

# VISUAL ACUITY IN THE UHNBC ED

## ▶ AIM STATEMENT:

To have visual acuity completed on 80% of all patients presenting to the UHNBC emergency department with an eye complaint by April 2021.

## ▶ BACKGROUND:

Visual acuity is the vital sign of the eye. Having visual acuity checks done aids in triaging patients with visual complaints.

## ▶ PROBLEM STATEMENT:

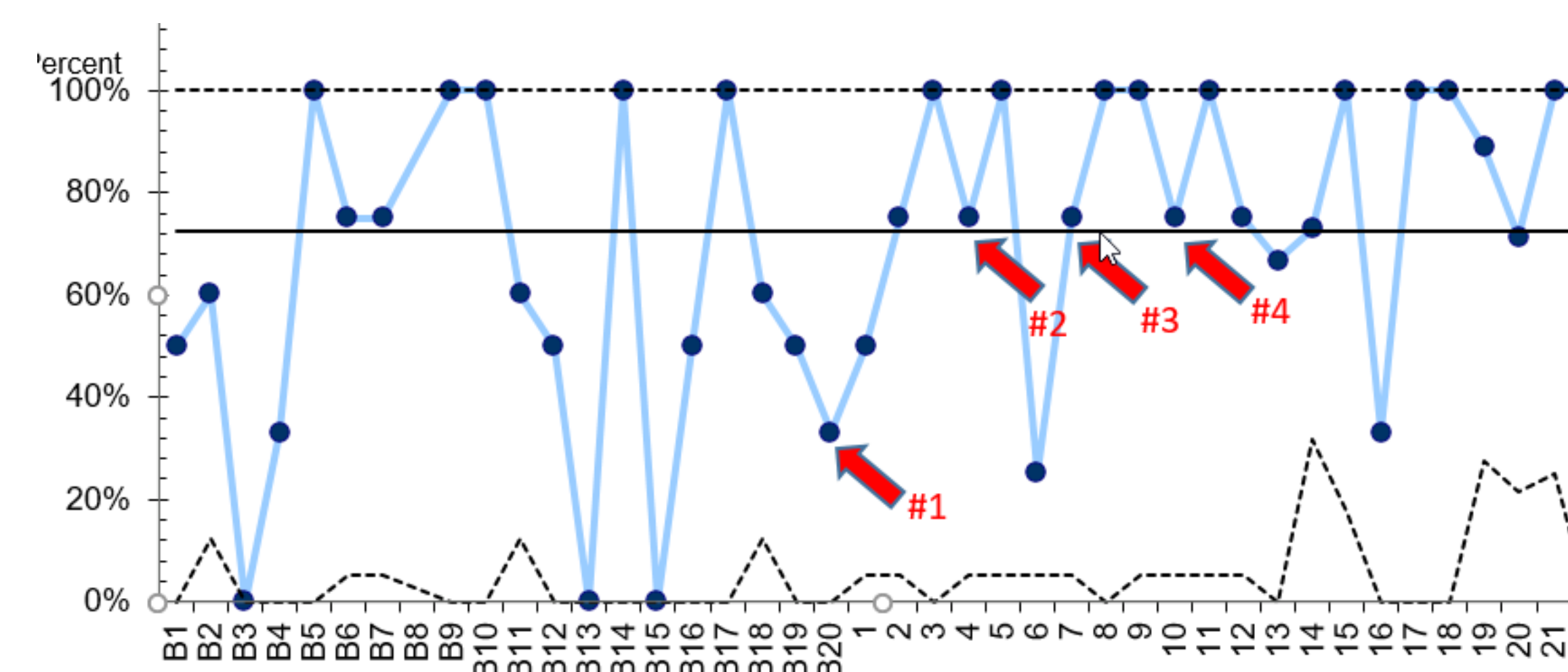
Visual acuity checks were only being done 57% of the time in the UHNBC Emergency Department. There seemed to be some confusion as to whose role it was to do the check and some people didn't have the training required to do the checks. There were also issues with the accessibility of Snellen charts to do the checks.

## ▶ CHANGE IDEAS TRIALLED:

- Different people doing the visual acuity checks (Triage RN, Floor RN, MD). This involved ensuring these team members had training to perform the visual acuity checks.
- Different locations for the eye chart (triage hallway, RAZ/Streaming hallway, Eye room)
- Different tools being use for the visual acuity checks (Snellen chart and handheld visual acuity chart)

## ▶ RESULTS:

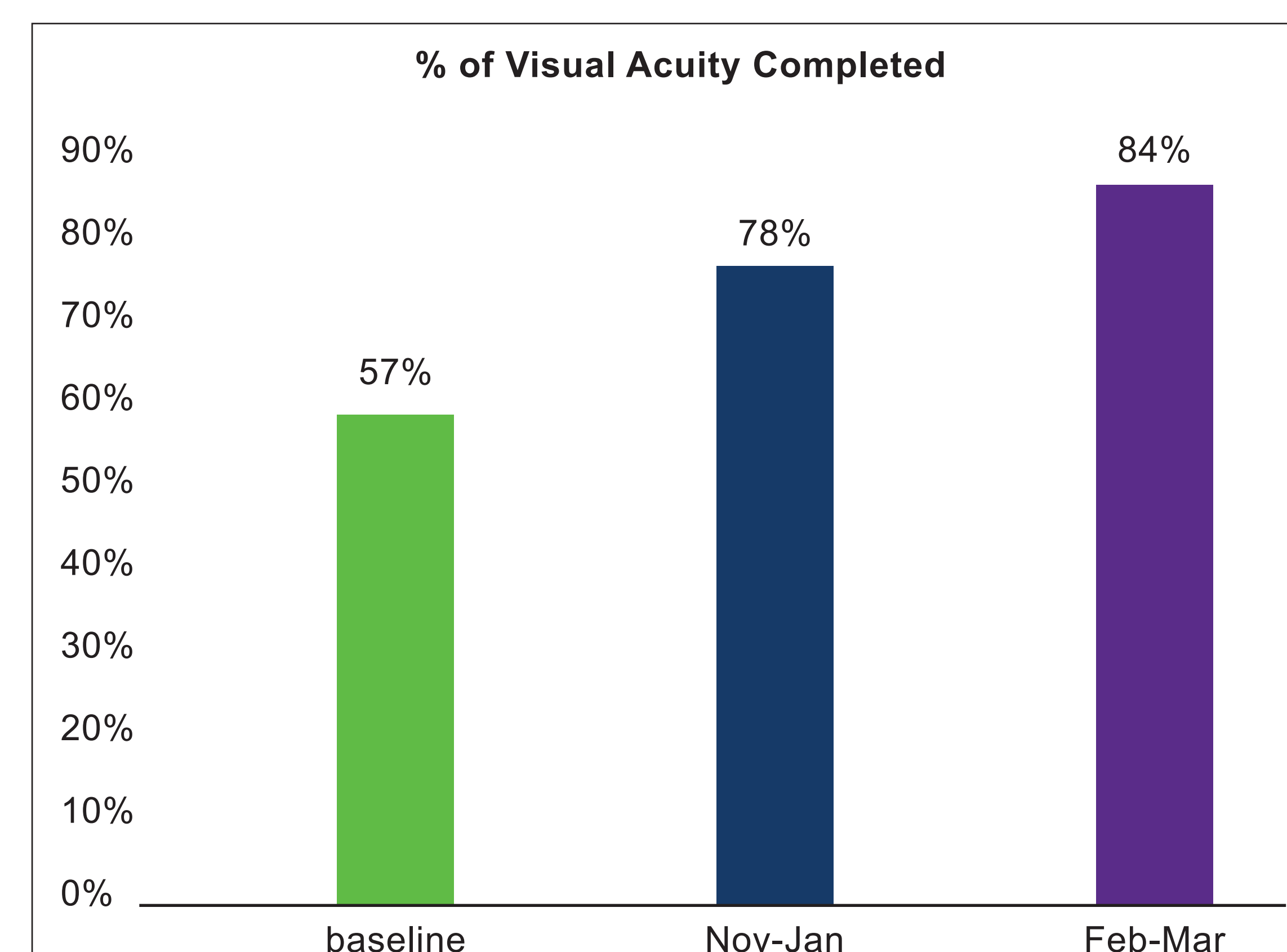
Control chart of the percentage of patients having visual acuity checks done each week.



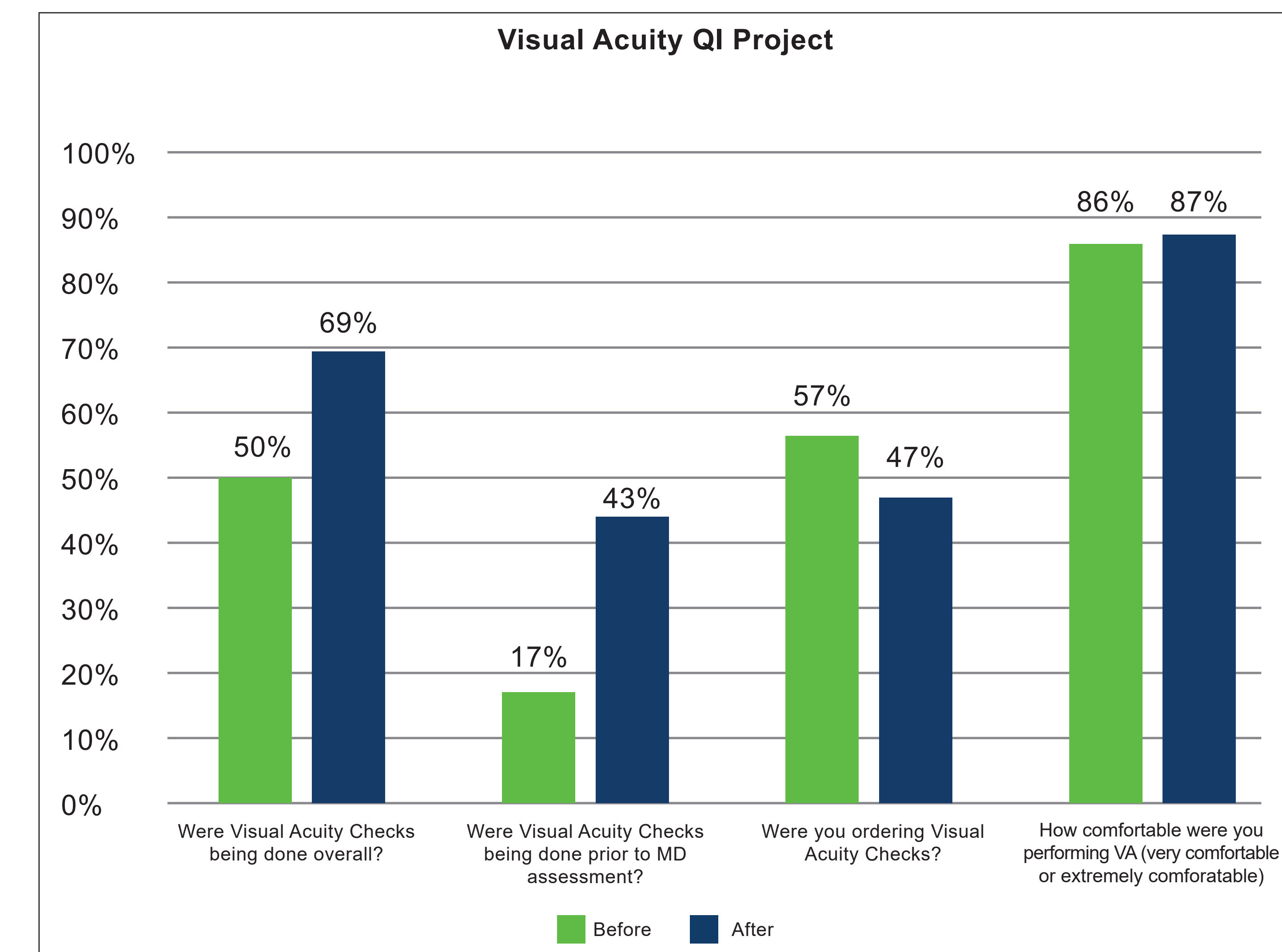
Weeks B1-B20 denote the baseline data and week 1 onward denotes the project.

1. Project began
2. Moved Snellen chart from peds bay hallway to triage hallway
3. Moved Snellen chart in clean hold outside of eye room & emailed YouTube video
4. Handheld Snellen chart for triage desk

### Overall Completion Rate of Visual Acuity Checks



## Physician Satisfaction Survey for the Project



**NEXT STEPS:** Work with IT to have the visual acuity check recorded in the vital signs in electronic charting

**SUSTAINING THE GAINS:** Continue to monitor the number of visual acuity checks being done.

**PATIENT/CUSTOMER:** Patients reporting to the UHNBC ED with eye complaints

### TEAM MEMBERS:

- Dr. Matt Wahab
- Deborah Ward (RN)
- Dr. Laura Brough
- Shelley Movold (PQI Coach)
- Andrea Goodine (PQI Coach)

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