

# Reducing Fall Rates Using an Interdisciplinary Team Approach

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## Background

- Falls with injury are classified as a never event by CMS. Falls can account for devastating and debilitating injury for the hospitalized senior adult leading to increased LOS and an increase in health care costs
- Since the opening of 3 Lacks, the senior adult unit, we have seen falls in our inpatients
- Each year we have continued to focus on this initiative and strive for continuous improvement

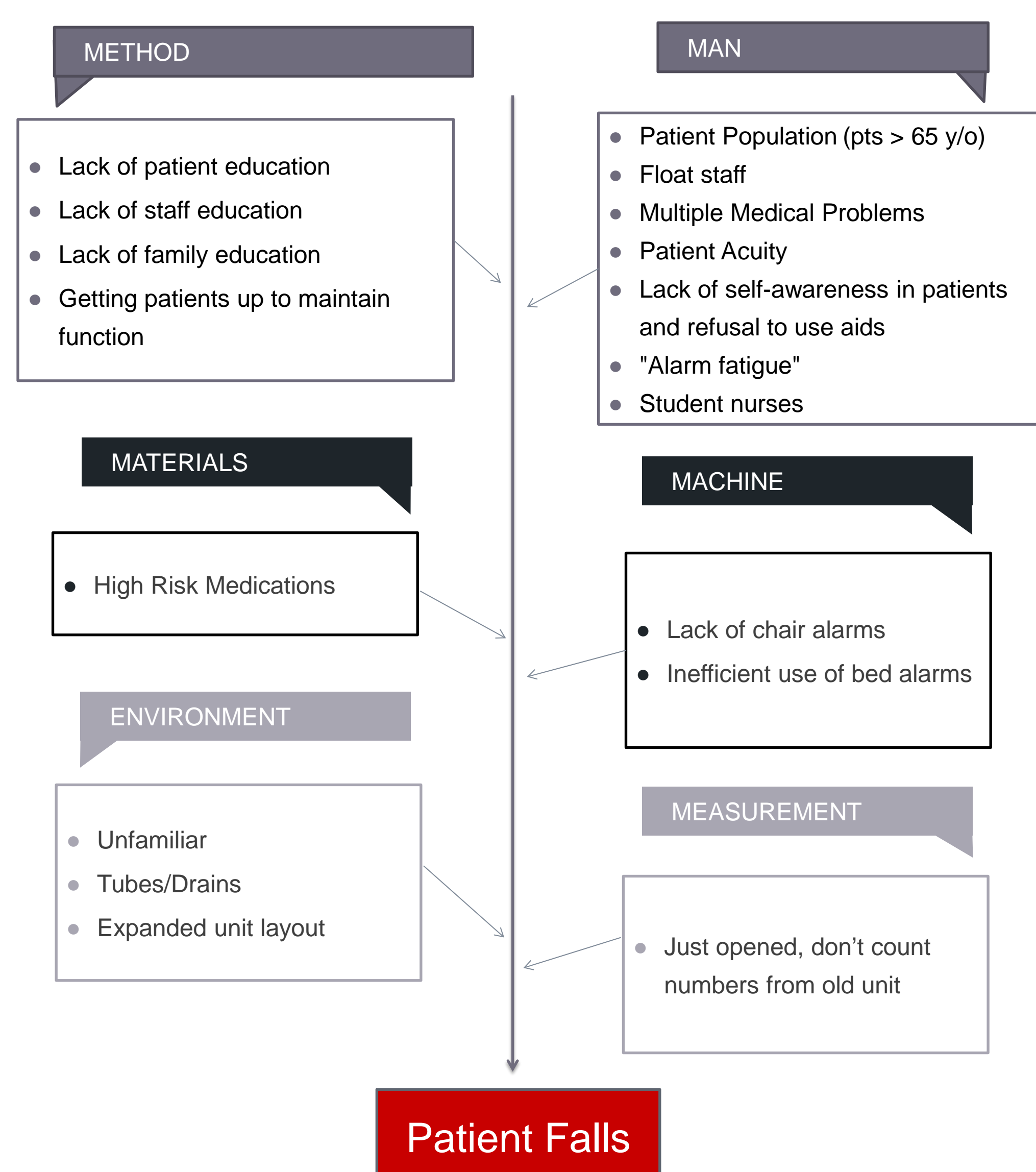
## Methods

- The CNL formed an interdisciplinary team that included RNs, PCAs, leadership, a CNL, and a pharmacist
- Utilizing Lean Process Excellence and the PDCA improvement methodology, the group started by defining the problem and measuring the current state
- We also have 2 staff nurses that attend our hospital wide falls committee each month. In their role, they review every fall and meet with the unit CNL complete a RCA on each fall

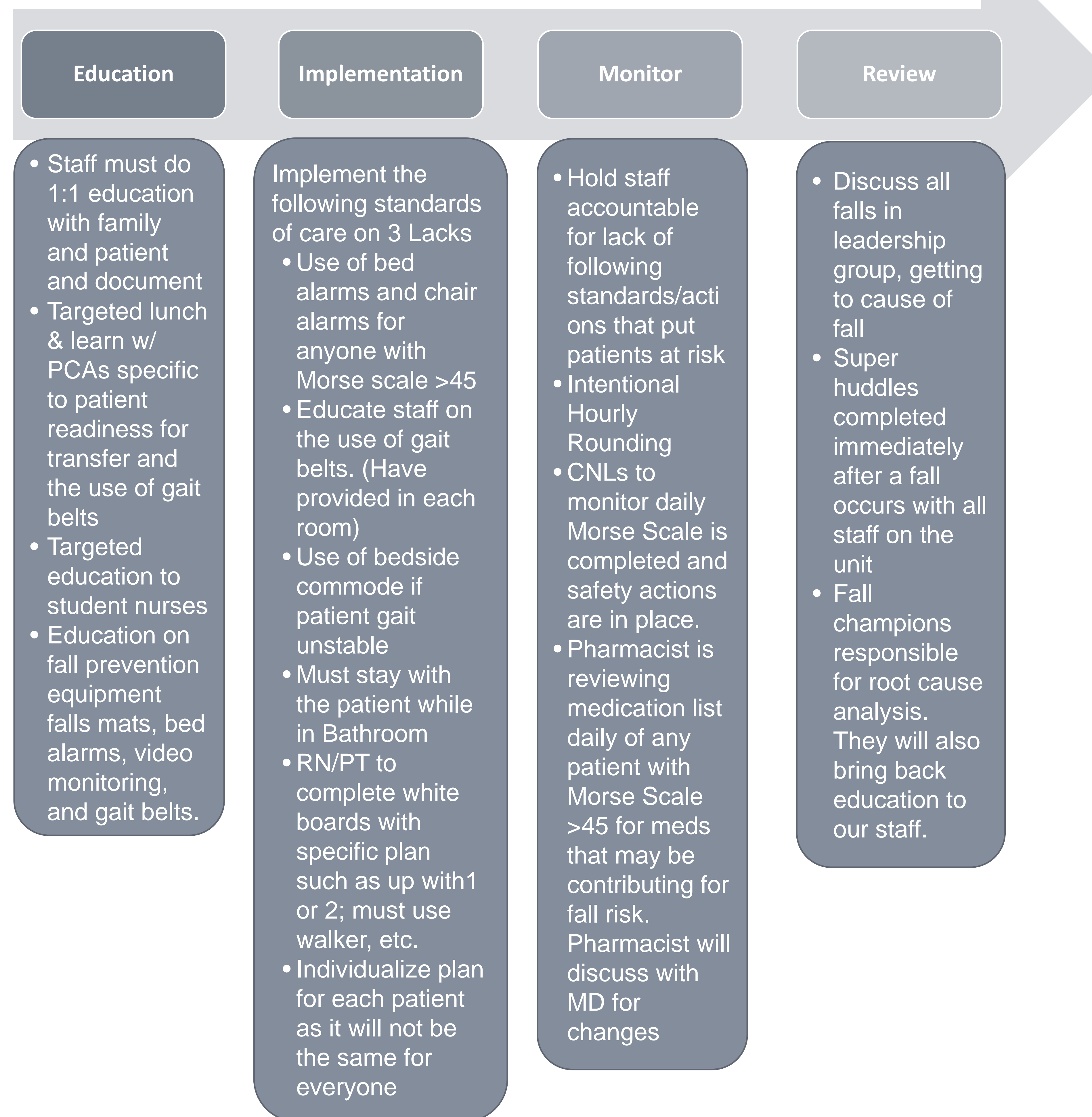
## Goal

- To eliminate patient falls with injury and reduce our overall fall rate by 25%

## Root Cause Analysis



## Improve Phase



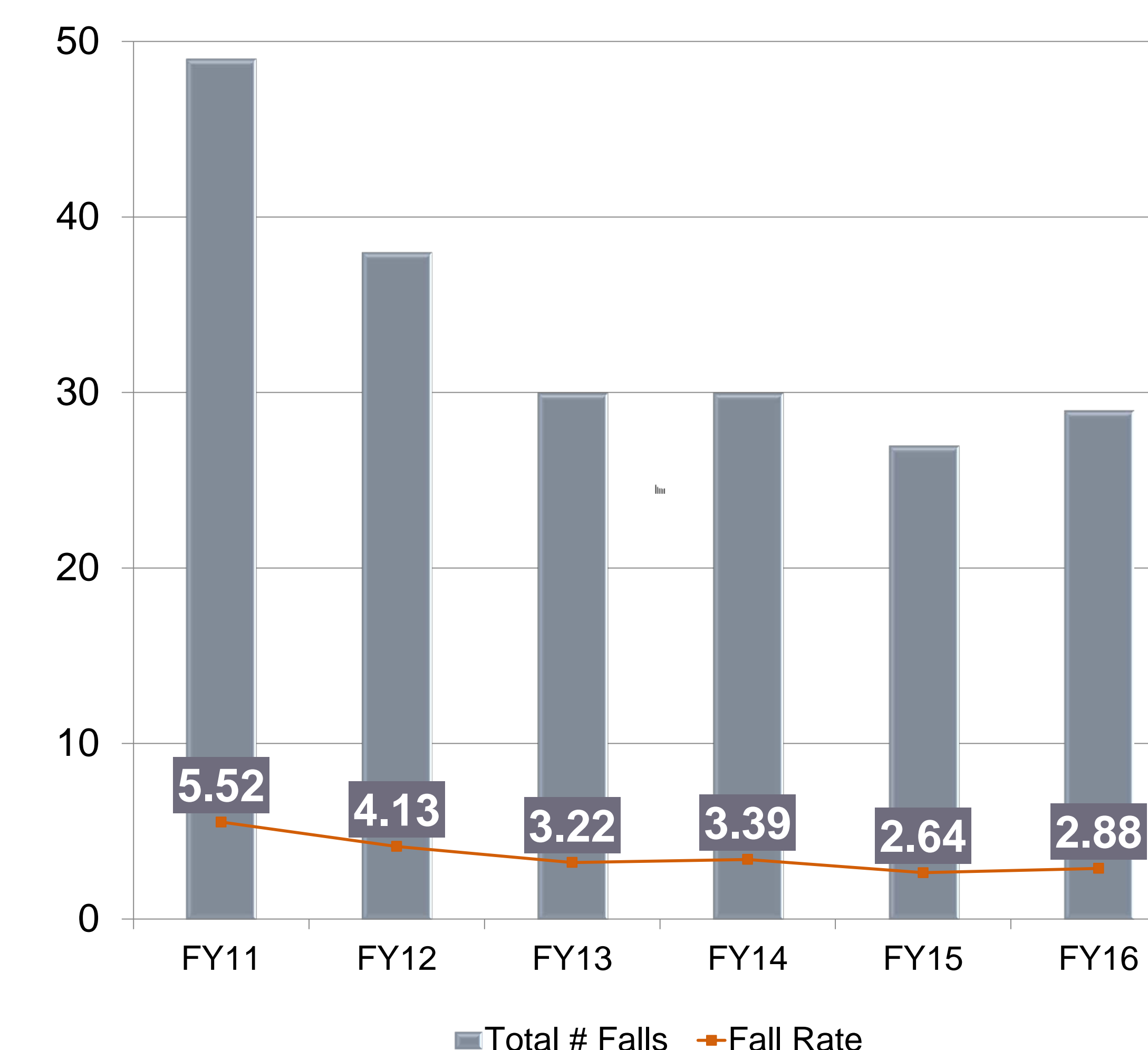
## Control Phase

- The leadership team/fall committee reps will track the number of falls on 3 Lacks and the fall rate per 1000 patient days monthly
- Each fall will be reviewed, looking for patterns and educational opportunities
- The 3 Lacks Leadership will also track staff compliance with fall prevention efforts by performing random weekly audits

## Outcome

	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16
Falls (number)	38	30	30	27	29
Fall Rate	4.18	3.22	3.39	2.64	2.88

\* We have had no falls with injury since FY13!!



## Conclusion

- Our interdisciplinary falls team was able to positively impact our unit fall rate. A lean process was utilized to help frame and direct the work group
- As the group is now in the control phase of the project we will continue to examine our compliance with the stated interventions and are striving for the ultimate goal of zero patient falls. For FY17, year to date we are at 2.33 fall rate.

## References

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