

The Tipping Point Demands a Return to Primary Palliative Care: System and Continuum Wide Education Using the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium Curriculum

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS HOSPITAL

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Background

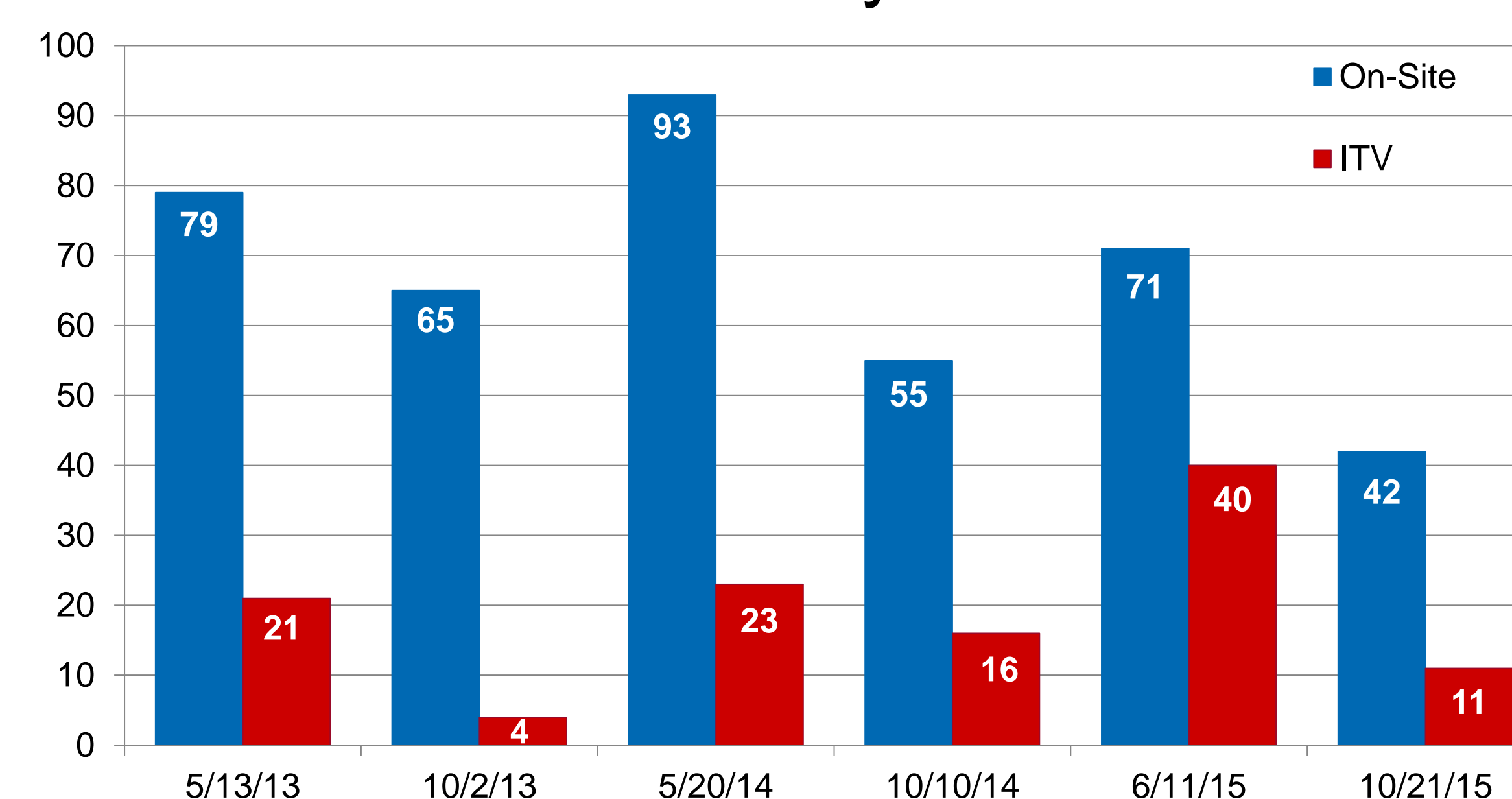
As Palliative Care programs mature, the need to empower frontline providers to address primary Palliative Care needs increases. The imperative to recognize and meet the basic Palliative Care needs for all of a system's seriously ill patients and families mandates a front line, system-wide education approach. For institutions with a broad geographic referral base including urban and rural networks, a wider scope for education is necessary. The Palliative Care Program at the University of Kansas Hospital sought to address these needs by implementing institutional and statewide ELNEC training using interactive tele-video (ITV) capability.

Project Description

- Interdisciplinary group of 5 attended a 'train the trainer' ELNEC summit in January 2012
- Original Goals for ELNEC Training included:
 - Focus training to nurses working regularly in areas of the hospital who have more than 3-5 deaths/month
 - ELNEC Training as a "core" competency
 - Plan for 1-day Spring and Fall Course on-going
 - Outreach to Greater KC community
 - Partner with CPGEC, MCA and others for statewide audience
 - Generate unit-based projects: QI, PI and Research
- 1-day ELNEC course designed for anyone who wishes to enhance their own knowledge of palliative and end-of-life care
- 2-day Train-the-Trainer course designed for those who wish to lead in dissemination of palliative and end-of-life care information and system level change in their own practice areas as "palliative care champions"

Project Results: Participant Volumes

- 612 total participants
- 520 ELNEC 1-day participants trained: 115 ITV, 405 on site
- 92 ELNEC 2-day "Palliative Care Champions" trained



2-Day ELNEC Champion Total: 92	
May 2012	22
October 2012	15
June 2013	20
January 2014	19
February 2015	16

1-Day ELNEC Participants by Role	
Direct Care Nurses	88.8%
Social Workers	4.2%
Respiratory Therapist	3.8%
Educators	1.2%
Physical/Occupational Therapist	0.8%
Chaplains	0.8%
Physicians	0.4%

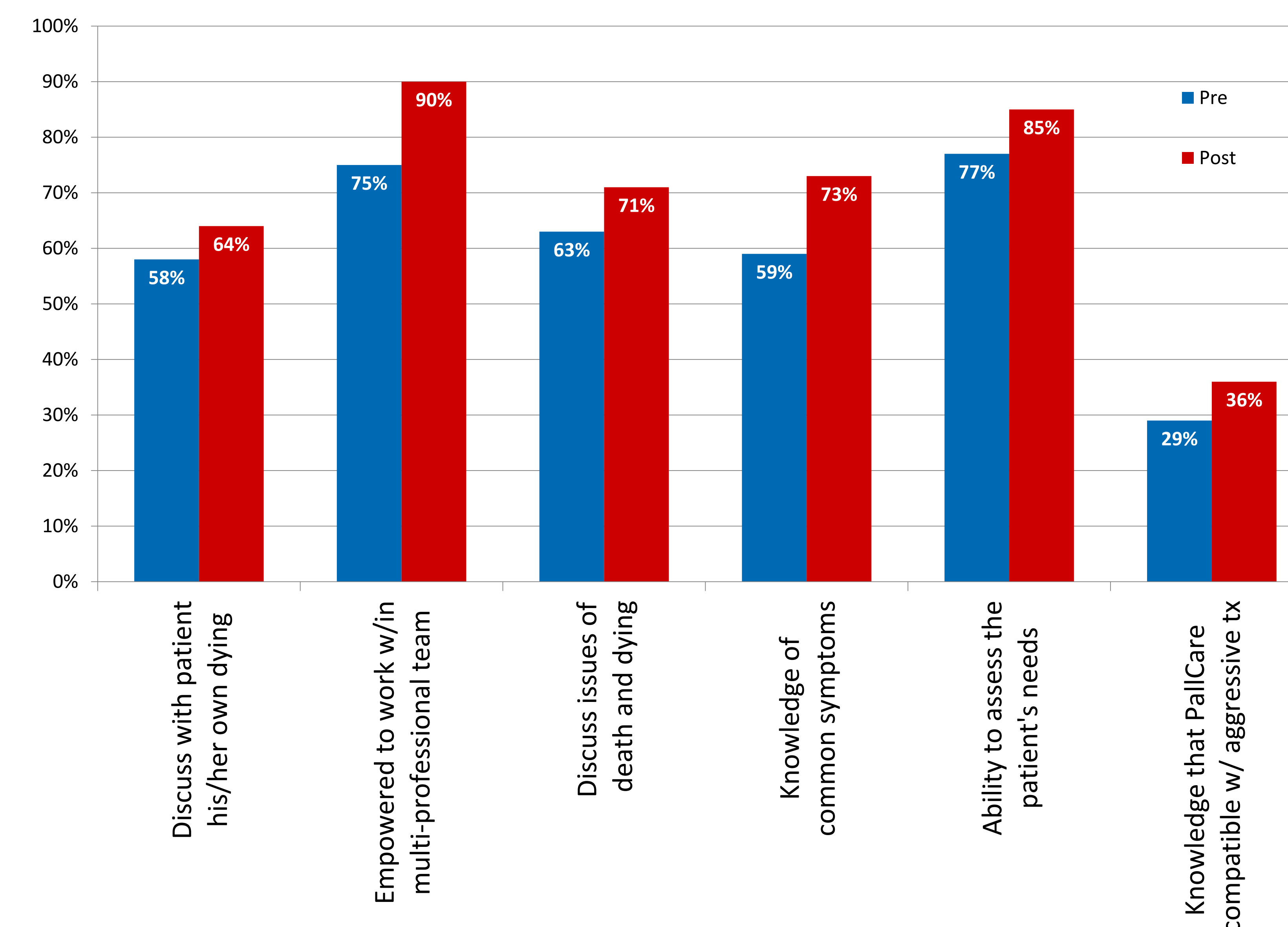


Projects, System Education and Outreach

- Champions identify gaps in knowledge and service delivery in their own practice areas, then implement process improvement strategies
- Unit 53: communication project with nurses embedded into rounding to support when primary delivering bad news
- Unit 62: Std PC in services and onboarding for new grads
- Chaplaincy: Std PC onboarding for new chaplains
- Unit 61: nurse residency project including ELNEC materials
- Unit champion now teaching in SON curriculum at local nursing college
- Champion promoted policy and system changes regarding Length of Stay and Goals of Care.

Project Results: pre-post survey data

Six-month follow-up surveys demonstrate improved confidence scores in several categories



Future Directions

- Moving to an internet based dissemination platform to reach even more places across the region
- Escalating strategies to embed Palliative Care nurse "coaches" at the unit and programmatic level to implement a standard Palliative Care bundle for seriously ill patients, with ELNEC as core training for frontline primary providers
- Augmented outcome measurement aligned with Measuring What Matters.

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