

# Nurse Led Rounds in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit



Linnea Lockett, Tara Lyngaas, Shelly Hill, Rhea Hernandez  
Department of Pediatrics, Baylor Scott & White Health, Temple, TX

Linnea Lockett, MSN, RN-BC, RNC-NIC, CLC  
Nursing Professional Development Specialist  
Baylor Scott & White  
McLane Children's Medical Center  
Email: Linnea.Lockett@bswhealth.org

## Background

- 51 bed level IV NICU
- Nurses expressed concerns:
  - Lack of autonomy, lack of Interdisciplinary plan of care, and difficulty obtaining timely orders
- Family expressed concerns:
  - Continuity of care plan and consistent communication
- Survey scores (NRC Picker & NDNQI) reflecting nursing concerns

## Objective

To establish a method to improve interdisciplinary communication in regards to planning of patient care in the NICU.

- Accountability to know pertinent information about patients
- Develop true interdisciplinary care planning
- Improve the interdisciplinary communication
- Provide consistent communication with families



## Methods

### Phase 1:

#### Communication Boards

Provided an area for parents:

- To ask questions for interdisciplinary team
- Updated per shift with date, care team names, phone numbers and care plan changes

### Phase 2:

#### Nurse-Led Rounds

RN Manager, RN Educator, & Fellow met to discuss expectations, work flow and questions for team

#### Nurse:

Update team on any pertinent patient history, significant events & nursing concerns

#### Resident/Fellow:

Review body systems

#### Attending:

Discuss changes in plan of care with team

#### Nurse:

Conclude rounds with recapitulation of the discussed plan of care & updates communication board

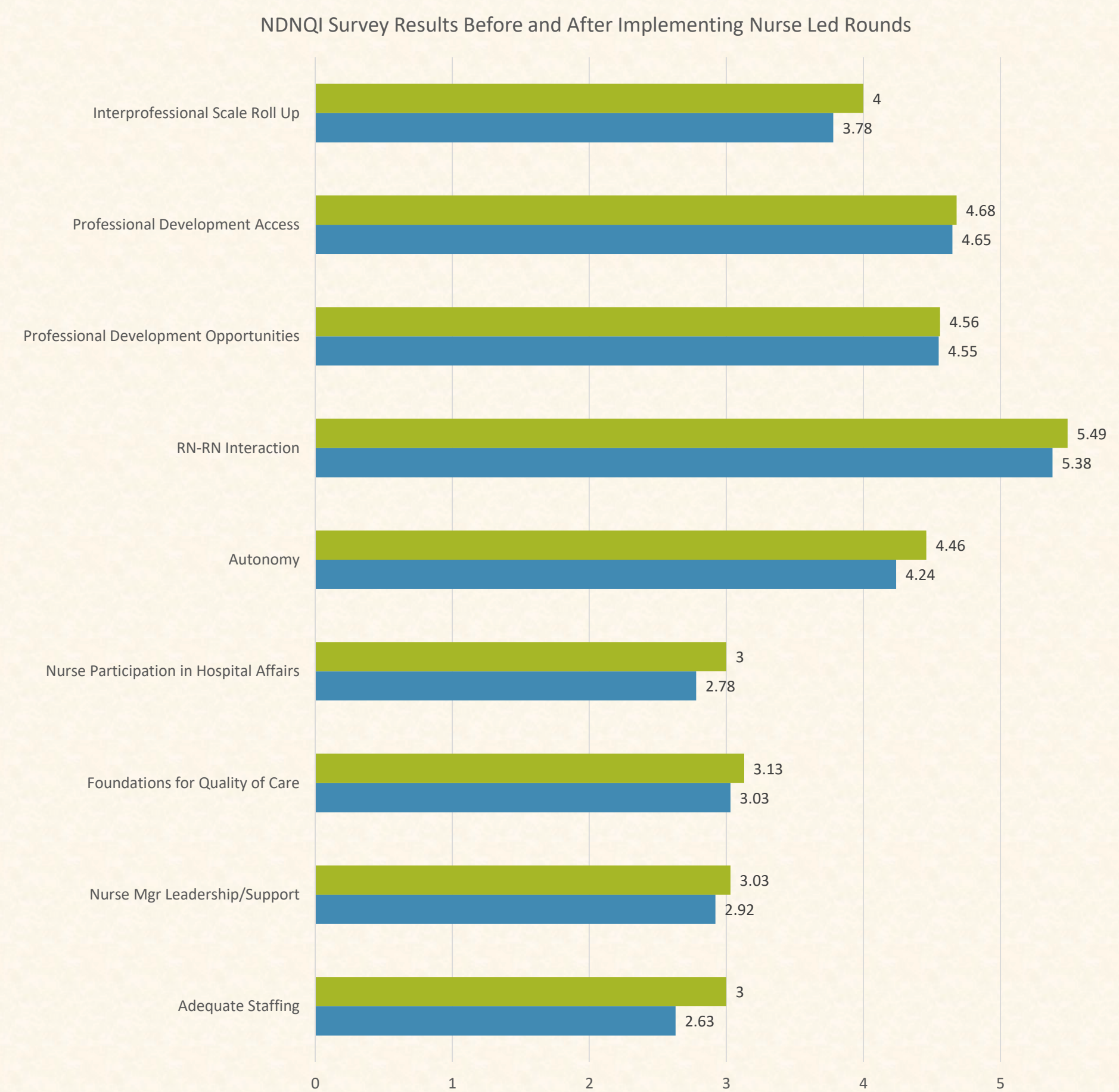
## Methods

### Phase 3:

Scripting on **Pain management** added to nurse-led round template

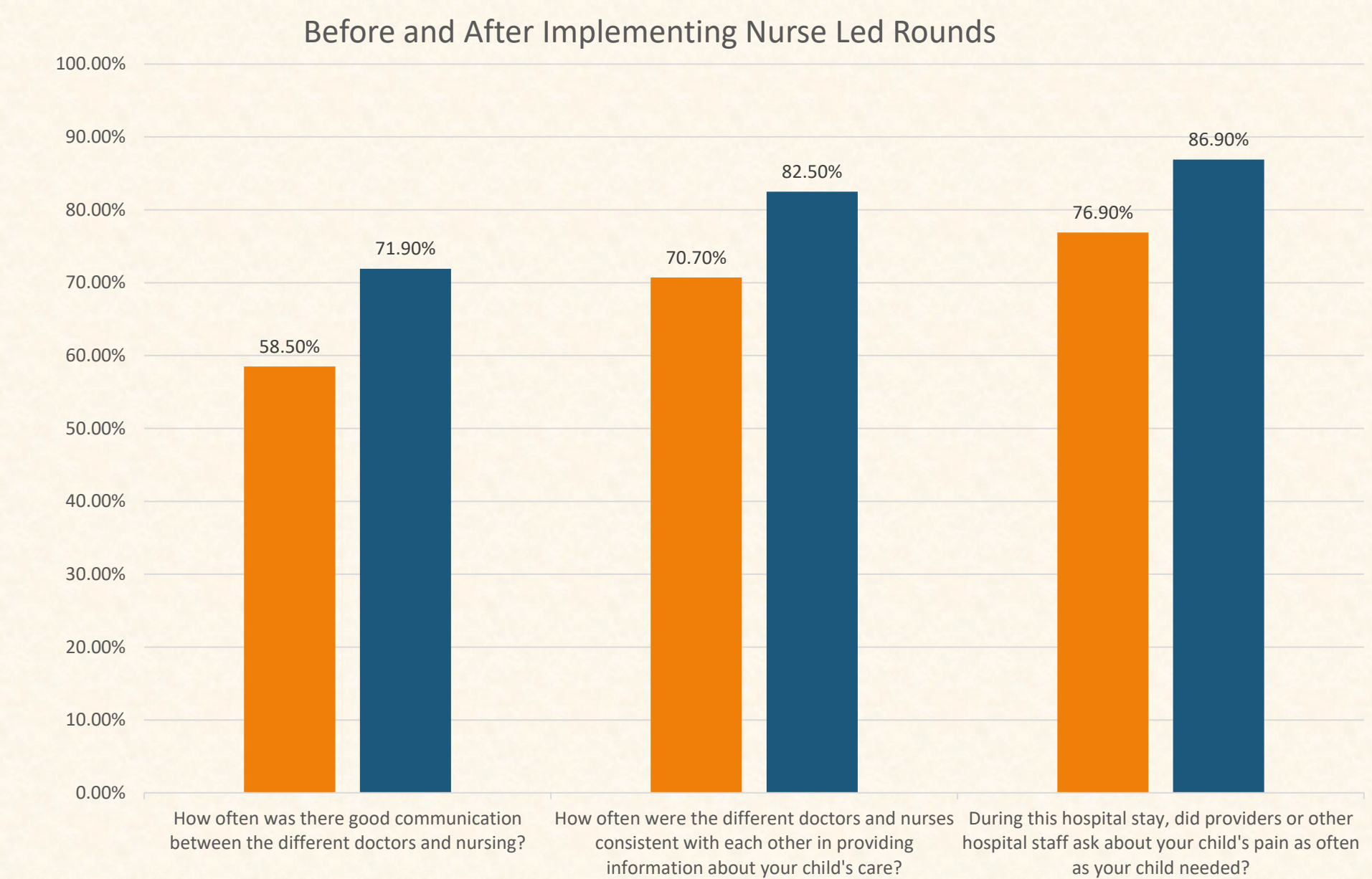
Families hear/contribute to discussion of pain assessment & control during their participation in rounding

## Results



Blue: prior to implementing nurse led rounds in the NICU  
Green: post implementation of nurse led rounds in the NICU

## Results



Orange: prior to implementing nurse led rounds in the NICU  
Blue: post implementation of nurse led rounds in the NICU

## Conclusions

- Good communication” 13.4% increase.
- “Consistent communication” 11.8% increase.
- “Pain control” 8.2% increase.
- NDNQI results increased by 0.22 for autonomy and inter-professional roll-up.
- Providers commended nursing staff on improved communication and knowledge of patients.
- Nurses expressed increased satisfaction with providers promptly entering orders during rounds.
- Increase in overall family satisfaction.
- Less concerns voiced to nursing leadership in regards to communication.