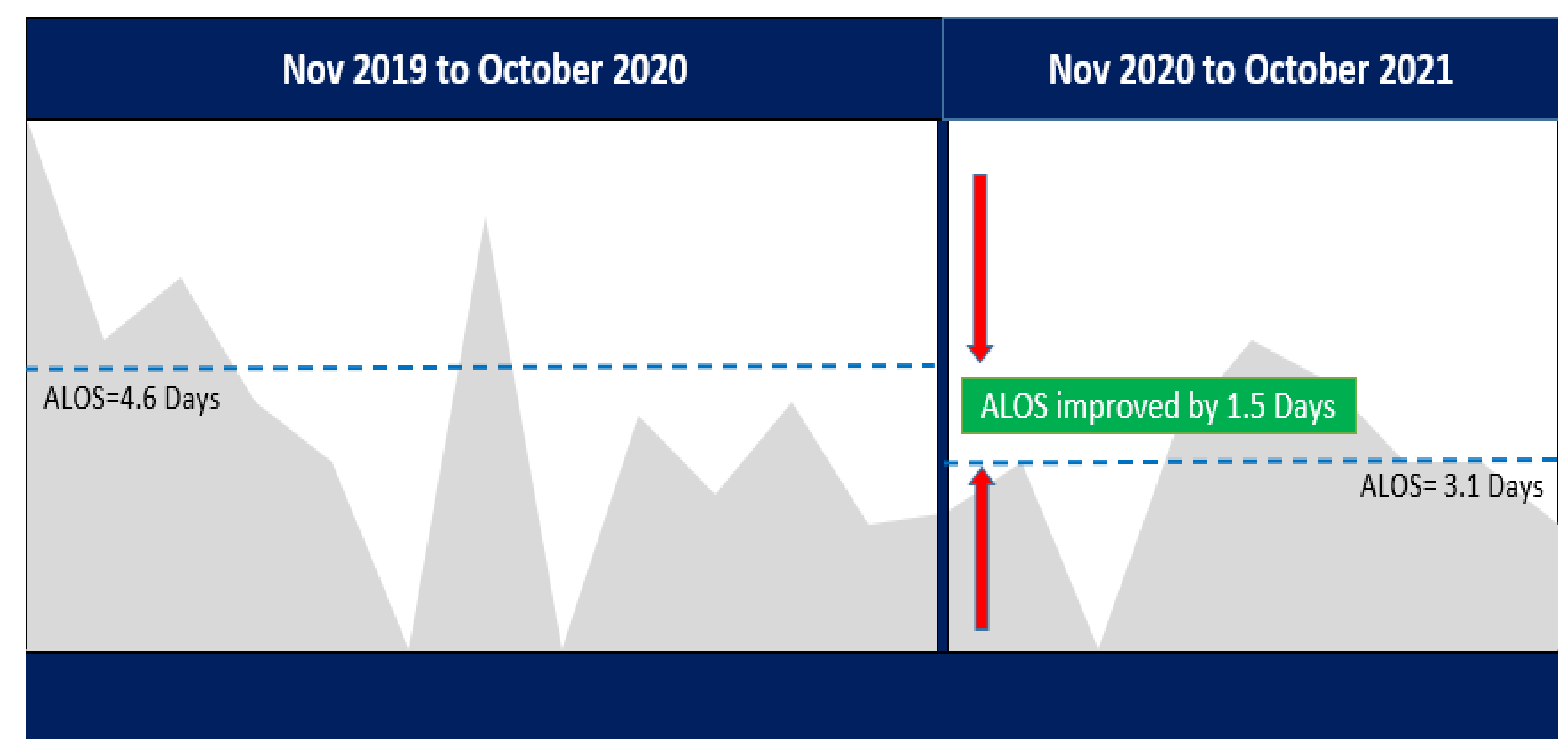
## Test & Implement Changes

ERAS Protocol in LSF surgery was established in a Multidisciplinary Team approach.



CYCLE	PLAN	DO	STUDY	ACT
1.	Measured ALOS for Non-ERAS in LSF surgery	Implementation of ERAS Protocol in LSF surgery in Nov 2020	Improvement in performance and decrease in variance	Continue ERAS Protocols and monitor performance
2.	Measure Duration of Indwelling Urinary Catheter and Opioid used for Non-ERAS in LSF Surgery			

Early results of ERAS in LSF surgery are encouraging. **ALOS decreased by 1.5 days, usage of Stronger Opioid decreased by 32%, whilst Duration of Indwelling Urinary Catheter > 2 Days decreased by 24%.**



## Spread Changes, Learning Points

- Pre-op patient education and prehabilitation improve patient expectations on Length of Stay and Discharge Planning.
- Implementation of ERAS Protocol in LSF surgery reduces the usage of Strong Opioids and facilitates early mobilisation and discharge.
- Good interdisciplinary communication between disciplines improves care –coordination and compliance to ERAS Protocol.
- A strong leadership and camaraderie between multidisciplinary team, regular updates and analysis of the programme are key success factors of ERAS Protocol in LSF surgery.

## Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank the contributions of the multidisciplinary team in the success of ERAS LSF surgery, without whom this would not have been possible.