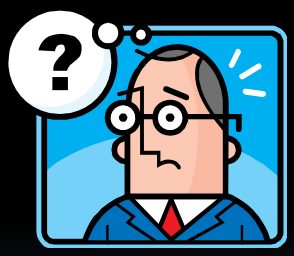
YOU WON'T FALL….
WITH RUN CHARTS

KATRINA STROWBRIDGE, RN
ST. LUKE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Questions?

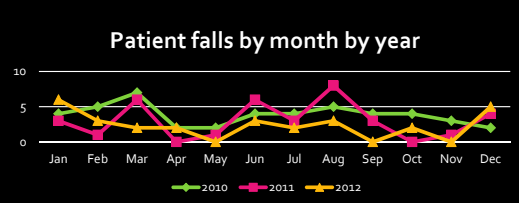
- How many of you currently use run charts?
- How many of you can create a run chart?
- How many of you currently use your run chart to tell your "QI" story?
- How many of you know if a run chart is the appropriate chart to use?

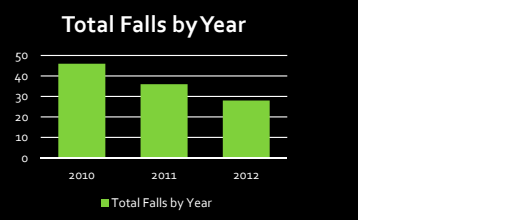


Objectives

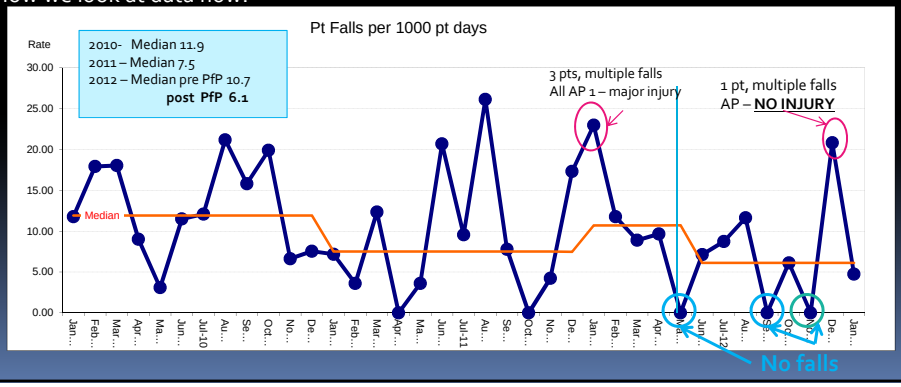
- Why run charts
- Basics of run charts
- Easy tools for creating run charts
- Interpretation of run charts

Our fall data story……





How we look at data now:



Why run charts???????

"Why run charts?"

- Helps you track over time
- Clearly illustrates improvement (or not)
- Helps you determine if you met your goal/aim
- Gives you direction
- Helps you identify variation
- Helps you understand.....
  - Variation

Aggregated data
presented in tabular formats
or with summary statistics
will not
help you measure
the impact
of process improvement efforts.
Aggregated data can only lead to judgment, not improvement. (IHI)

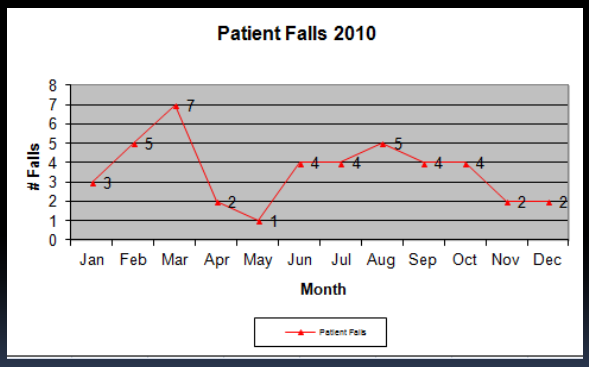
But…..I am NOT a statitician,
I am a QI Coordinator…..

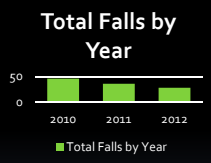
Basics of run charts

- Data – 15 or more points
- Draw the vertical and horizontal axis
- Label the axis
  - Y is up and down and is number being measured or rate or percent…
  - X is time or sequence for data collected
- Plot data
- Draw lines to connect dots
- Calculate the mean or median and draw it in
- Title the chart
- Add a goal line
- Annotate the chart

2010 Jan	8	Feb 11	Mar 27	Apr 27	May 24	Jun 28	Jul 31	Aug 26	Sep 31	Oct 22	Nov 34	Dec 29	Total 298
Total Reports													
Incident Reports	4	6	10	9	8	11	11	8	7	8	9	4	95
Patient Falls	3	5	7	2	1	4	4	5	4	4	2	2	43
Employee Falls	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Employee Incidents	2	0	2	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	2	3	15
Sharps related	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Medication Variances	2	5	15	17	13	15	20	18	24	14	23	22	188
Near Misses	1	0	4	1	4	0	3	4	1	0	2	0	20

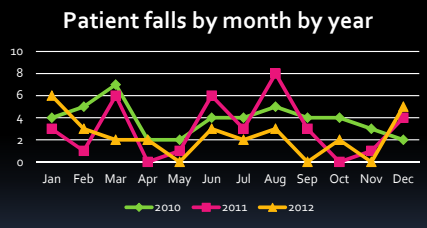
In the beginning…

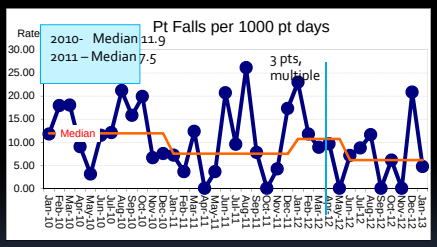




Transitions

How does this → Get to that?

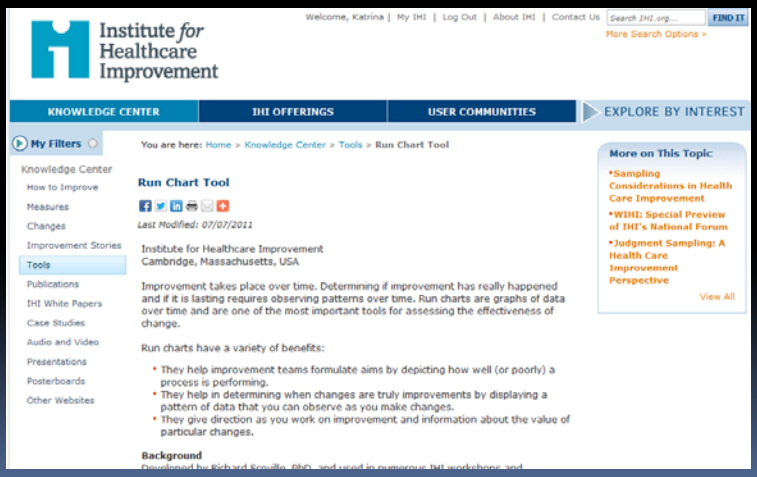


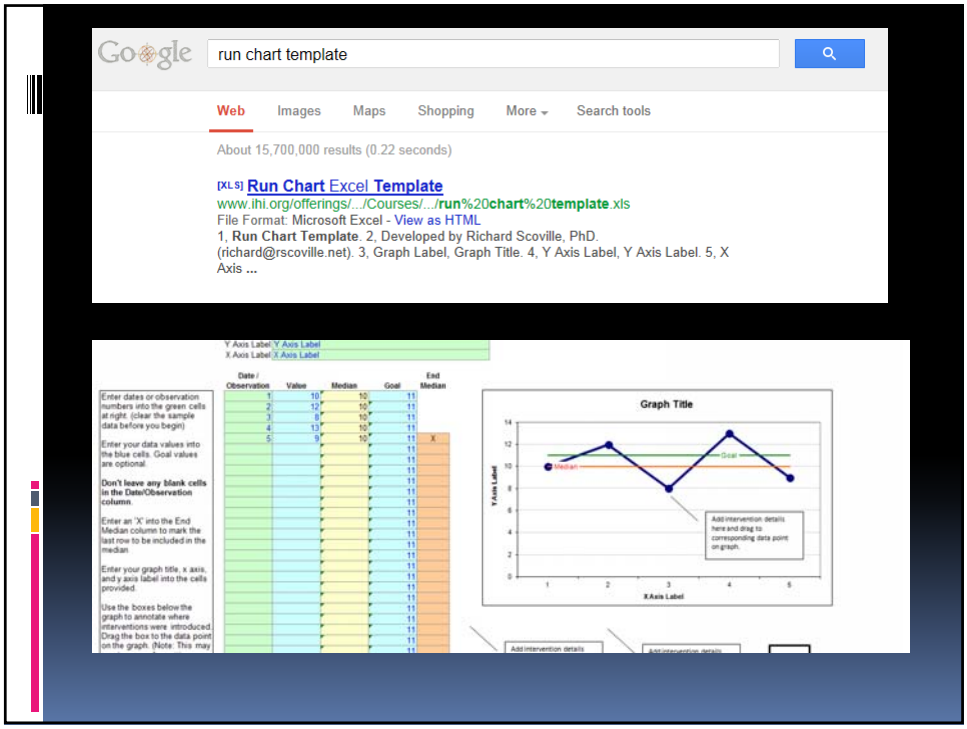


Templates!

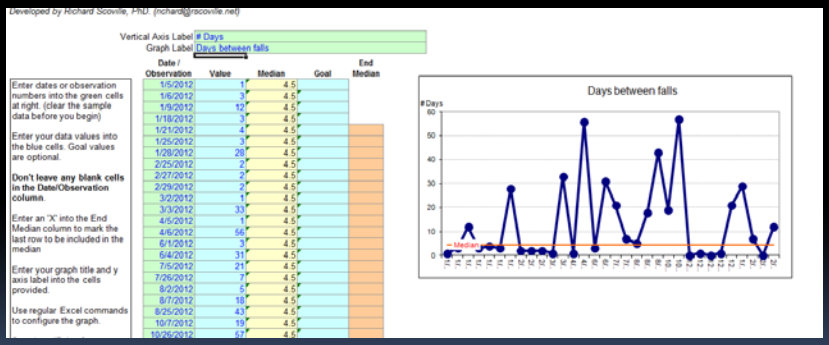
- Excel
  - Or
- Excel based
  - Run chart template
  - Days between template

Institute for Healthcare Improvement aka IHI





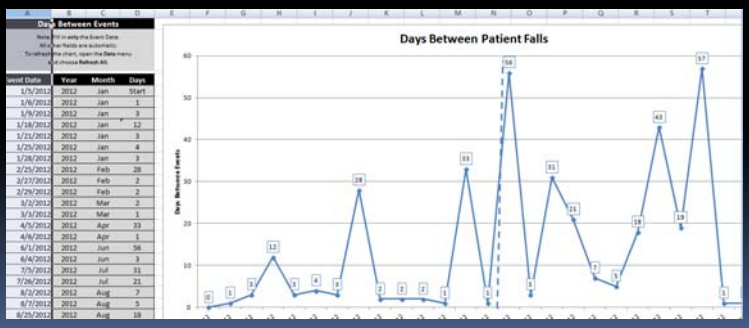
Run chart template



What if ….

- Rate is low – all of the time
  - Events are rare

Use the DAYS BETWEEN



Why run charts?

- They help you focus on the 1
- They give you credit for work that is done
- They help you see the "run"

Interpretation of run charts

- A phenomenon will be said to be controlled when, through the use of past experience, we can predict, at least within limits, how the phenomenon may be expected to vary in the future"
  - Dr. Walter Shewhart – Economic Control of Quality of Manufactured Product 1931

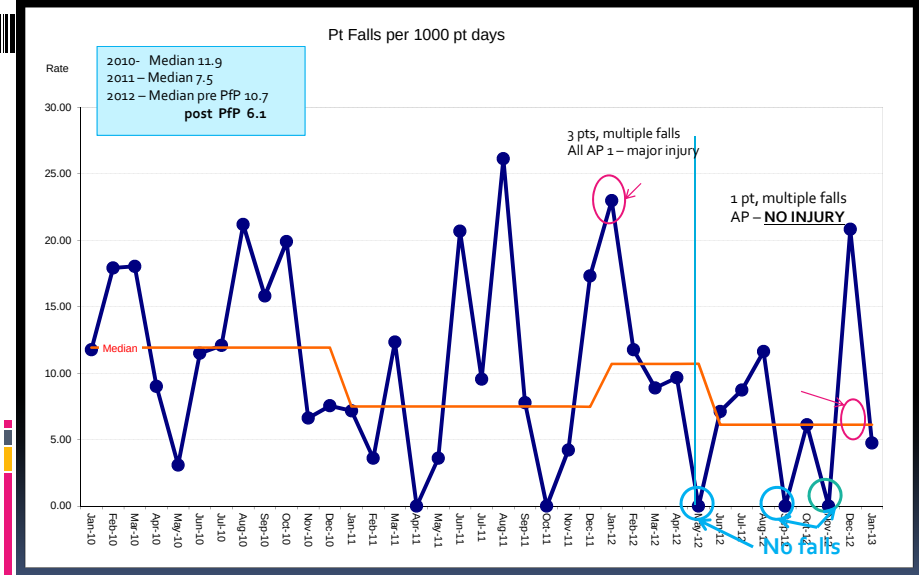
Understanding variation

Common Cause

- Inherent to the process (part of design)
- Is due to regular, natural, ordinary causes
- Affects all of the outcomes of the process
- Results in a stable process that is predictable
- Also known as random or unassigned variation

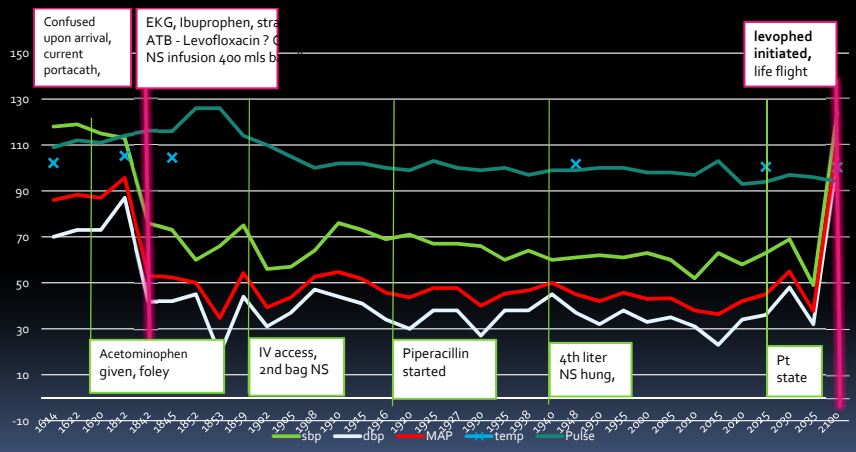
Special Cause

- Due to irregular or unnatural causes that are not inherent in the process
- Affect some but not necessarily all aspects of the process
- Result in an unstable process that is not predictable
- Also known as non-random or assignable variation



But they don't get it….
Then change your style!

Other ways to use run charts



References & Sources:

- Institute for Healthcare Improvement found at www.ihi.org
- Run chart template:

http://www.ihi.org/knowledge/Pages/Tools/RunChart.aspx

Our hands may be different....

But its our Hearts

that make us the

"Heart of healthcare in the Mission Valley"