

ASCO Quality Training Program

Improving the rate of universal genetic counseling for pancreatic adenocarcinoma at the Cleveland Clinic

Kanika Nair, MD and Brandie Leach, MS, LGC

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Institutional Overview

- The Cleveland Clinic Main Campus is a **1,398 bed** facility located in Northern Ohio, surrounded by 26 regional locations
- The Taussig Cancer Institute, located on main campus, is a NCCN and NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center
- More than **13,700** new heme/onc patients seen annually at the cancer center
- Approximately **15-30** newly diagnosed pancreatic adenocarcinoma patients are seen per month



Team members

Role	Name	Job Function
Project Sponsor	Alok Khorana, MD	Vice-Chair for Clinical Services of the Taussig Cancer Institute, Director of the Gastrointestinal Malignancies Program
Team Leader & Facilitator	Kanika Nair, MD	Hematology/Oncology Fellow
Core Team Member & Facilitator	Brandie Leach, MS, LGC	Genetic Counselor
Team Member	Bassam Estfan, MD	GI Oncology Staff Physician
Team Member	Pauline Funchain, MD	Melanoma Department Chair, Director of Genomics
Team Member	Megan Kilbane	Director of Research
Team Member	Selina Sledge	Upper GI Patient Liaison
Team Member	Jennifer Bates	Upper GI Program Coordination
Team Member	Megan O'Brien, CNP	Outpatient Nurse Practitioner
QTP Improvement Coach	Duncan Phillips, MBA	QTP Coach

Problem Statement

- The **referral rate** for genetic counseling by medical oncologists at Cleveland Clinic Main Campus for patients who are newly diagnosed with pancreatic adenocarcinoma from **April 1 to June 30, 2019 was average 9.0%.**
- This impacts
 - cancer screening for patients and their family
 - potential treatments available to patients
 - burnout among oncologists

Baseline data summary

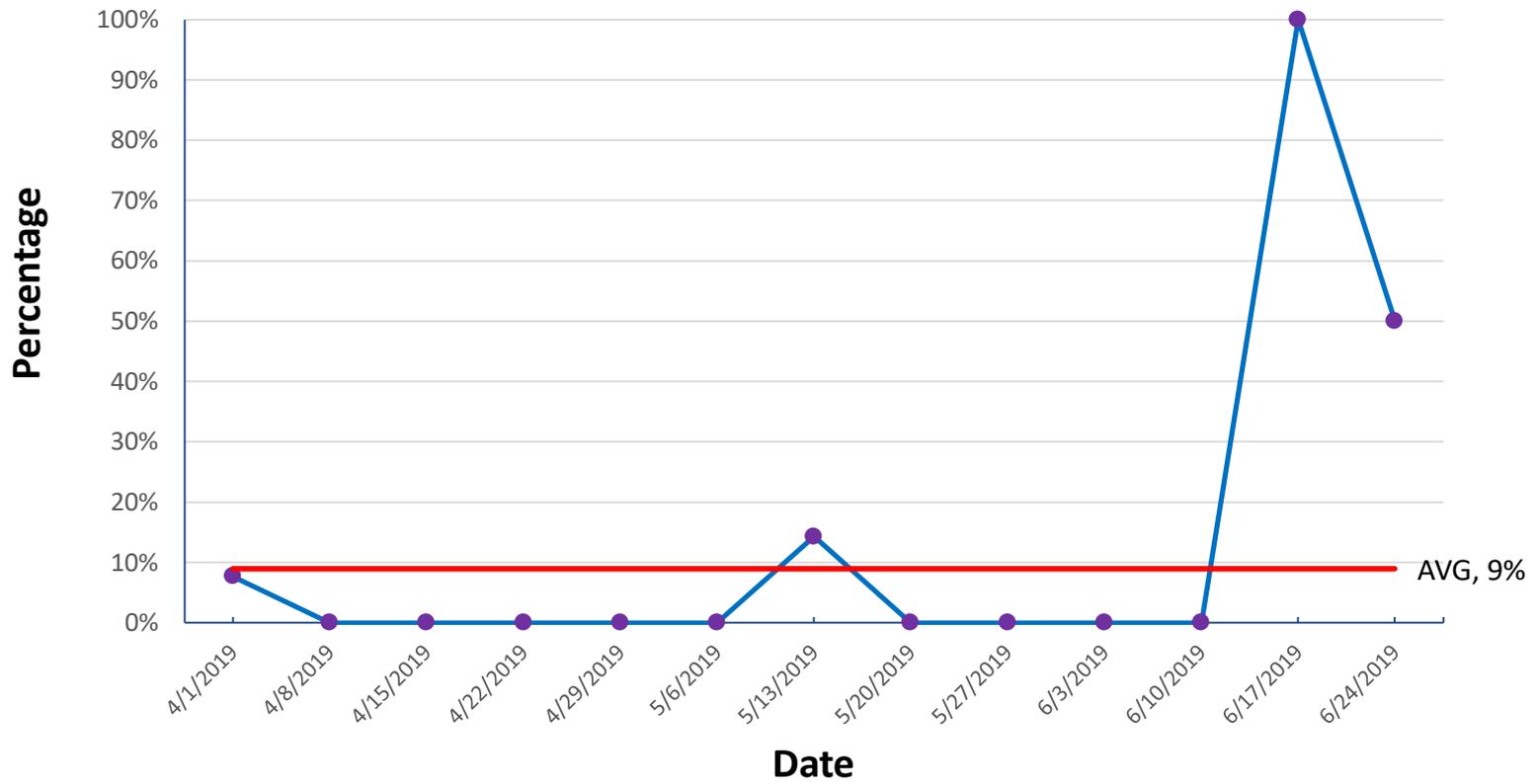
Item	Description
Measure:	Genetic counseling referral order Documentation of genetic counseling recommendation
Patient population:	Patients with newly diagnosed pancreatic adenocarcinoma seen in medical oncology clinic. Patients who completed genetic testing prior to first oncology visit at Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Center were excluded.
Calculation methodology:	$\frac{\text{Number of patients referred to genetic counseling}}{\text{Number of patients with newly diagnosed pancreatic adenocarcinoma seen in medical oncology clinic}}$
Data source:	Epic, electronic medical record system
Data collection frequency:	Weekly
Data limitations:	Retrospective

Outcome Measure

Baseline data

Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Center

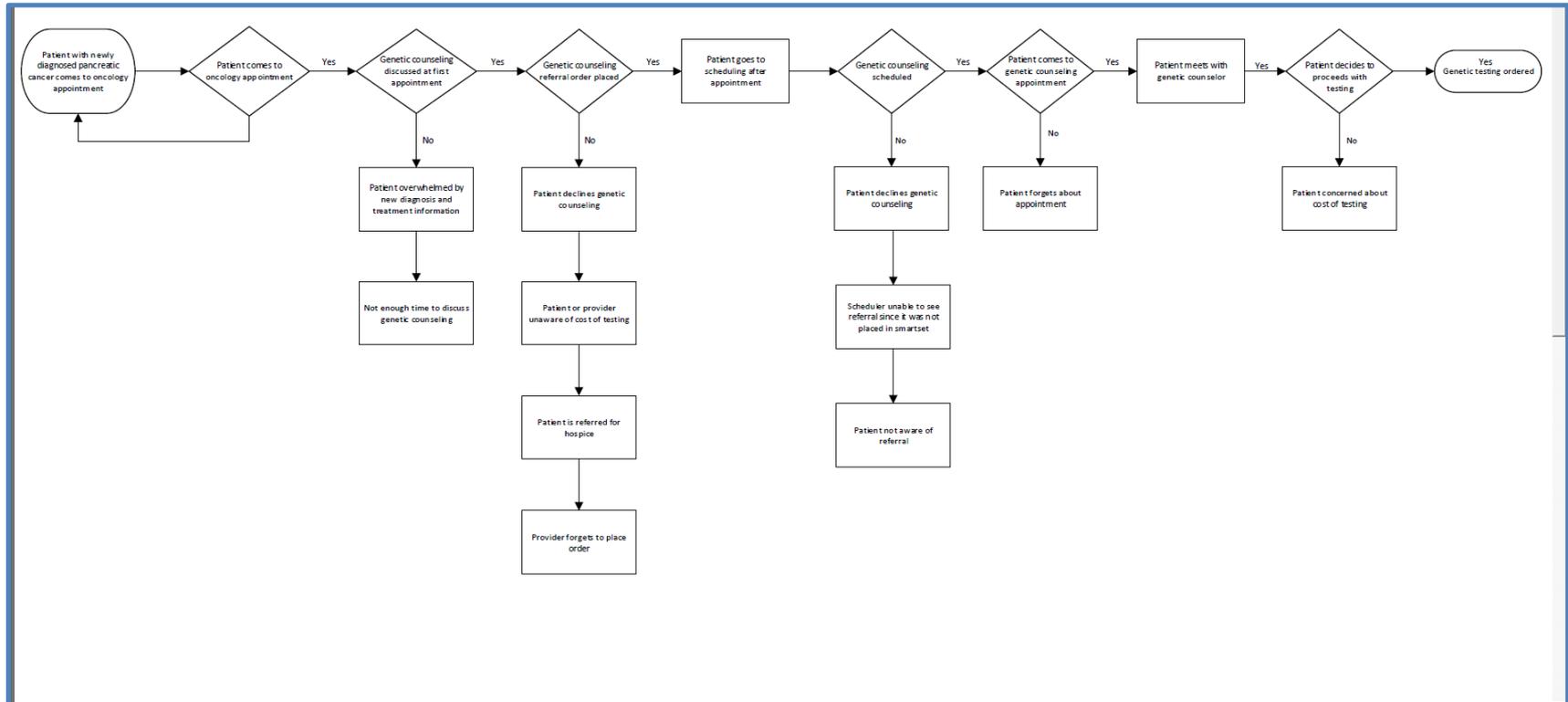
Rates of genetic counseling referral
(April 1 - June 30, 2019)



Aim Statement

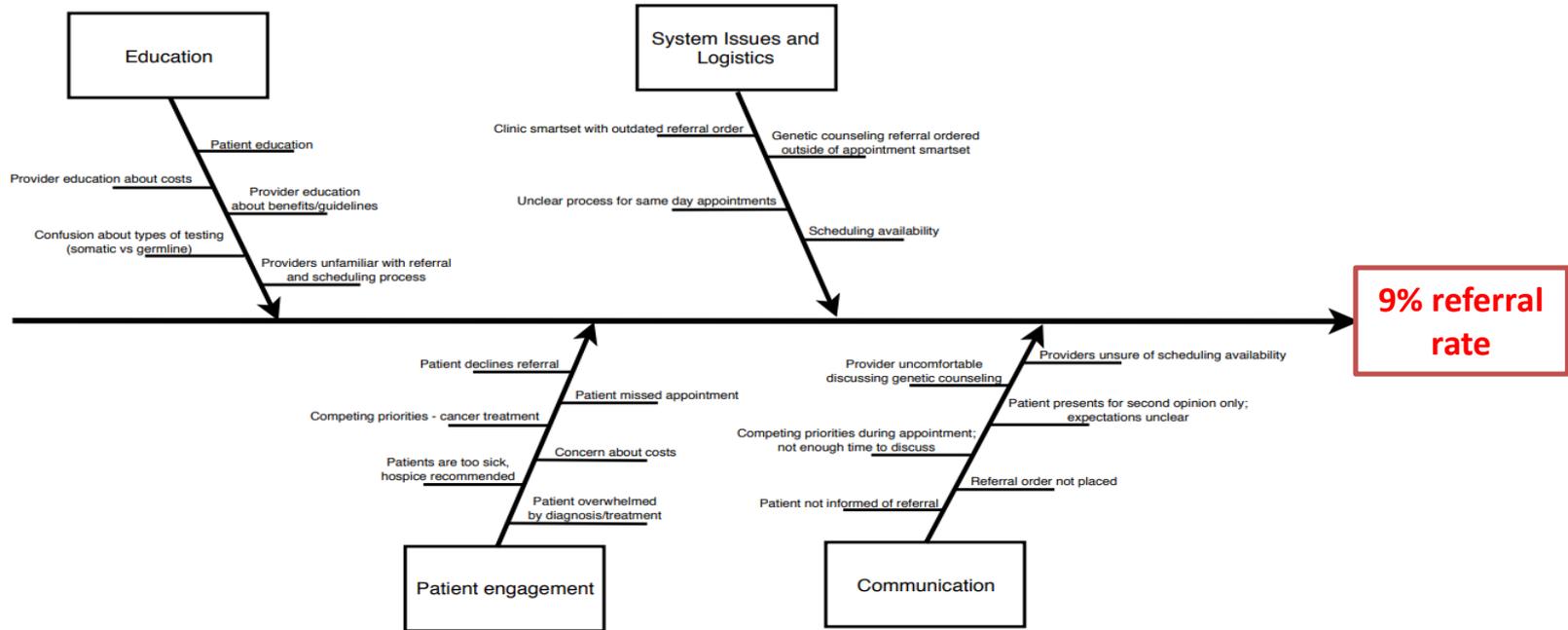
60% of patients with newly diagnosed with pancreatic adenocarcinoma, seen by medical oncology at Cleveland Clinic Main Campus, will be referred for genetic counseling by **December 2019.**

Process map



We learned there are more steps and people involved than anticipated in referring patients to genetic counseling, including how the order must be placed by physicians so that schedulers are able to view the order.

Cause and Effect diagram

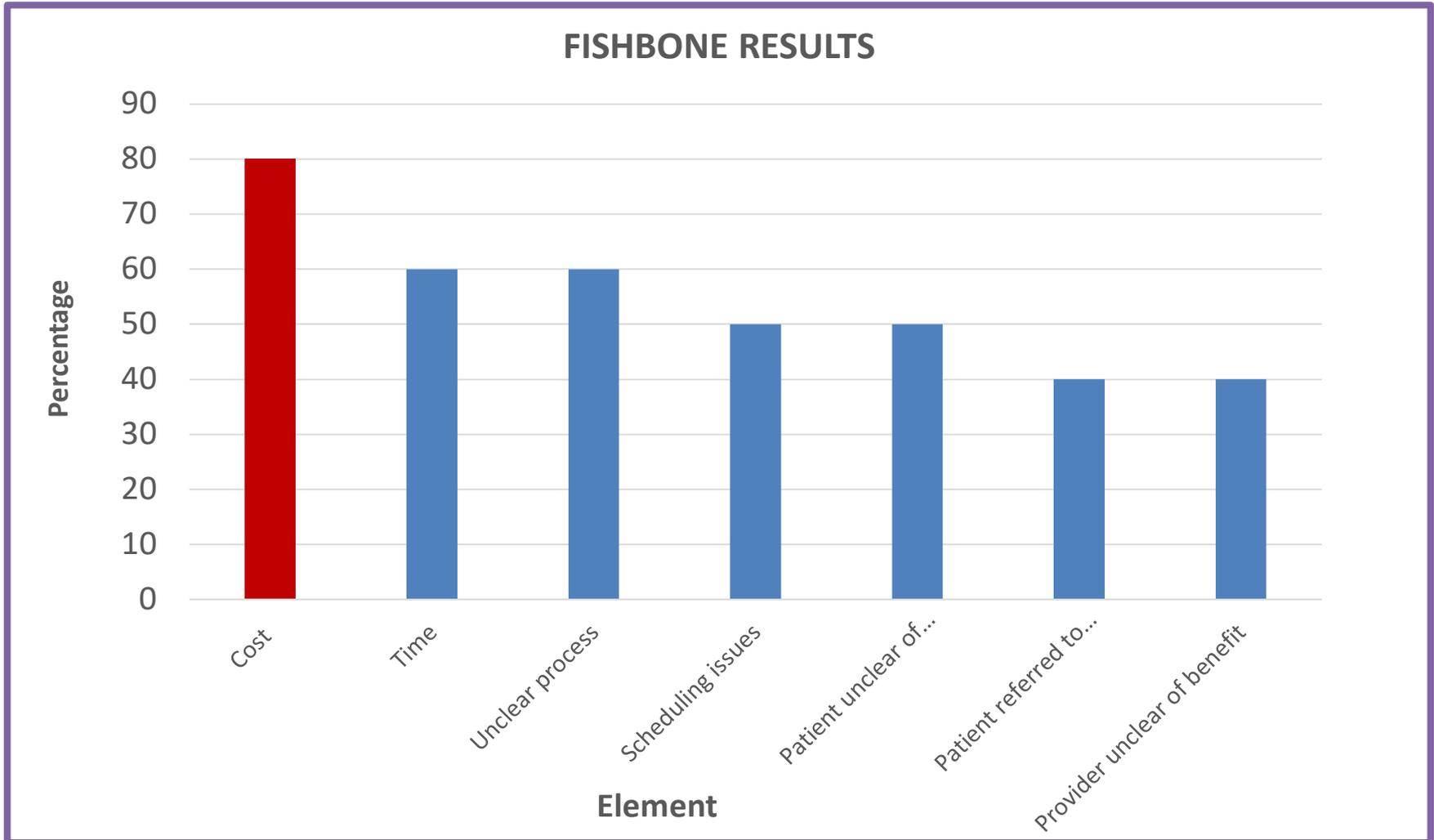


We learned that there are many misconceptions about referring patients to genetic counseling.

Diagnostic Data summary

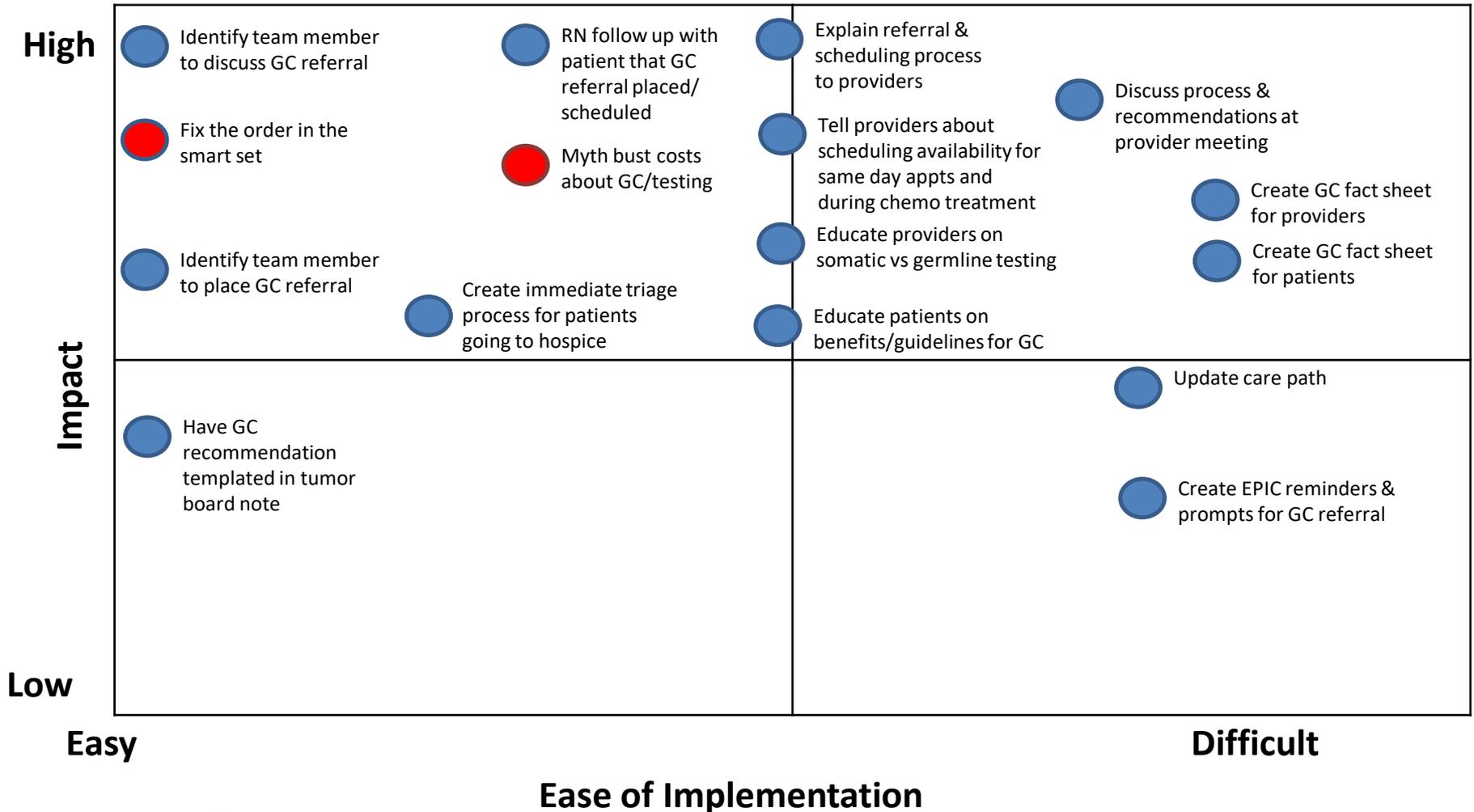
Item	Description
Measure:	Genetic counselor and oncologist survey
Patient population:	Genetic counselors and GI oncologists at Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Center N = 11
Calculation methodology:	Number of responses
Data source:	Survey
Data collection frequency:	Once
Data limitations:	Oncologists not available for survey

Diagnostic Data



Priority / Pay-off Matrix

Countermeasures



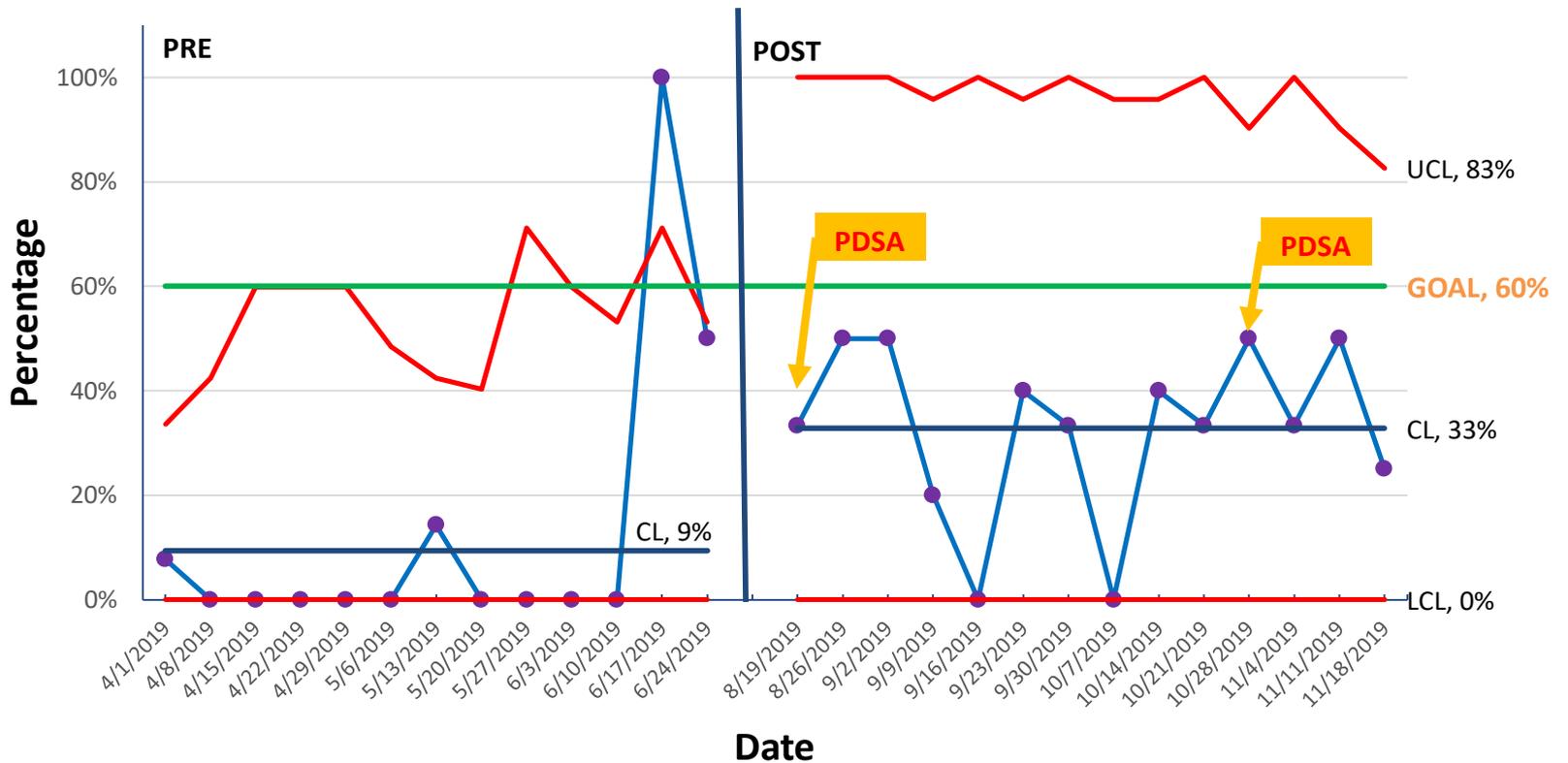
Test of Change
PDSA Plan

Date	PDSA Description	Result
8/19/2019	Change genetic counseling referral order in smart set to correct order	Average = 29% but not trend
10/30/2019, 10/31/2019	Invited speaker from Invitae at tumor board to discuss testing and cost and myth busting session with GI oncologists at department meeting	Average = 33% with trend

Outcome Measure Change Data

Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Center

Rates of genetic counseling referral
(April 1 - Nov 22, 2019)
(P-Chart 3 Sigma)



Next steps

Sustainability Plan

Next Steps	Owner
Create information sheet for RN navigator to distribute to all new diagnosed patients with pancreatic adenocarcinoma	Brandie Leach
Individually email all providers (physicians, NPs, PAs, RNs) about recommendations for genetic counseling and referral process	Kanika Nair
Discuss adding genetic counseling as a quality measure for GI oncology group	Kanika Nair

Conclusion

- The process for referring patients to genetic counseling is more complicated than anticipated, involving more people than anticipated
- Through the fishbone process, barriers of cost and patient/provider education were identified
- While the goal of 60% referral rate by December 2019 was not reached, we were able to improve the referral rate to 33% through 2 PDSA cycles with more sustainability