

## **Clinical Setting**

Department of Surgical Services in a Magnet<sup>®</sup> hospital, level II trauma center, where perioperative nurses are cross-trained:

- Pre-op
- PACU Phase I
- Phase II
- Regional anesthesia nerve blocks
- Ophthalmological same day surgeries



## **Clinical Issue**

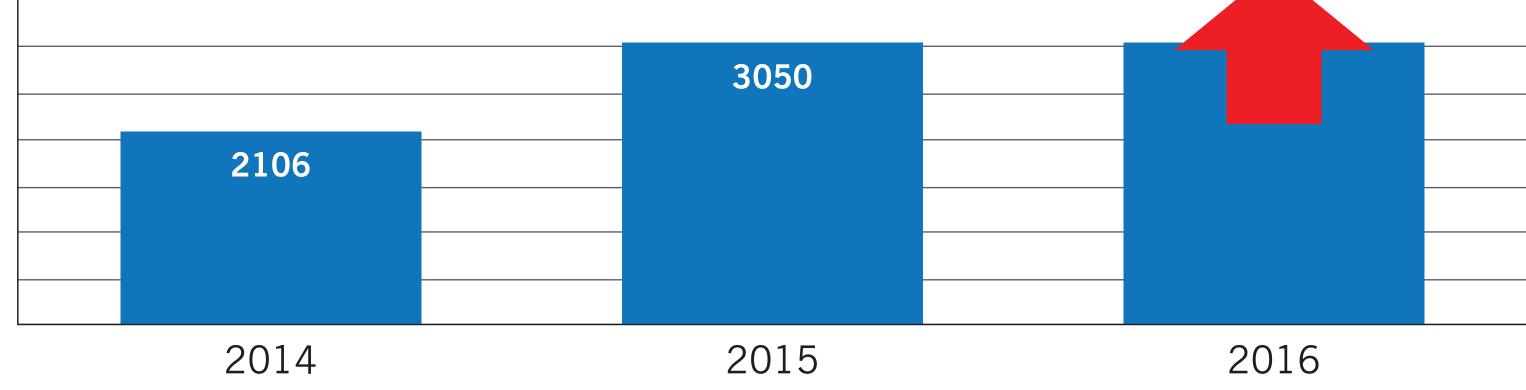
- Management of postoperative pain remains a high priority in a perioperative setting
- A heightened awareness of the opioid epidemic
- Utilization of multi-modal analgesia with a significant rise in the number of perioperative nerve block procedures being performed
- Lack of standardization in perioperative nerve block procedures process
- Increased number of non-surgical trauma patients needing regional nerve blocks for pain management
- Delayed on-time starts in the operating room (OR)
- Inefficiencies leading to increased costs
- Decreased patient satisfaction scores

# Utilizing a Regional Anesthesia Block Nurse Coordinator to Improve Quality Outcomes Amy Berardinelli DNP RN NE-BC CPAN, Toni Zito MSN RN CPAN

### **Cleveland Clinic Hillcrest Hospital**

### **Ohio Leads the Nation in Opioid Overdose Deaths**

**Opioid Overdose Deaths in Ohio** 



The Columbus Dispatch. November 29,2016. http://www.dispath.com/content/stories/local/2016/11/29/ohio-leads-us-inthree-drug-overdose-categories.html

## **Description of Team**

### **Department of Surgical Services Leadership**

- Chief Nursing Officer (CNO)
- Directors of Surgical Services, Nursing and Anesthesiology
- Perioperative Nurse Manager
- Perioperative Educator
- Clinical Perioperative Nurses
- Anesthesia Technician

## **Preparation and Planning**

A process was needed to optimize throughput of patients presenting for regional anesthesia nerve blocks, pre-operatively, post-operatively, and non-surgical trauma.

### S.W.O.T. Analysis was Conducted

- STRENGTHS Patient volume and trained nurses
- WEAKNESS Lack of standardization among providers and scheduling of patients
- OPPORTUNITY Individual to coordinate the program
- THREATS Physical space and staffing matrix

### Proposal

### **Regional Anesthesia Block Nurse Coordinator**

- 1 full-time RN designated to coordinate perioperative regional anesthesia nerve blocks
- 1 PRN anesthesia technician

### **Business Plan Developed**

- Developed job description identifying the new proposed position with key job responsibilities
- Met with key stakeholders

### **Presented Data:**

- First case on-time starts (FCOTS)
- Patient satisfaction
- Volume of regional blocks
- Return on investment (ROI) of 1 full-time RN

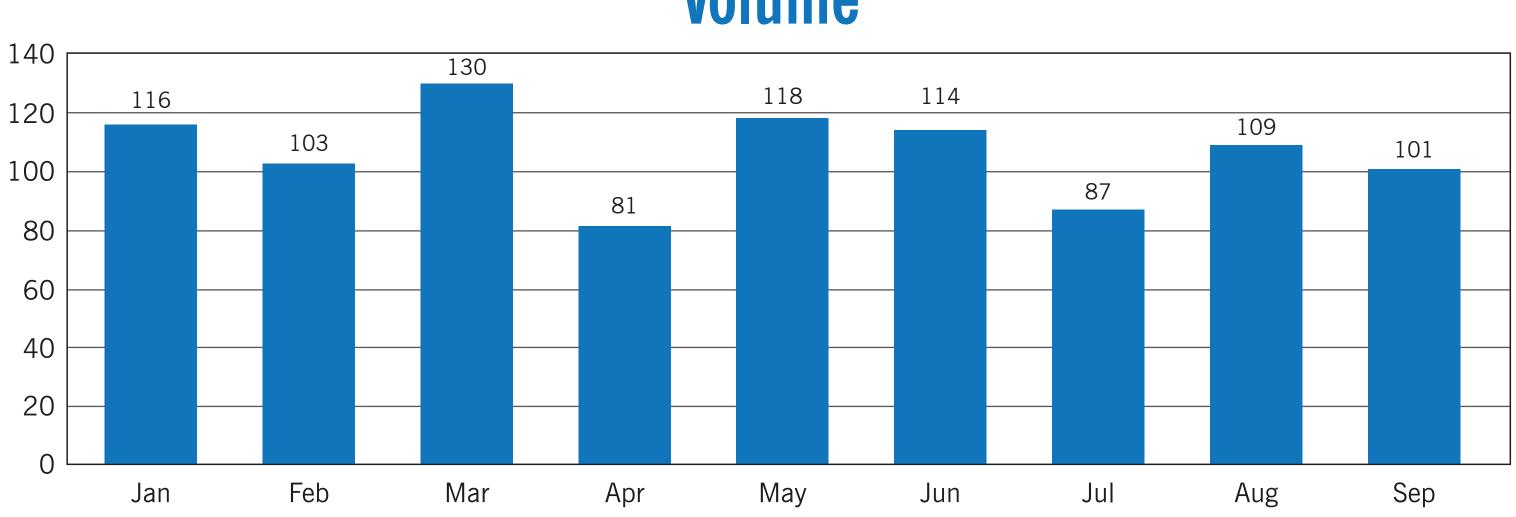
## **Coordinator Responsibilities**

Develop a standardized process, in collaboration with the anesthesia team, to improve patient throughput in the Department of Surgical Services.

- Identify patients that may benefit from a regional nerve block anesthesia consultation
- Provide education to the patients, the families, and the clinical staff
- Collect data
- Assist the anesthesiologist with procedures
- Integrate Evidence-based practice (EBP) into daily practice
- Conduct research to develop best practices

## Outcome

The outcomes of implementing a regional nerve block nurse coordinator has increased patient satisfaction, perioperative efficiency and productivity, and delays to operating room start times, especially FCOTS.



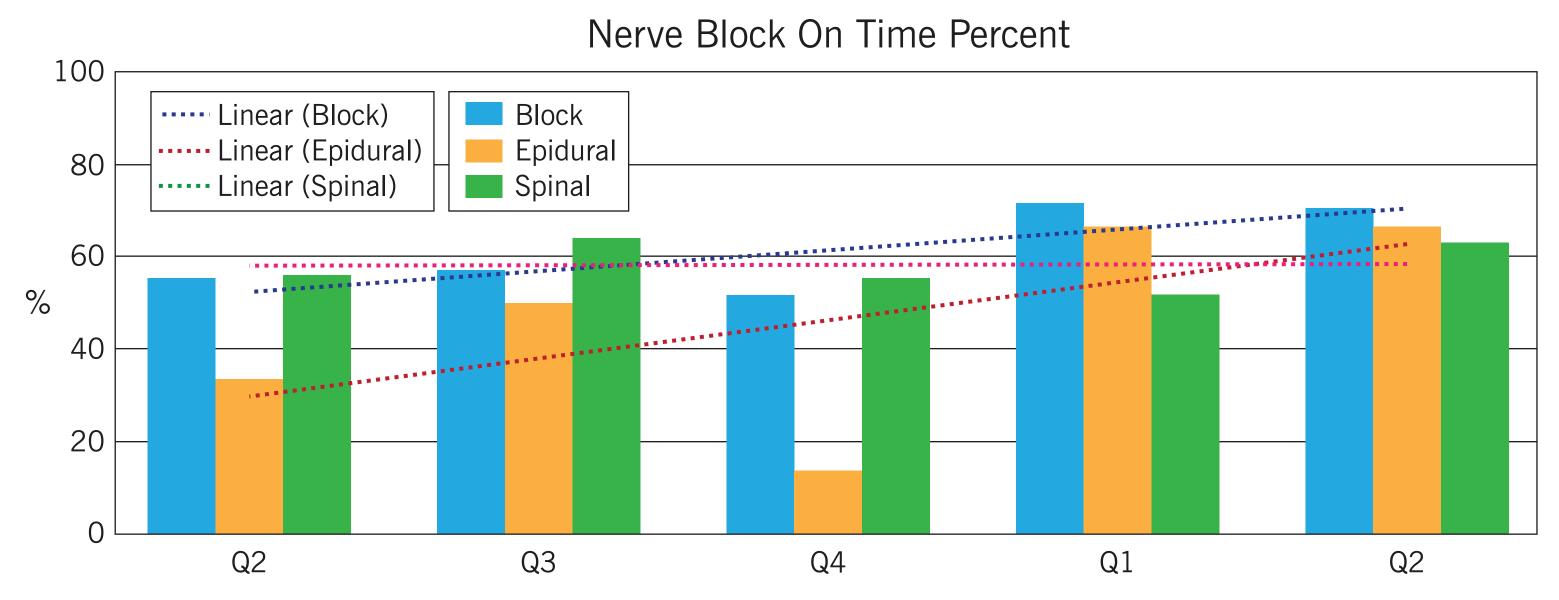
### Volume



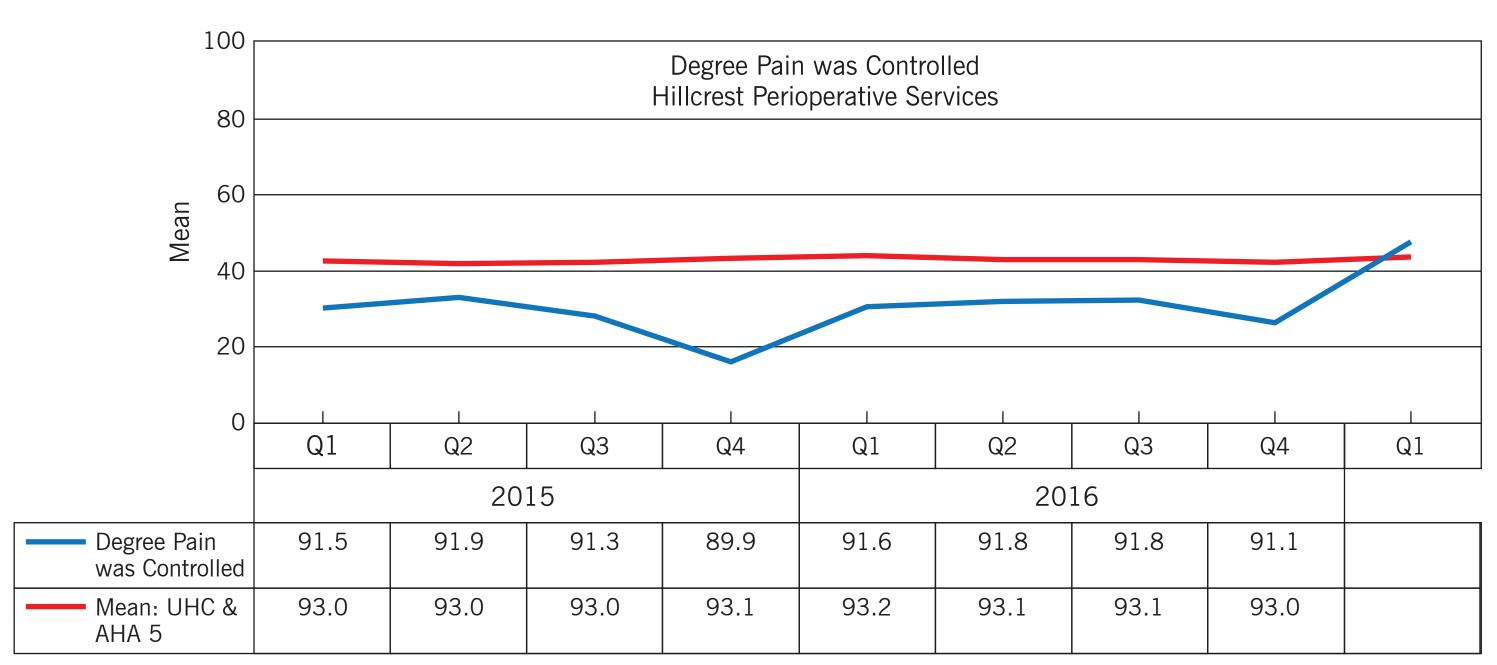




### First Case On Time Starts



### **Patient Satisfaction**



UHC=University Health System Consortium AHA 5=American Hospital Association 5 (Region #5-IL, IN, MI, OH, WI)

Source: Press Ganey - Accessed on 01/15/2018 in a.m.

## **Implications for Perioperative Nursing**

- With the addition of the Regional Anesthesia Block Nurse Coordinator, quality outcomes were improved in 3 out of 3 domains
- Standardized orientation for perioperative nurses in regional anesthesia procedures implemented
- Collaboration with the anesthesia team and OR team for culture of improvement
- Improved patient education and optimization for surgery to improve post-operative outcomes

## References

The Columbus Dispatch. November 29,2016. http://www.dispath.com/content/ stories/local/2016/11/29/ohio-leads-us-in-three-drug-overdose-categories.html