

Discharge Lounge RSH

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Abstract: In order to facilitate early flow from the front door areas, a permanent discharge lounge and team were implemented which had positive impact on pre-12 discharges at RSH

SMART Aim

To facilitate earlier discharge of patients from inpatient wards as measured by Pre 12 discharge figures by end of December 2021.

Plan

It is vital for the flow of patients from our front door areas for the early movement of patients who are being discharged from the wards. This can be achieved through the use of a discharge lounge facility.

The discharge lounge at RSH had moved a number of times over recent years and because it did not have a permanent base or a substantive workforce it was not reliably available to wards every day. Patients who were identified for discharge had to remain on the wards until they were able to leave which meant that beds were not vacated until later in the day. It was planned to create a reliable discharge facility by identifying a more permanent location for the discharge lounge to be located and employing a permanent workforce.

Do

A location for the discharge lounge was identified on Ward 18 in the Copthorne building and estates, infection control, and health and safety worked with the Flow and Capacity Team to ensure it was ready and fit for purpose.

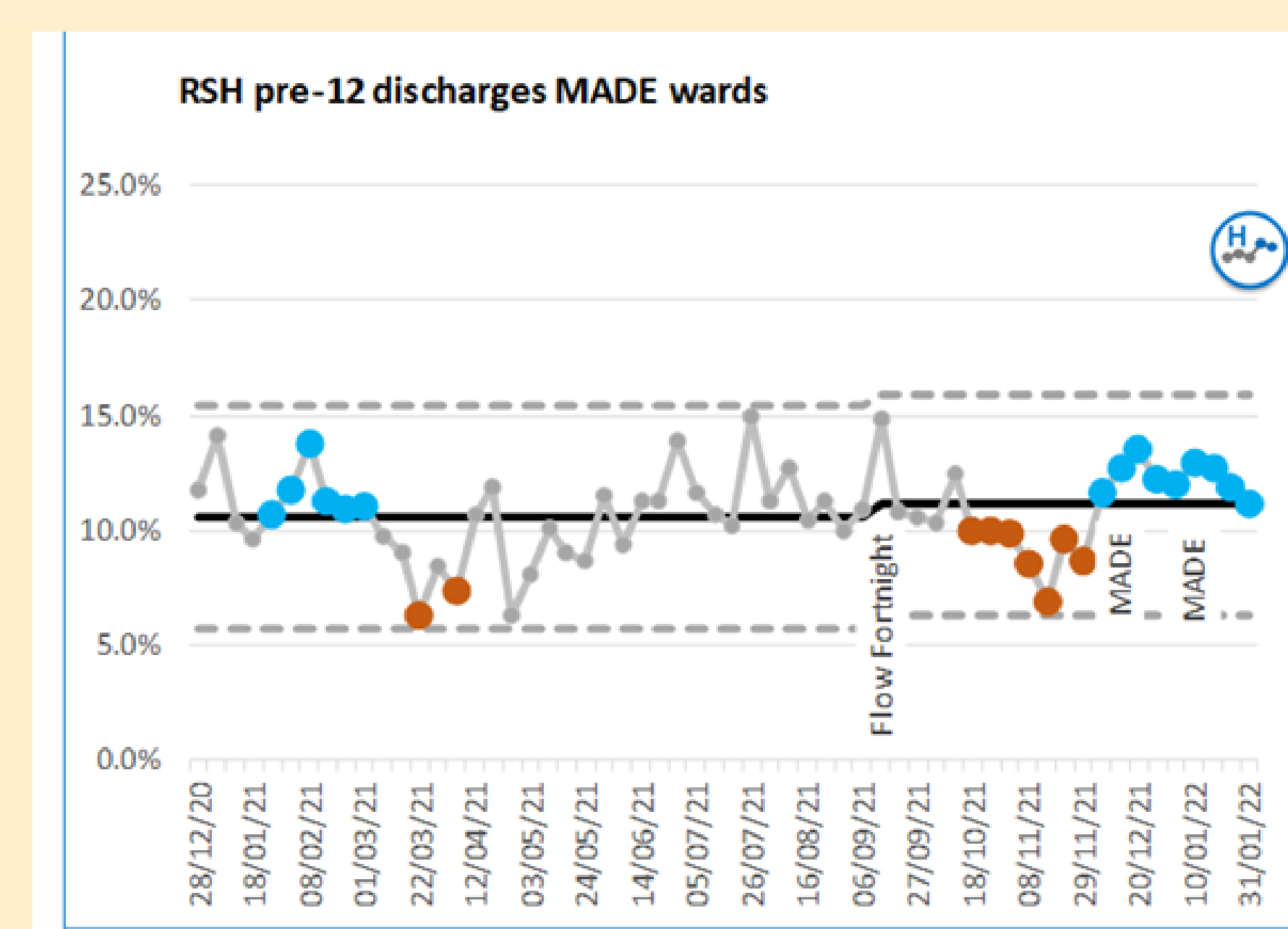
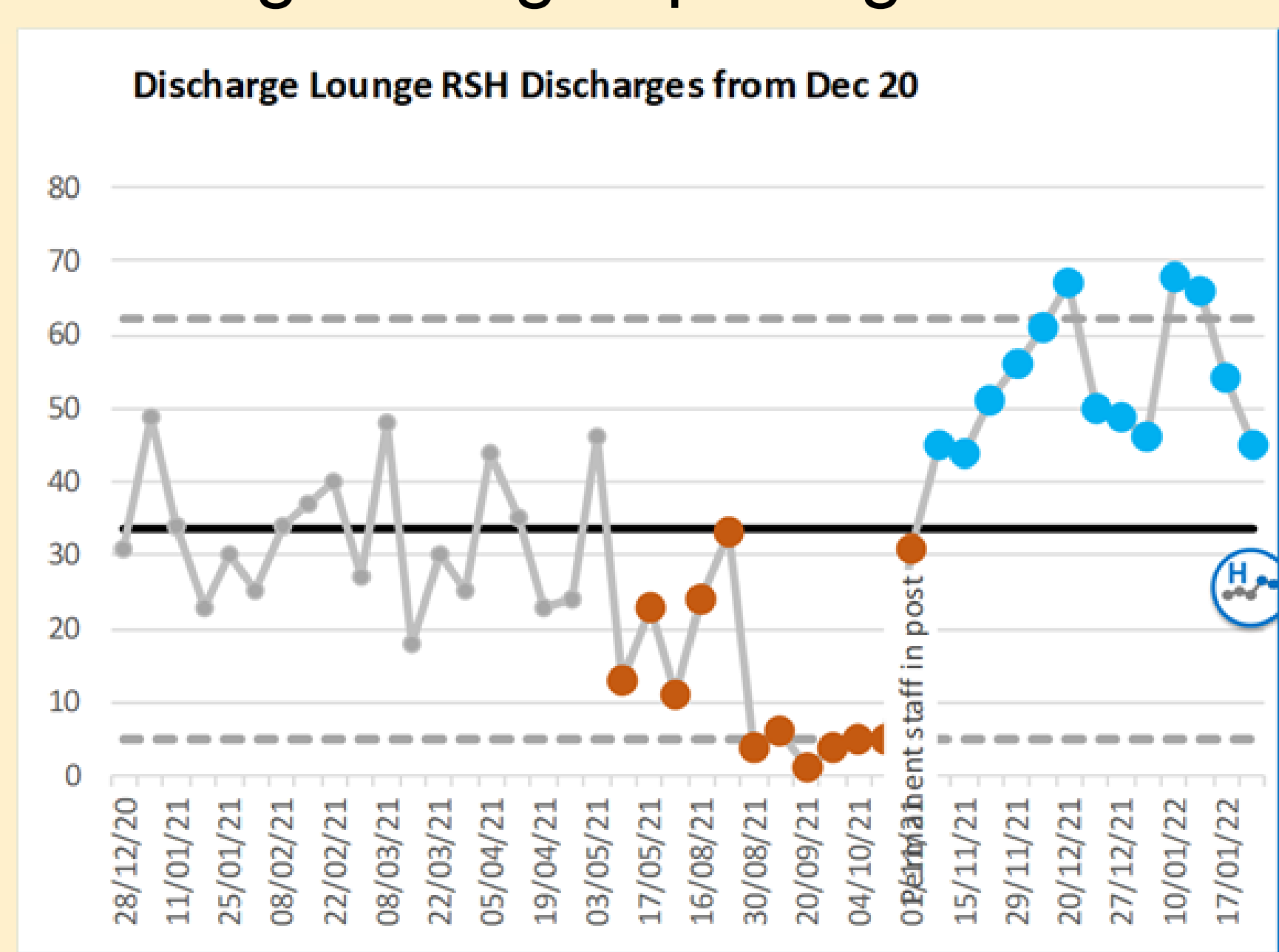
Posts within a new discharge team structure were advertised and appointed to, including a Department manager, Sisters and HCA's.

New standard processes were devised for the Discharge Lounge Team to ensure standard and consistent daily work.



Study

The numbers of patients transferred to the discharge lounge at RSH and the overall numbers of Pre 12 discharges were monitored. There is a statistically significant improvement (seen as blue dots on the SPC charts) in the number of patients transferred to the discharge lounge. The number of pre-12 discharges also show a statistically significant improvement from the date of the discharge lounge opening.



Act

The next steps for the Discharge Lounge are to support the implementation of the 'Golden Patient' concept. Linking in with wards in the afternoon to identify a patient who is identified for pre-10 transfer to the Discharge Lounge.