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Problem

Long term follow-up (LTFU) results are important for the VQI and are an important asset of the registry. Unfortunately many regions and centers struggle with data capture for many reasons.

Background

In our Northern California Vascular Study Group, our regional average for LTFU was 65% in 2014. The national average for VQI was 67%. Our center looked at our data entry model and wanted to describe our success. .

Goals

To see what variables enable our center in our region to have a better LTFU compared to the region and national numbers.

Improvement Strategies

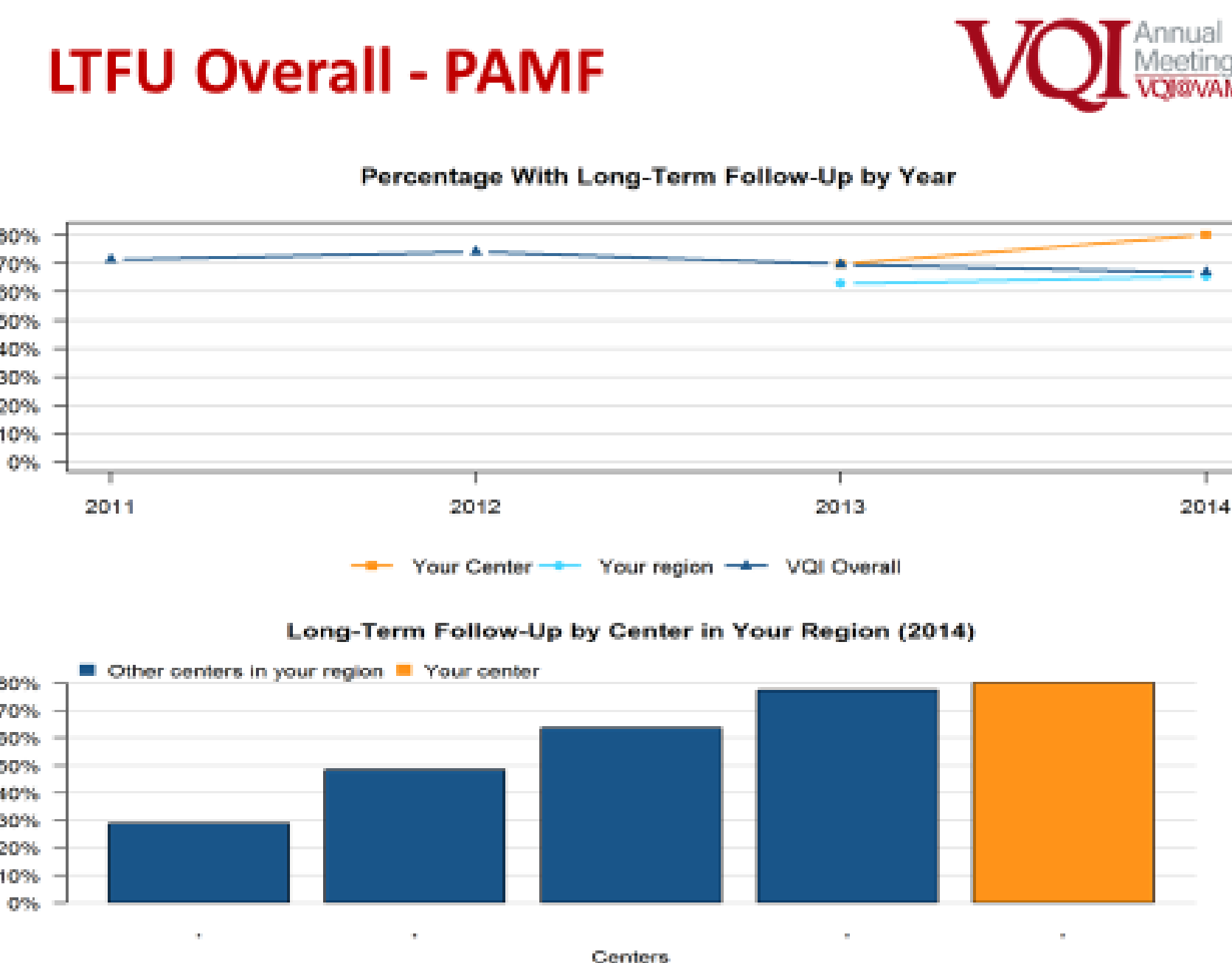
1. Since 2014, we utilized APCs
2. PA and NP
3. Live data entry
4. Led to better knowledge
5. Accurate data
6. Cost and productivity constraints
7. In our center, we have a closed multi-specialty group and use allied health providers (AHPs) for data entry and follow-up
8. Having a controlled, engaged patient practice and AHPs who know the patients very well enables us to have a LTFU of 80% in 2014 compared to 70% in 2013.

Process

1. Taught AHPs registry
2. Made sure time protected to do data
3. Closed medical group
4. Strength in clinic model and patient retention
5. We educated our patients about the registry and our needs for accurate follow-up. We obtained patient commitment and then trained three AHPs to insure the LTFU was recorded and processes were put to place for accurate follow-up, surveillance and data collection with our clinically active AHPs.

Results

Our patient base, programs and process led to a 10% LTFU improvement from 2013 to 2014. We are at an excellent 80% LTFU rate.



Conclusions

Patient engagement, a closed medical group model, high quality vascular care and using well trained AHPs for data collection have enabled us to obtain excellent LTFU on our procedures and insure quality care.

Success Factors

1. Commitment to VQI
2. Financial resources
3. Medical Group commitment to quality
4. Educating our AHPs
5. Improving vascular knowledge
6. A commitment to patient safety
7. AHPs willing to learn and develop vascular knowledge