

Increasing Upper Limb Therapy Input within Stroke Unit

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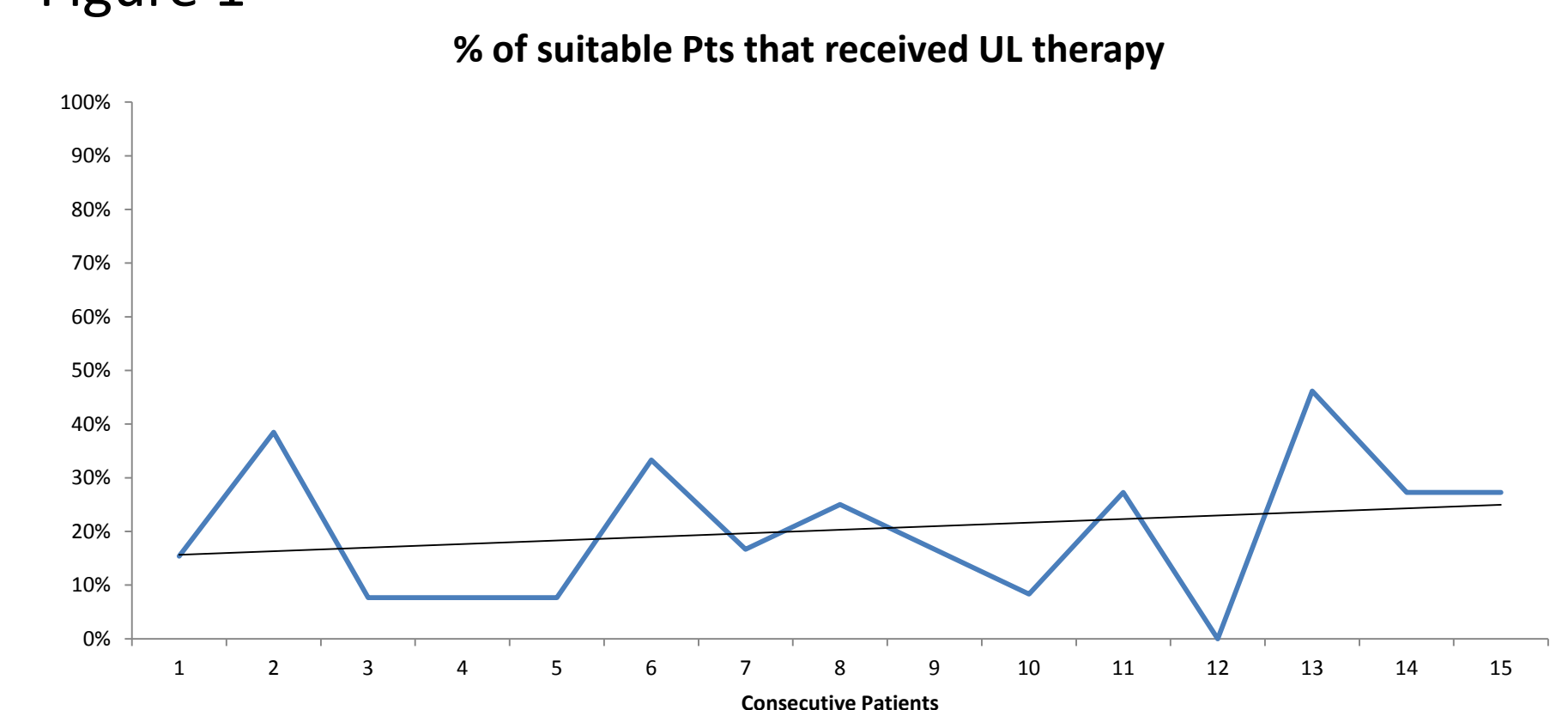
Quality issue / initial problem

Currently there is a limited amount of upper limb therapy being delivered by the physiotherapy team to stroke patients with upper limb impairment on the WGH Stroke Unit. Upper limb therapy should be included, where required, in order to provide best chance of functional recovery.

Specific aim

To increase upper limb therapy input to stroke patients with impaired upper limb as a result of stroke by 10% within approx 12 months.

Figure 1



Measurement of improvement

Baseline data was gathered (Figure 1)

Redesign of gym layout

Before

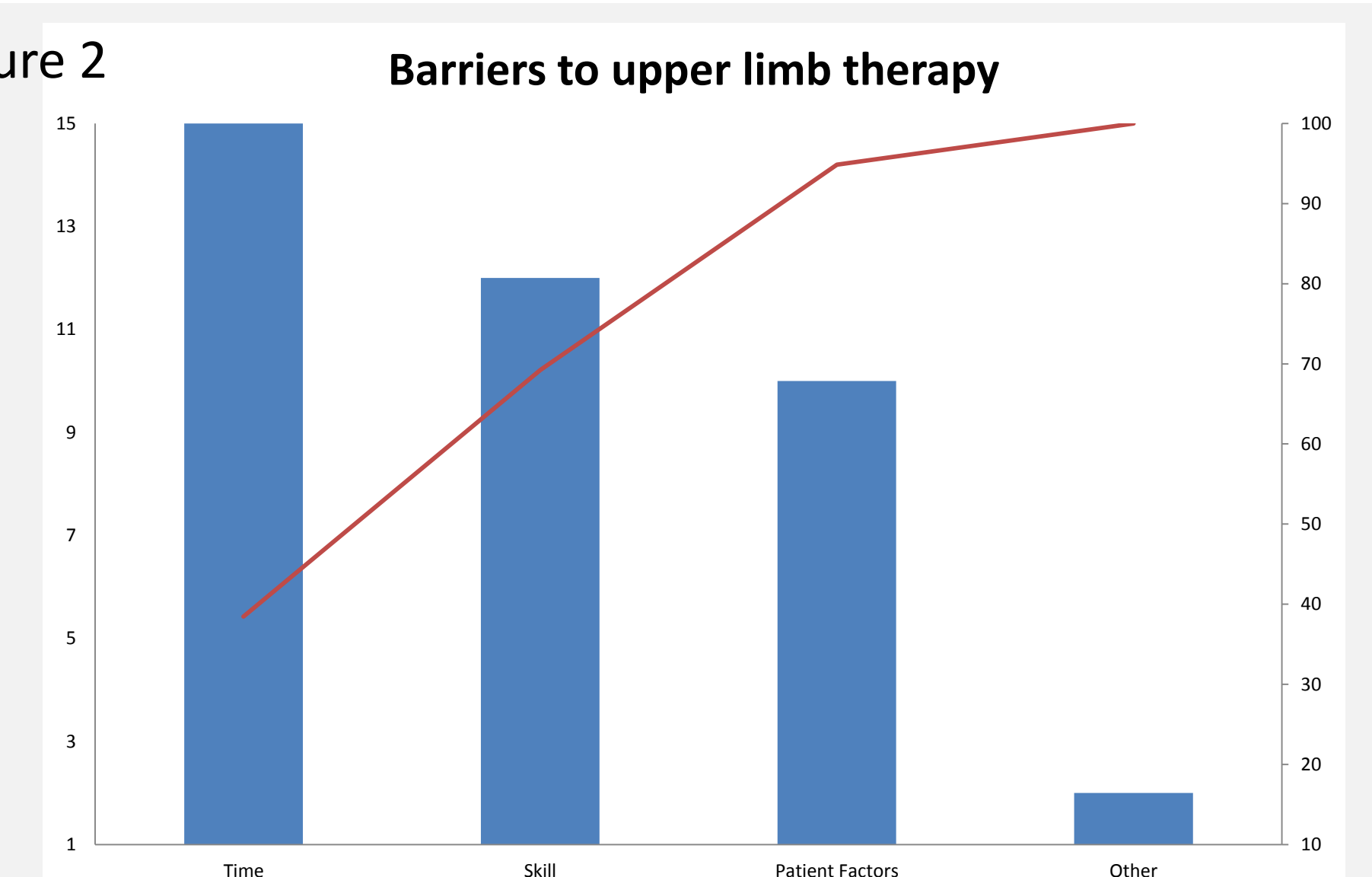


After



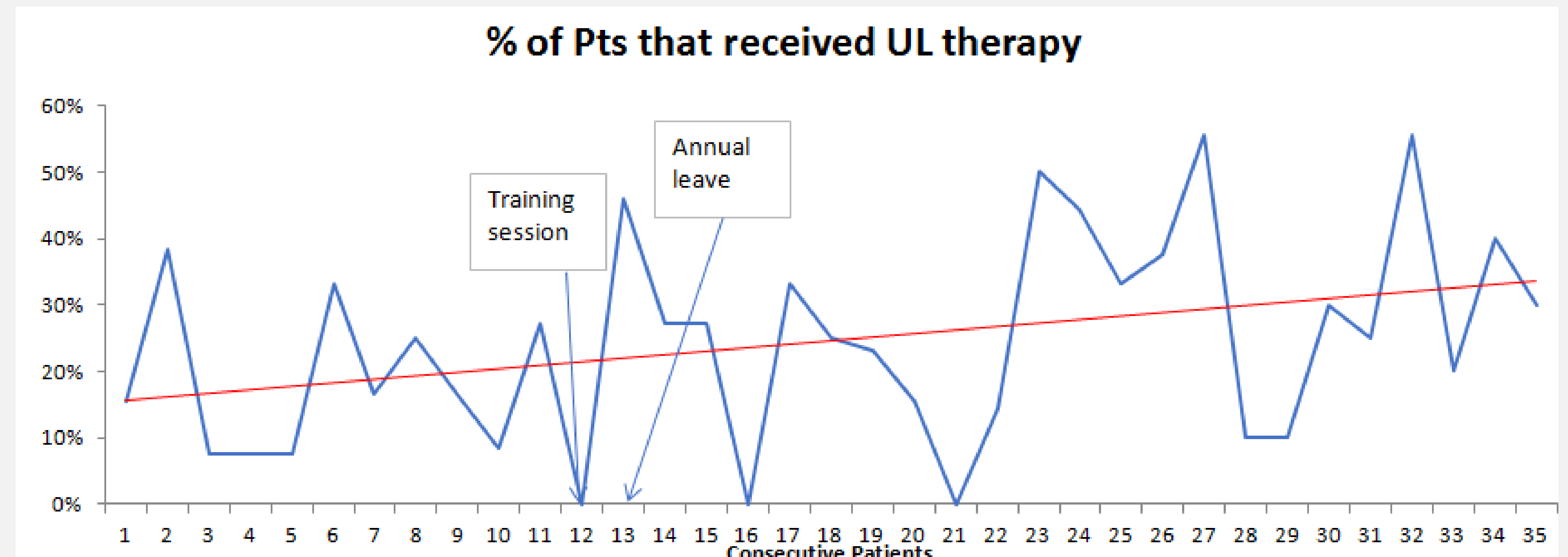
Staff feedback was gathered through brainstorming session (Figure 2)

Figure 2



Data so far....

% of Pts that received UL therapy



Tests of change

- Training session
- Redesign of gym layout
- Joint sessions with OTs

Effects of change

Increasing levels of upper limb rehab across PT team. New gym layout has made access to upper limb therapy equipment easier. Most importantly it has facilitated an increase in upper limb rehab for stroke patients but also increased staff confidence.

Lessons learned and message for others

Each small change leads to another small change so new way of working has evolved more easily than anticipated. A continued training need has been identified which is now being addressed. Asking staff opinion generated a lot useful feedback which guided the project work.

Tools

- Staff feedback
- Process map
- Pareto chart
- Run chart