



**Emergency  
Care Institute**  
NEW SOUTH WALES



# Implementation of Fascia Iliaca Blocks in the Emergency Department

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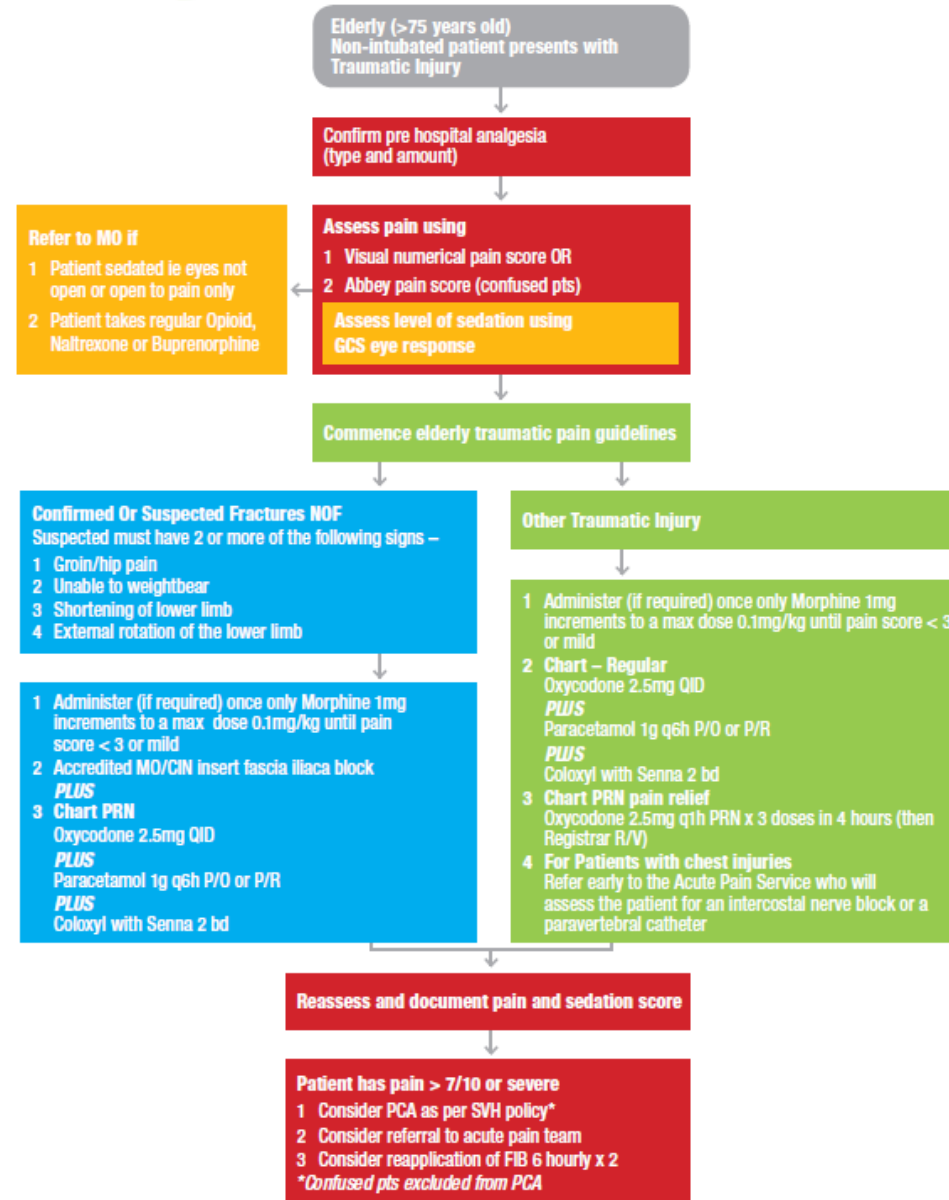
# Issues Identified

1. Pain assessment for elderly patients sub-optimal
2. Analgesia prescribing and administration ad-hoc, inconsistent and not evidence based
3. Regional blocks not being used in ED
4. 2 RCA's related to opioid administration in elderly patients with fractured NOF
5. Well established trauma pain guidelines, nothing specific to elderly patients

# Strategy / Intervention

1. Multi-disciplinary working party established
2. Developed protocols for assessment and management of pain in elderly patients with traumatic injuries
3. Introduced Abbey pain scale for confused patients
4. Developed evidence based analgesia guidelines
5. Introduced Fascia Iliaca Blocks (FIB's) for # NOF's

# Elderly Trauma Pain Guidelines



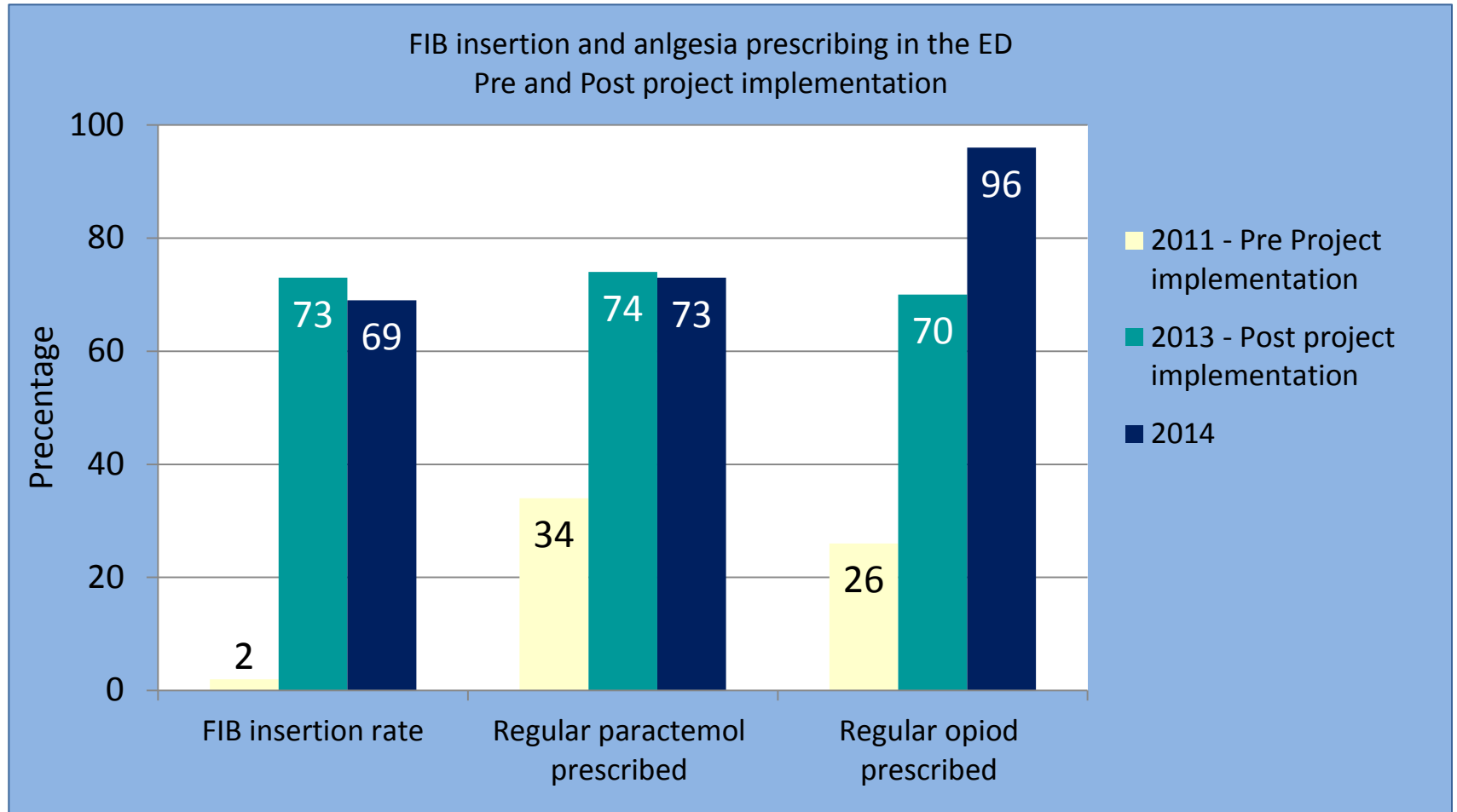
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# FIB Credentialing

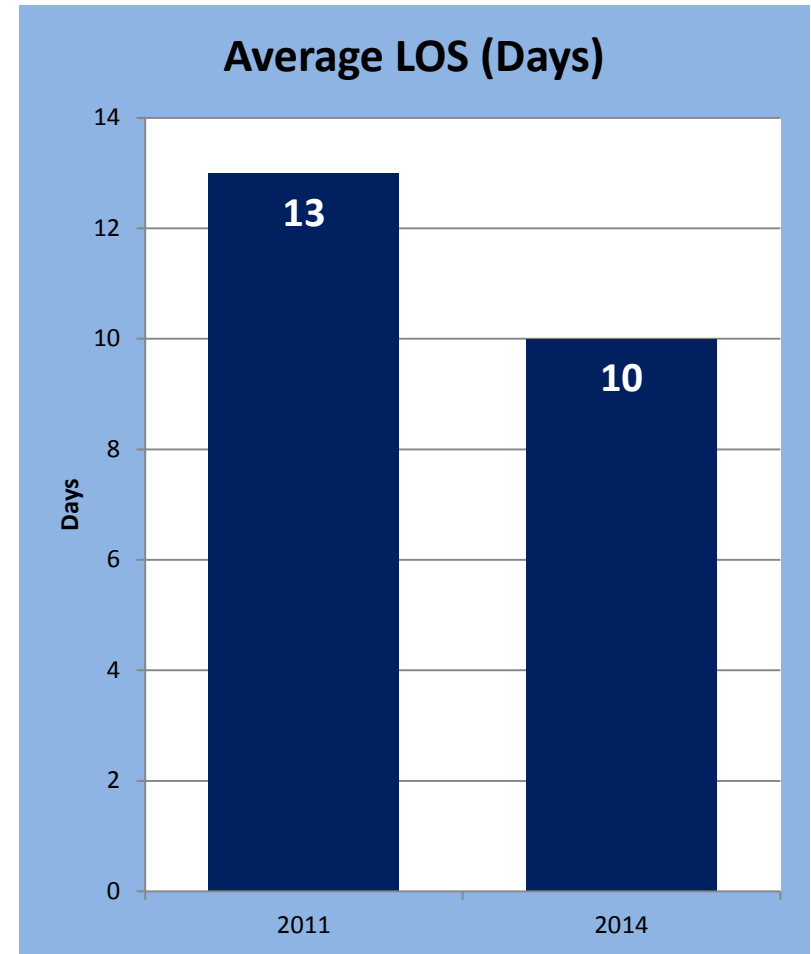
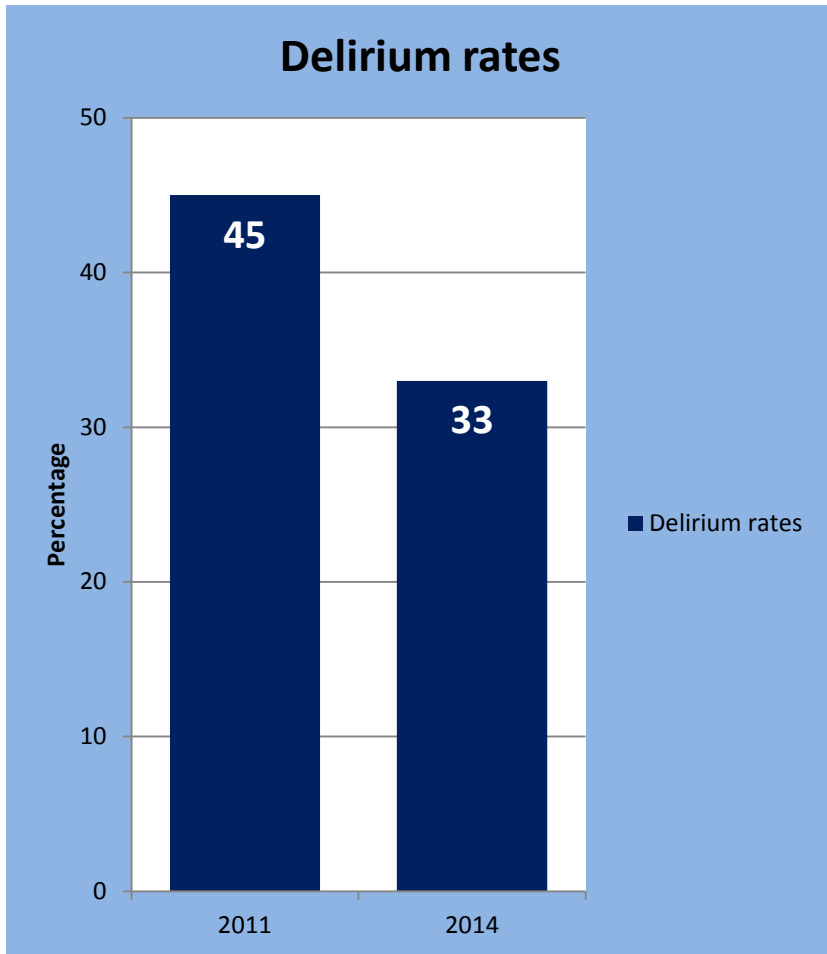
Registrars and accredited CIN nurses

1. Watch on-line video
2. Attend 3 hour FIB workshop
  - a) Overview of project and guideline
  - b) Anatomy, physiology and pharmacology session
  - c) USS workshop on volunteers
  - d) Simulation workshop using pork loin
3. Observe 1 FIB insertion
4. Perform 2 supervised FIB's
5. Complete clinical competency assessment
6. Complete on-line test

# Outcomes / Results



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- 18 nurse credentialed
- 33% of all FIB's inserted by nursing staff
- No adverse events associated with FIB insertion
- Ropivocaine levels measure in the first 12 patients – results well below toxic levels
- Program rolled out state wide by the ACI
- August 2015 NSW ambulance service changed Morphine protocol to include lower doses for patients > 75 years



# Lessons Learned

1. Get the right people on your team
2. Think outside traditional roles
3. Clinical champions are your staff on the floor – they determine the success of a project

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- **Associate Professor Steven Faux** (Chair)
- **Dr Andrew Finckh** (Staff Specialist, Emergency Department)
- **Julie Gawthorne** (Clinical Nurse Consultant, Emergency)
- **Dr Jenny Stevens** (Visiting Anaesthetist)
- **Dr Elizabeth Harper** (Staff Specialist, Geriatric Medicine)
- **Jacqueline Jensen** (Clinical Nurse Consultant, Chronic Pain)
- **Karon McDonell** (Manager, Trauma Service)
- **Susan Welch** (ED Pharmacist)
- **Melissa O'Brien** (Quality Manager, Clinical Practice Improvement)