

**Intercollaborative Heart
Failure Patient Education
at
John Cochran VA
St. Louis, MO.**

Aim

To reduce patient readmissions with heart failure at 30 days

Team Members

Willia Clayborn, RN – Congestive Heart Failure Nurse

JoAnn Crosby, MSN, RN, CCM – Congestive Heart Failure Nurse

Rosemary Quigley, RD, LD – Registered Dietician with Nutritional Services for Inpatient

Lauren McMillan, PT – Physical Therapist for Inpatient Units

Peter Brawer, PhD, Clinical Psychologist

Julie Spenner, Pharm.D – Pharmacist

Peggy Gerdes, MSN, RN, GNP – Nurse Practitioner and Cardiology Clinic Coordinator

Admissions for heart failure

Number of patient admissions and readmissions based
on data from admission sheets compiled

Total Admissions for 76 Heart Failure Patients 1 July -1 Oct

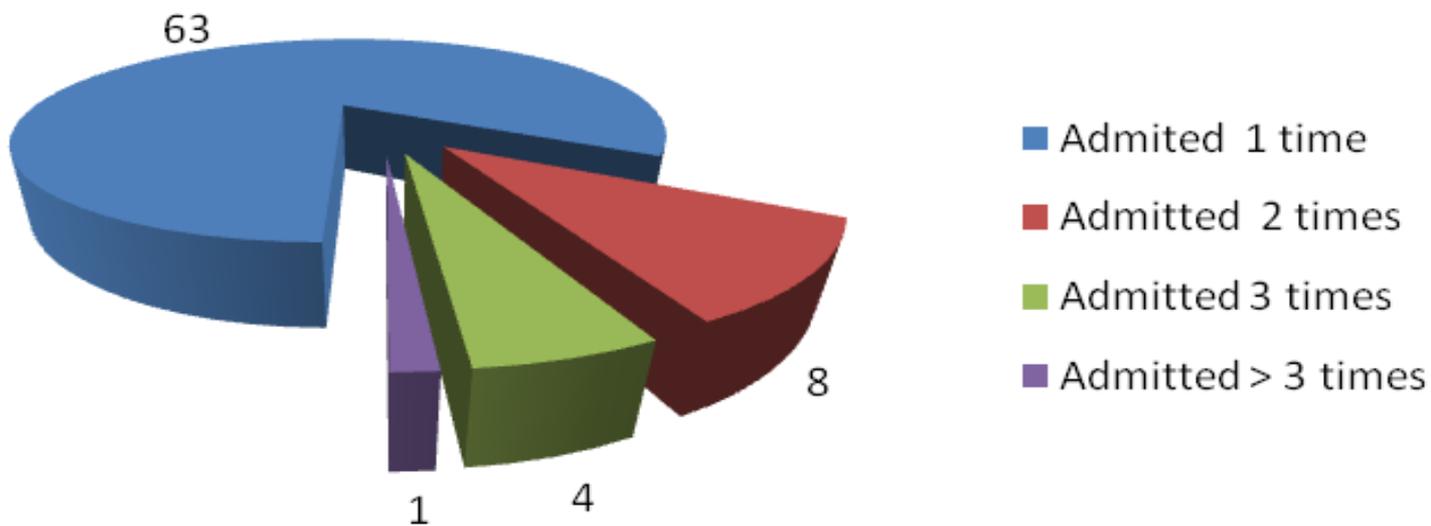
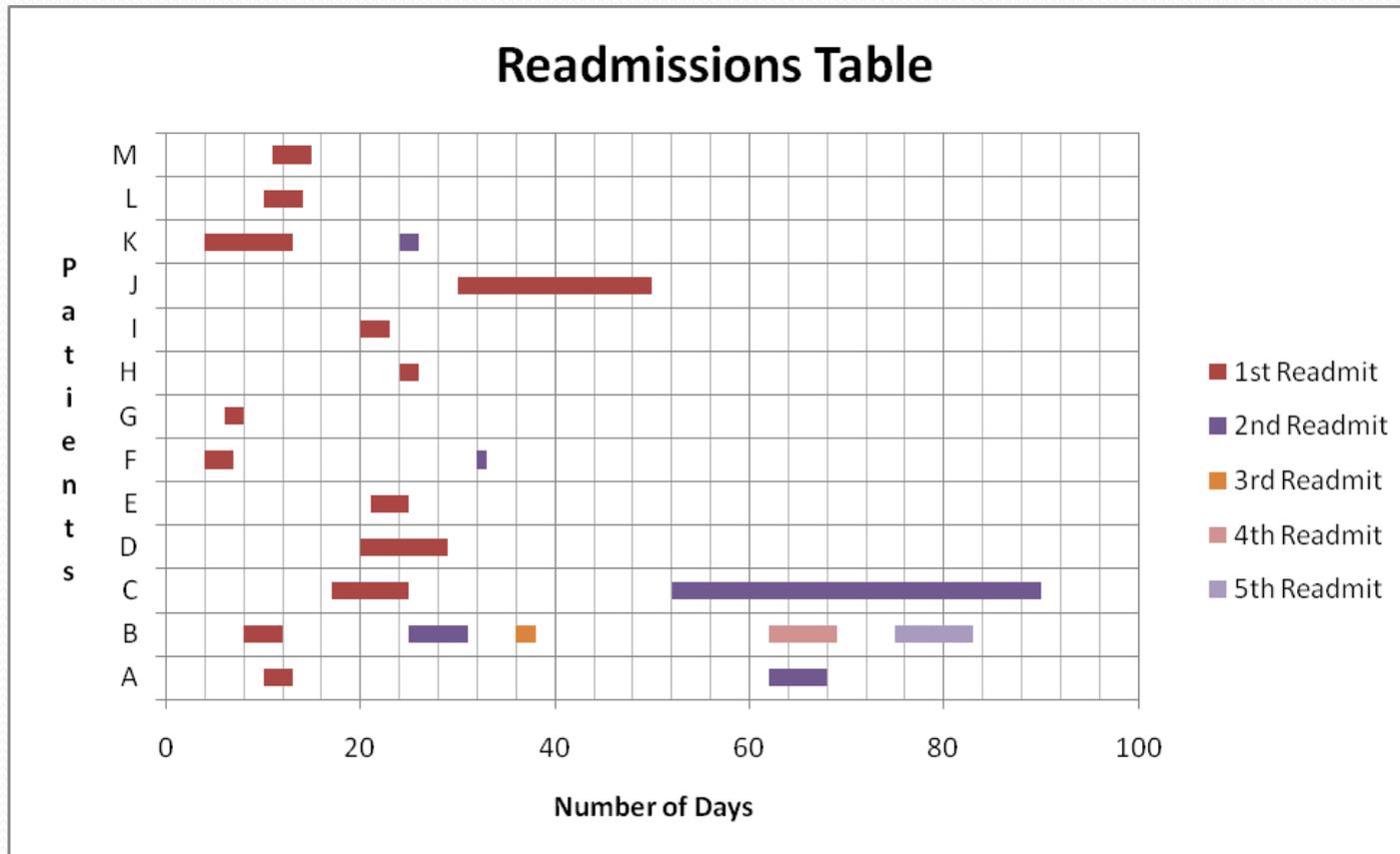


Figure 2. This table represents the 13 patients who were admitted multiple times for heart failure between 1 July – 1 October 09. As noted in the graph most of the readmissions occurred within 30 days which substantiates previous data.



Barriers to education program

- Administration buy in
- Statistics
- Profile for clinic schedule
- Limitation of patient numbers for class
- Confusion of class location for patients

Outcomes

- Positive patient/family responses
- Increase of patients attending class now average 20 per class

Future Plans

- Increase awareness of program to primary care providers through pamphlets, monitors
- Get profile established for scheduling to indicate class
- Get administration on board with program –which is just beginning Now have task force for evaluating methods to reduce CHF readmissions
- Possibility of additional classes
- Obtain statistics for evaluation of program – part of capstone project for DNP