ALLIANT HEALTH SOLUTIONS | SORH State Office of Rural Health
A Division of the Georgia Department of Community Health

GA FLEX Quality Improvement Project Monthly Meeting

December 23, 2025

Agenda

- Welcome
- Yearly Assessment Analysis
- Project Timeline Updates
- Resources
- Q&A/Wrap Up

GA FLEX Improvement Project Lead

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Quality Program Manager
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Melody has over 45 years of health care experience, including varied roles at Alliant Health Solutions. She currently works on projects with hospitals, nursing homes, and physician practices concentrating on quality improvement strategies and implementation of interventions.

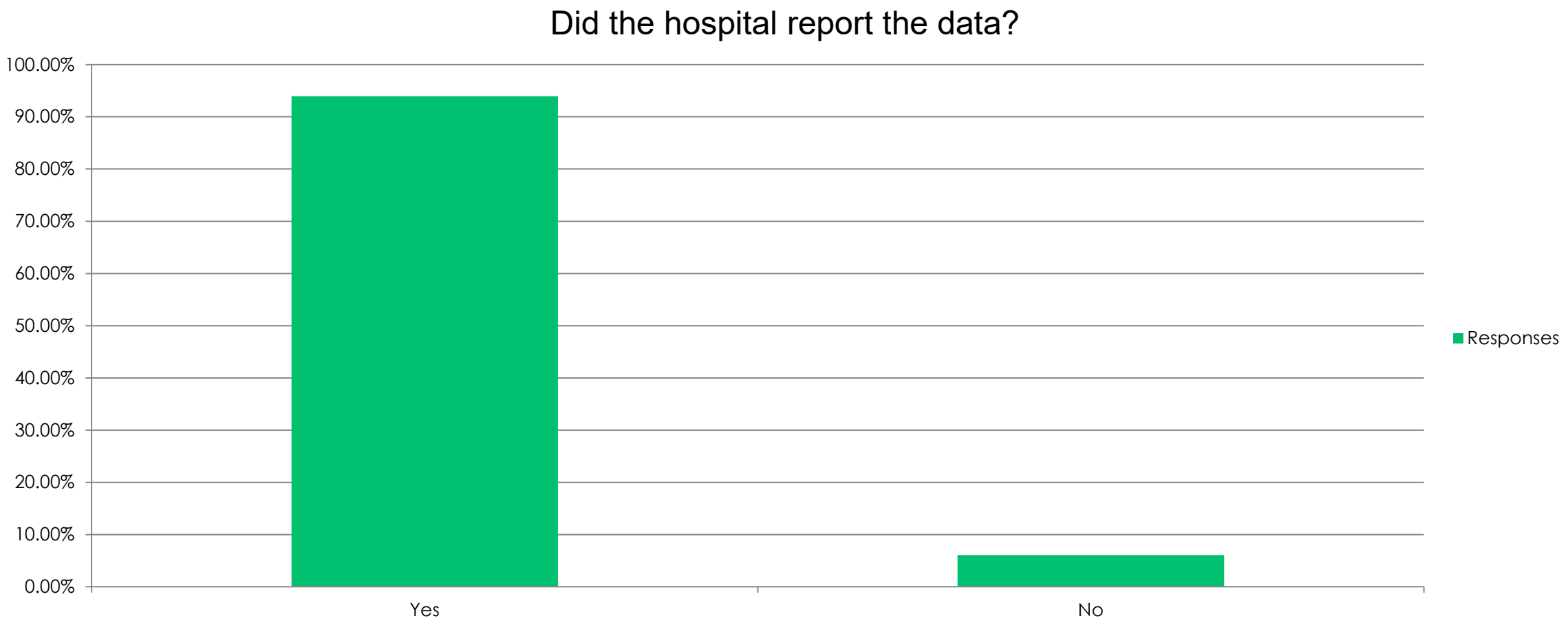
Yearly Assessment

FLEX yearly assessment link:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QNFL68M

Report equals responses from 28/31 GA CAH's

Data Reporting



How did you score in comparison to other GA CAH's and nationally?

Care Compare

https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare/

Is there a target or goal percentage to obtain for the Safe Use of Opioids metric?	There currently is no target or goal percentage to obtain for the Safe Use of Opioids measure. You can view performance results by hospital, state, or nationally on Care Compare by searching hospital data sets for Timely and Effective Care (https://data.cms.gov/provider-data/search?fulltext=timely%20and%20effective%20care&theme=Hospitals)
Looking for benchmarking information. Please share any benchmarks you have for this measure (i.e., is there a percentage institutions should strive for?).	There currently is no national benchmark for this measure. Hospitals can compare their performance results to the national average and national top 10% performance rates available on Care Compare in the downloadable Hospital Timely and Effective Care National file (https://data.cms.gov/provider-data/search?fulltext=timely%20and%20effective%20care&theme=Hospitals).
Is there a goal for CY25 or one planned for the future and how does this new eCQM affect CMS Star Ratings	There currently is no goal for CY2025. Safe Use of Opioids contributes to CMS Star Ratings because it is one of the 13 Timely and Effective Care measures along with up to 34 other measures whose performance is used in calculating the CMS Star Ratings. For more information about Star Ratings, you can go to the Overall hospital quality star rating page on the CMS provider data catalog at https://data.cms.gov/provider-data/topics/hospitals/overall-hospital-quality-star-rating/

https://digitalassets.jointcommission.org/api/public/content/e918693b4d9e4ae98bf27ecec3472ab7?v=5e2f7e86#:~:text=Is%20there%20a%20target%20or,is%20no%20goal%20for%20CY2025

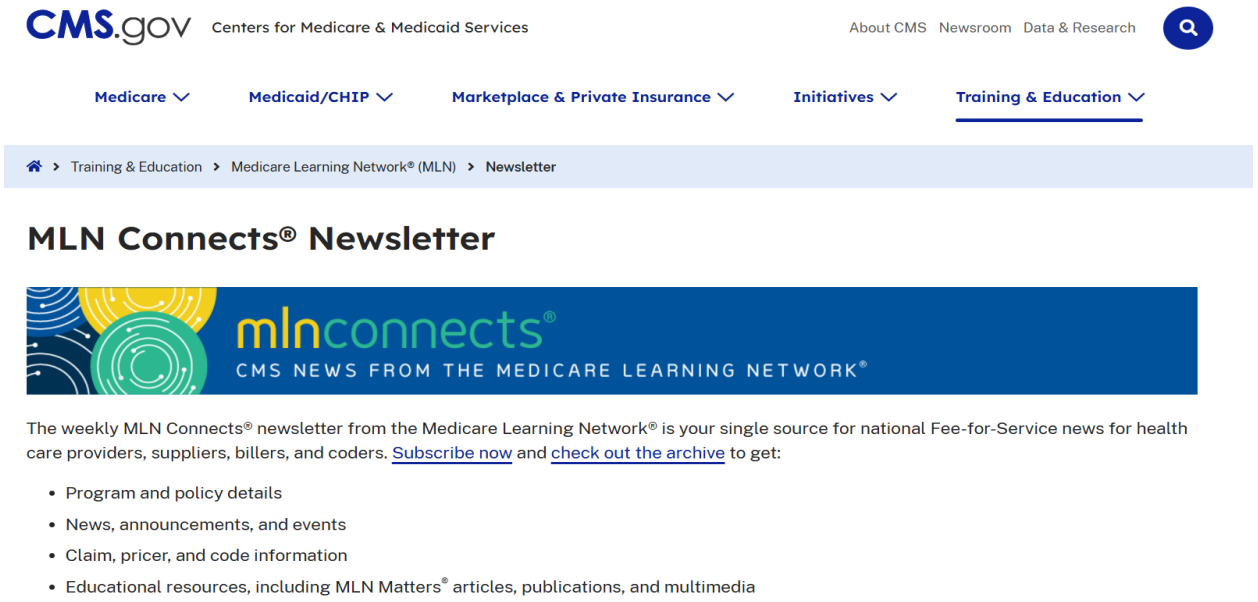
Resources

Critical Access Hospital Center

https://www.cms.gov/medicare/enrollment-renewal/providers-suppliers/critical-access-hospitals-center

MLN Connects Newsletter

https://www.cms.gov/training-education/medicare-learning-network/newsletter



Resources

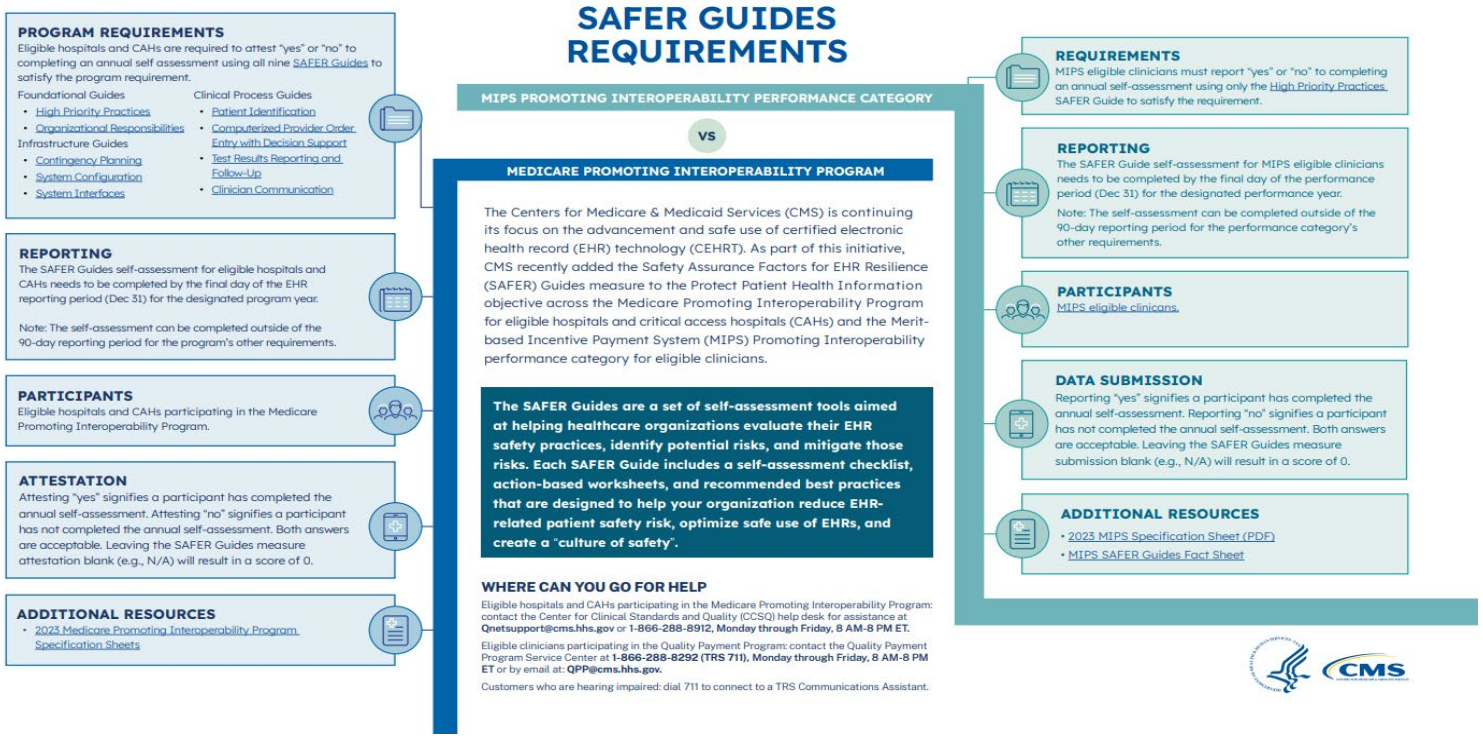
https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/fy-2026-hospital-inpatient-prospective-payment-system-ipps-and-long-term-care-hospital-prospective-0

IPPS

• **Medicare Promoting Interoperability Program**	**Administrative and Payment Changes**
• The EHR Reporting Period for 2026 and subsequent years must be a continuous 180-day period within the calendar year. • CAHs must attest to conducting a security risk analysis and implementing security risk management protocols. • Completion of an annual self-assessment using all eight 2025 SAFER Guides is required. • Starting in CY 2027, CAHs will need to report on the "Electronic Prior Authorization" measure under the Health Information Exchange objective. • An optional bonus measure is available for data exchange with a public health agency using TEFCA.	• Effective January 2026, CMS will deny CAH claims for professional services if a provider's billing rights reassignment is not properly filed in PECOS. • Starting January 1, 2026, the Joint Commission has revised its standards for CAHs to align with CMS Conditions of Participation (CoPs). • Revisions to hospital price transparency rules take effect January 1, 2026, with enforcement for certain new requirements delayed until April 1, 2026.

Safer Guides

https://www.cms.gov/files/document/cms-safer-guides-infographic-2023.pdf



What specific interventions or strategies do you believe would be most effective in driving improvement at your hospital?

- Use of available grants
- Enhancing provider education
- Establishing opioid stewardship program
- Implementing prescribing guidelines
- Engaging pharmacy in meetings/discussions/intervention planning

Have you implemented any interventions that are beginning to show positive results at your hospital?

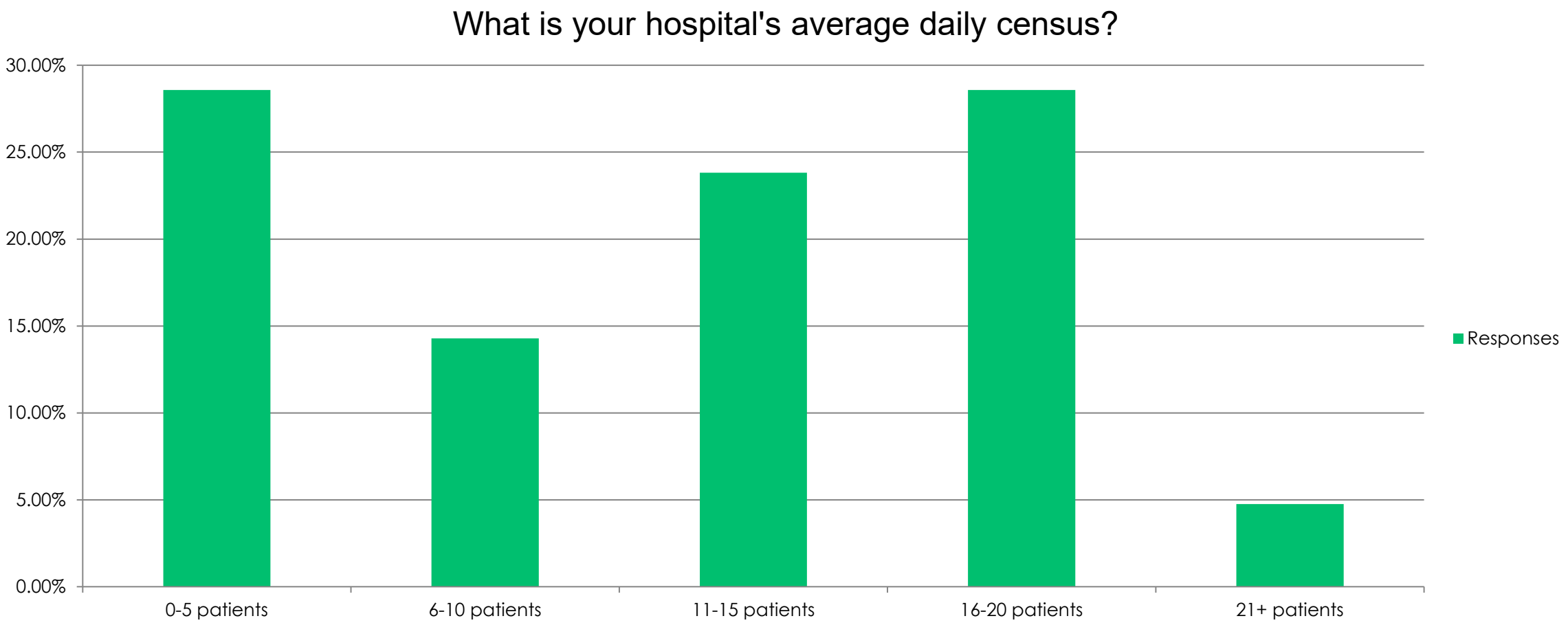
- Community Narcan training
- Pharmacy rounding with MD
- Pharmacy providing education with MD's and staff
- Interdepartmental collaboration and education with staff
- Monitoring prescriber rates

- COMMON THEMES: Pharmacy involvement and education

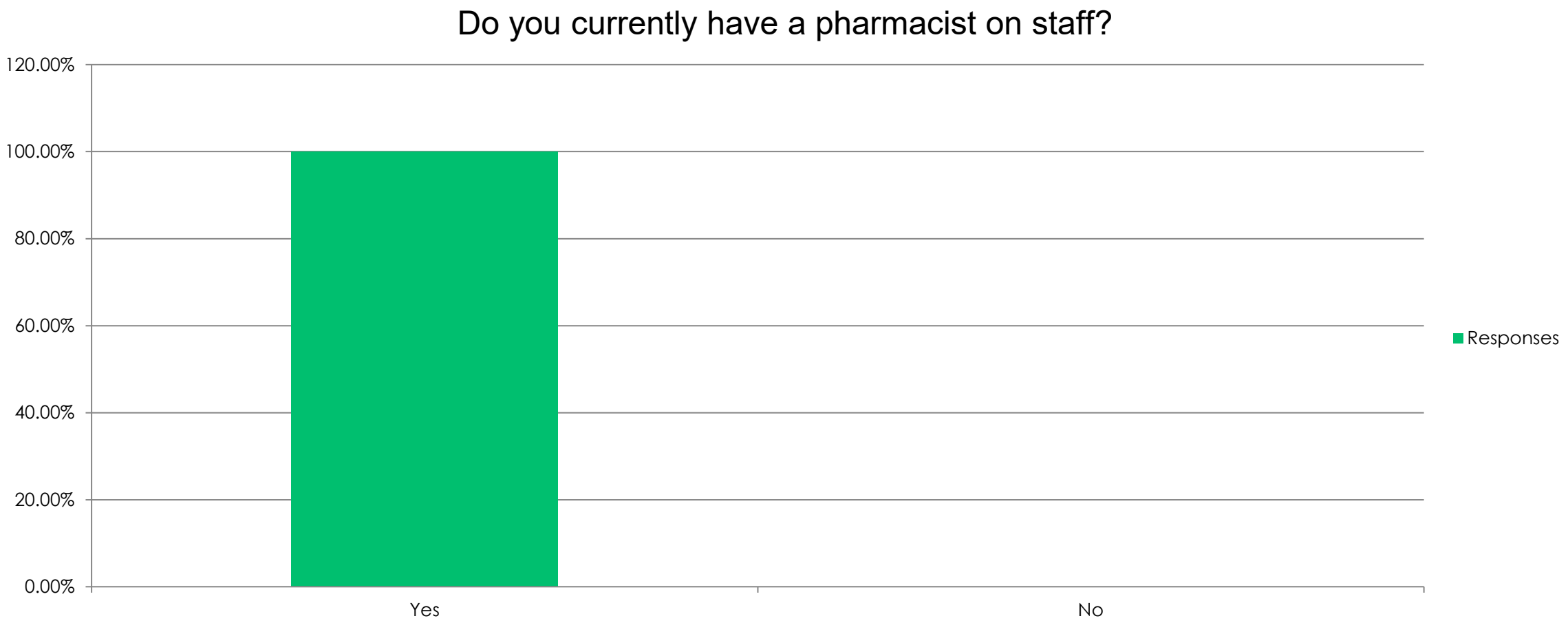
Which Electronic Health Record does your hospital currently use?

- M System
- Meditech
- Cerner
- CPSI
- EPIC
- Paragon

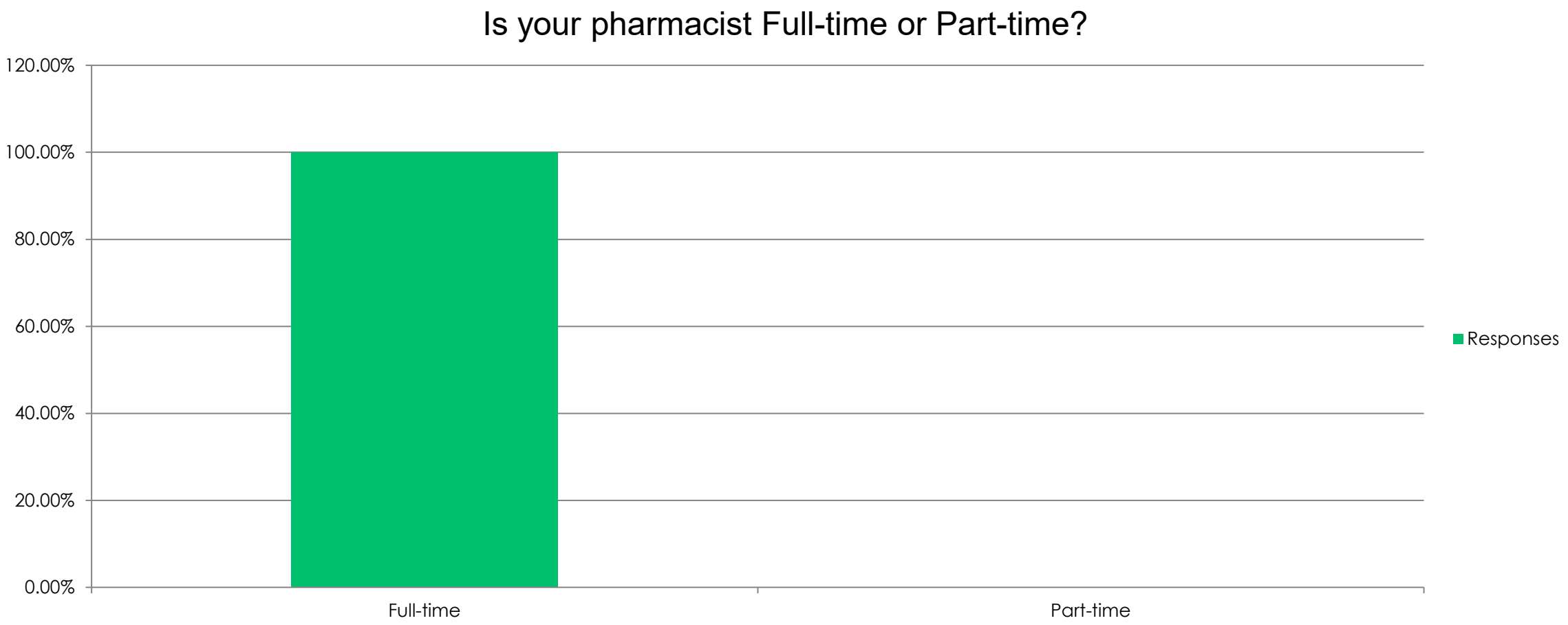
What is your hospital's average daily census?



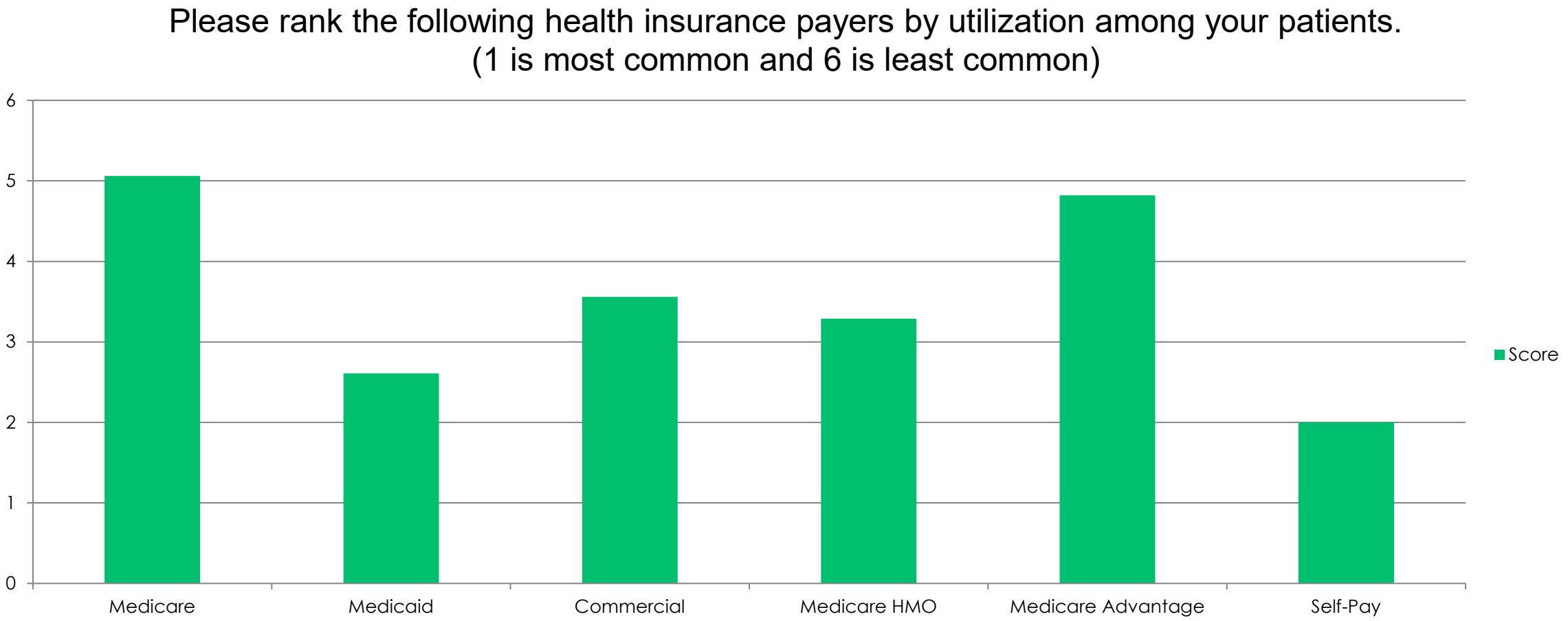
Do you currently have a pharmacist on staff?



Is your pharmacist full-time or part-time?



Health insurer payer rank per utilization



Additional insurance payers/programs

- Veteran's Administration
- Insurance marketplace comparison

What training or resources would help your hospital improve safe opioid use?

- Education for all staff
- Patient education resources
- Narcan programs and resources for the community
- Physician education

Project Timeline

Date	To-Do List
4th Tuesday of each month 10 a.m. EST	□ Monthly calls
January 27, 2025	□ First call of 2026

Email melody.brown@allianthealth.org to schedule a meeting.

Alliant Health Website and GA Flex Resources

https://quality.allianthealth.org/ga-flex/

GA Flex Resources

Hospital Resources

Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project (MBQIP) 2025 Measure Core Set Information Guide – Version 2.2 – 3.1.2025

The Rural Quality Improvement Technical Assistance (RQITA) Resource Center

Safe Use of Opioids

Safe Use of Opioids – Concurrent Prescribing

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)

Screening for SDOH Measure and the Screen Positive Rate Measure

FAQs Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Measures

Discharge Referral List

Improving the Collection of Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Data with ICD-10-CM Z Codes

Show More

Resources

1. The Rural Quality Improvement Technical Assistance (RQITA) Resource Center: https://www.telligen.com/rqita/

2. Rural Health Information Hub website: https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/

3. Rural Health Research Gateway: https://www.ruralcenter.org/


Questions?
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A Division of the Georgia Department of Community Health


Happy Holidays
& HAPPY NEW YEAR