

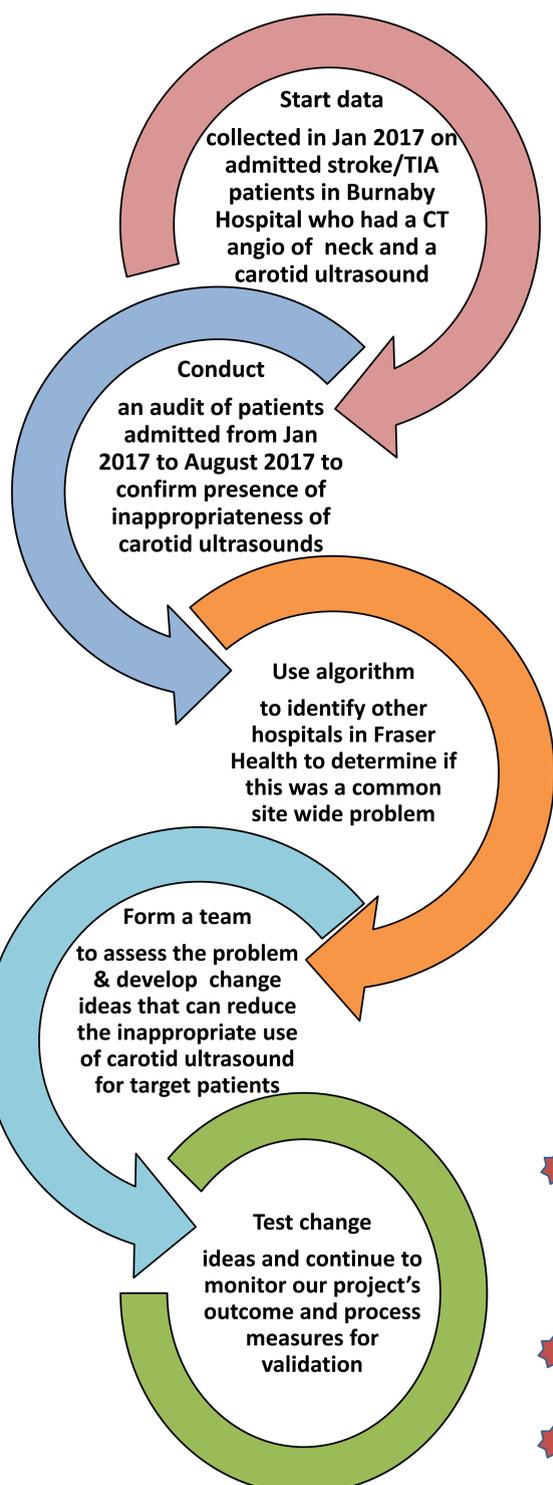
Aim

To reduce the inappropriate use of carotid ultrasound in stroke and TIA by 100% in Burnaby Hospital by June 2018

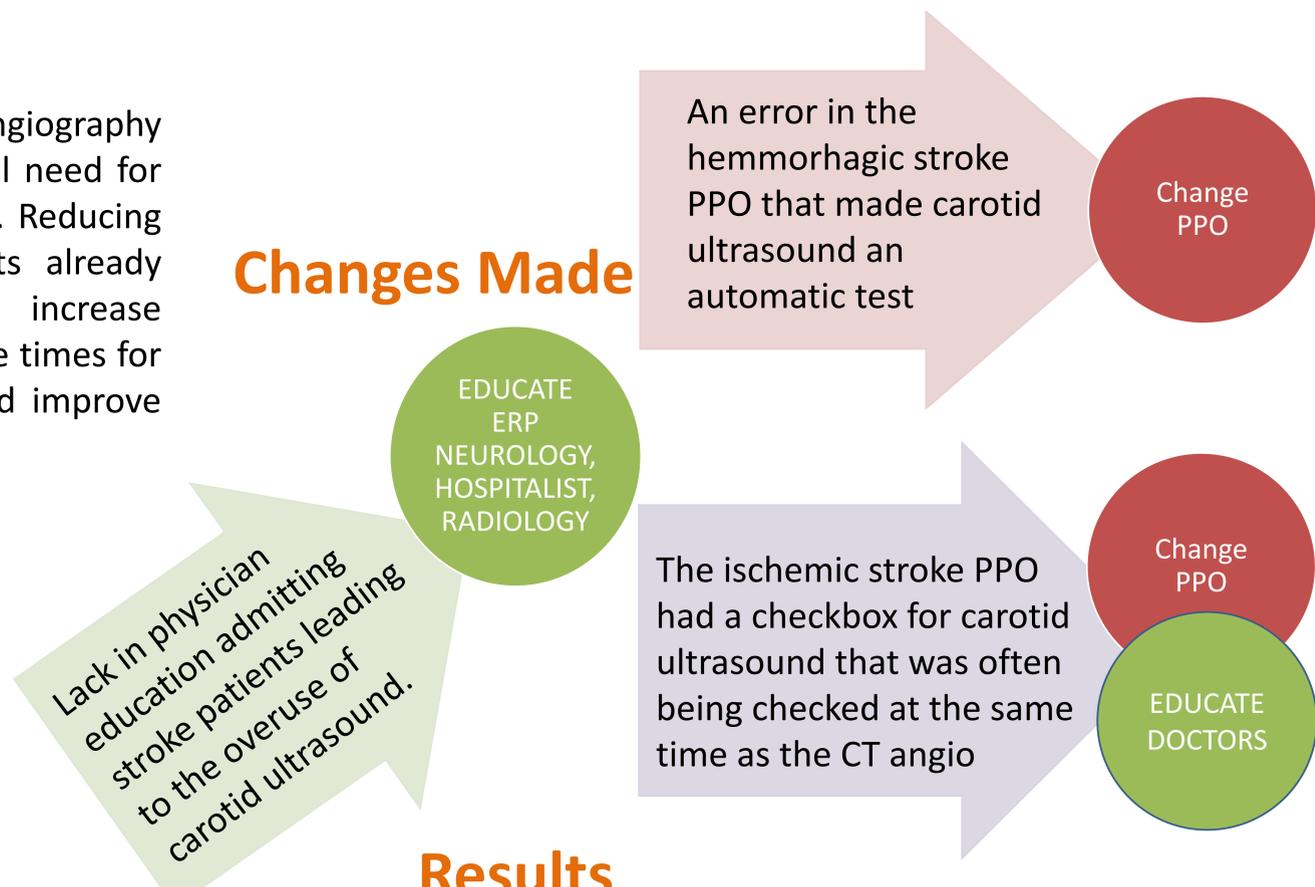
Background

With increasing use of computerized tomography Angiography of the neck in acute stroke and TIA, the traditional need for carotid ultrasound in these settings has decreased. Reducing the use of carotid ultrasound in stroke patients already receiving a CT angiogram can reduce waste, increase availability of ultrasound for other patients, improve times for other tests and procedures for stroke patients and improve overall patient satisfaction.

Project Design & Strategy



Changes Made



Results

The only change ideas implemented so far are the education of ERP, Radiology, Neurology and Hospitalists, at dates annotated in Figure 1. PPO changes are being finalized and implemented in coordination with a broader review of the stroke order sets being done at Burnaby Hospital. Review of other hospitals in Fraser Health are shown in Figure 2, prompting a consideration for a further spread project

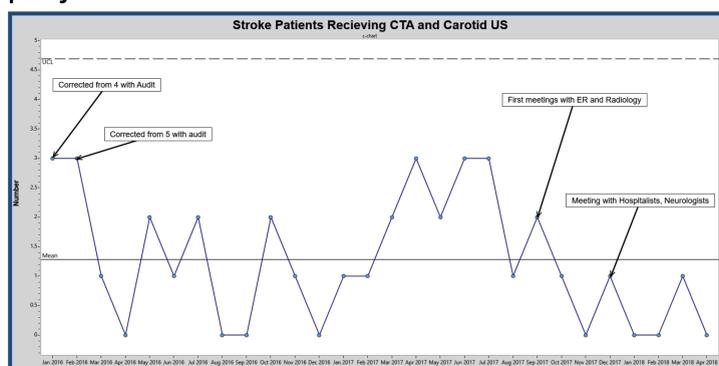


Figure 1 shows the decreasing number of stroke patients receiving both CT Angio and Carotid Ultrasound

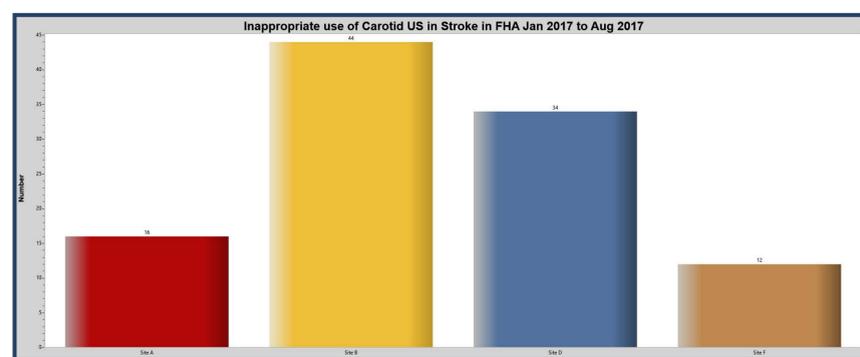


Figure 2 confirms the presence of similar cases where patients are receiving both CT Angio and carotid Ultrasounds without real cause across multiple Fraser health facilities

Lessons Learned & Next Steps

- When an advance in testing for a common medical condition is made, there are often unintended and wasteful consequences due to outdated systems, education and order sets.
- This should be corrected for the good of the patient, physician and the hospital.
- Consider a spread project to other Hospitals in the Fraser Health.

Project Team

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