

# "Enhancing Breast Cancer Screening in KIMS Clinic: A Quality Improvement Initiative"

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## Background

Quality measures in eCW guide screening tests based on age, gender, and risk factors, representing healthcare best practices. However, in HCA Kingwood Internal Medicine Specialists Clinic during the first quarter of 2023, mammography screenings fell short (2%), highlighting a potential gap in patient care. Completing screenings often involves a multi-step process, with responsibilities for physicians, patients, and medical assistants. Despite training efforts, suboptimal healthcare delivery may lead to financial losses for HCA Enterprise and below-goal metrics for Kingwood Continuity Clinic patients.

## Objective

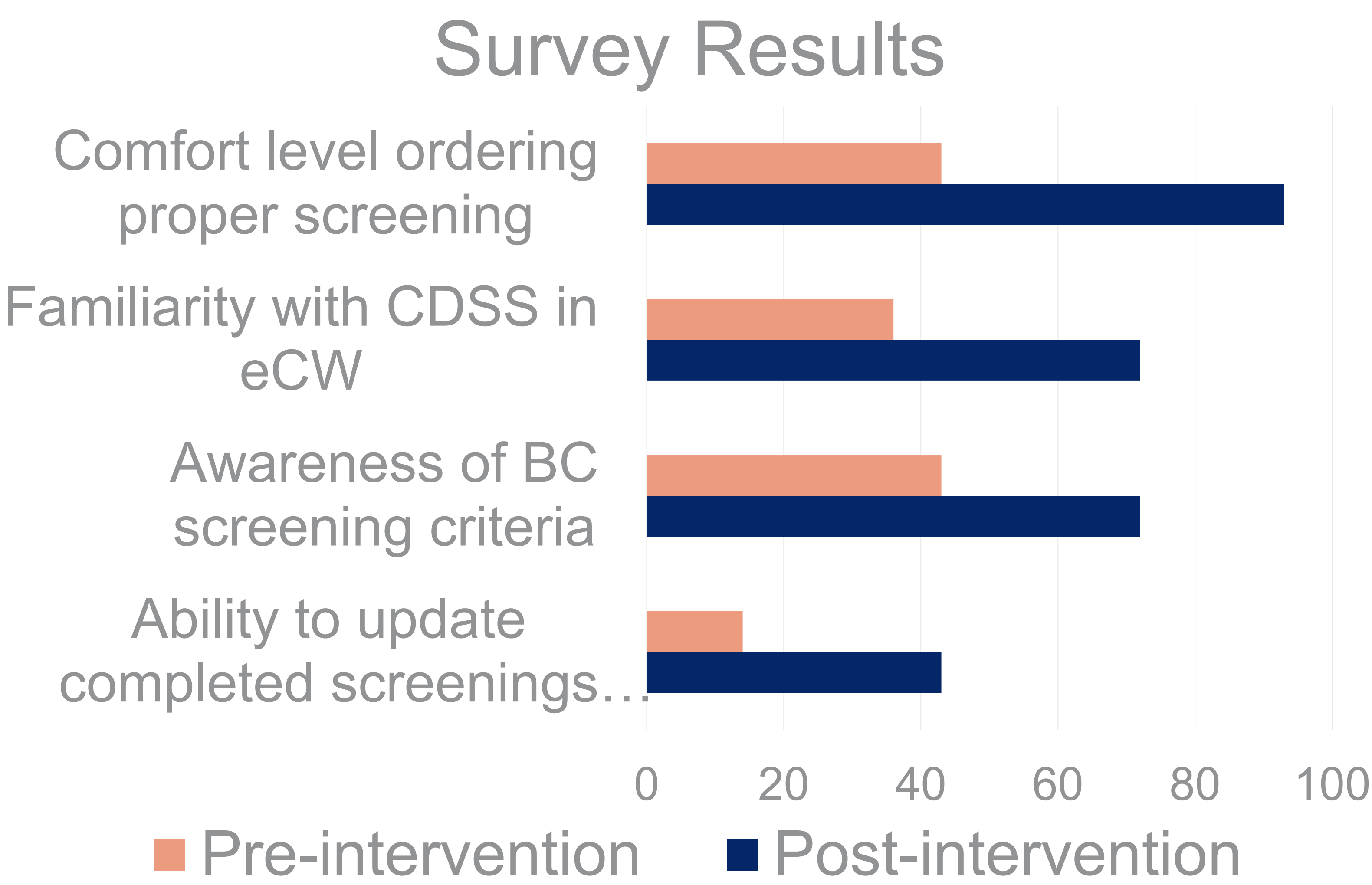
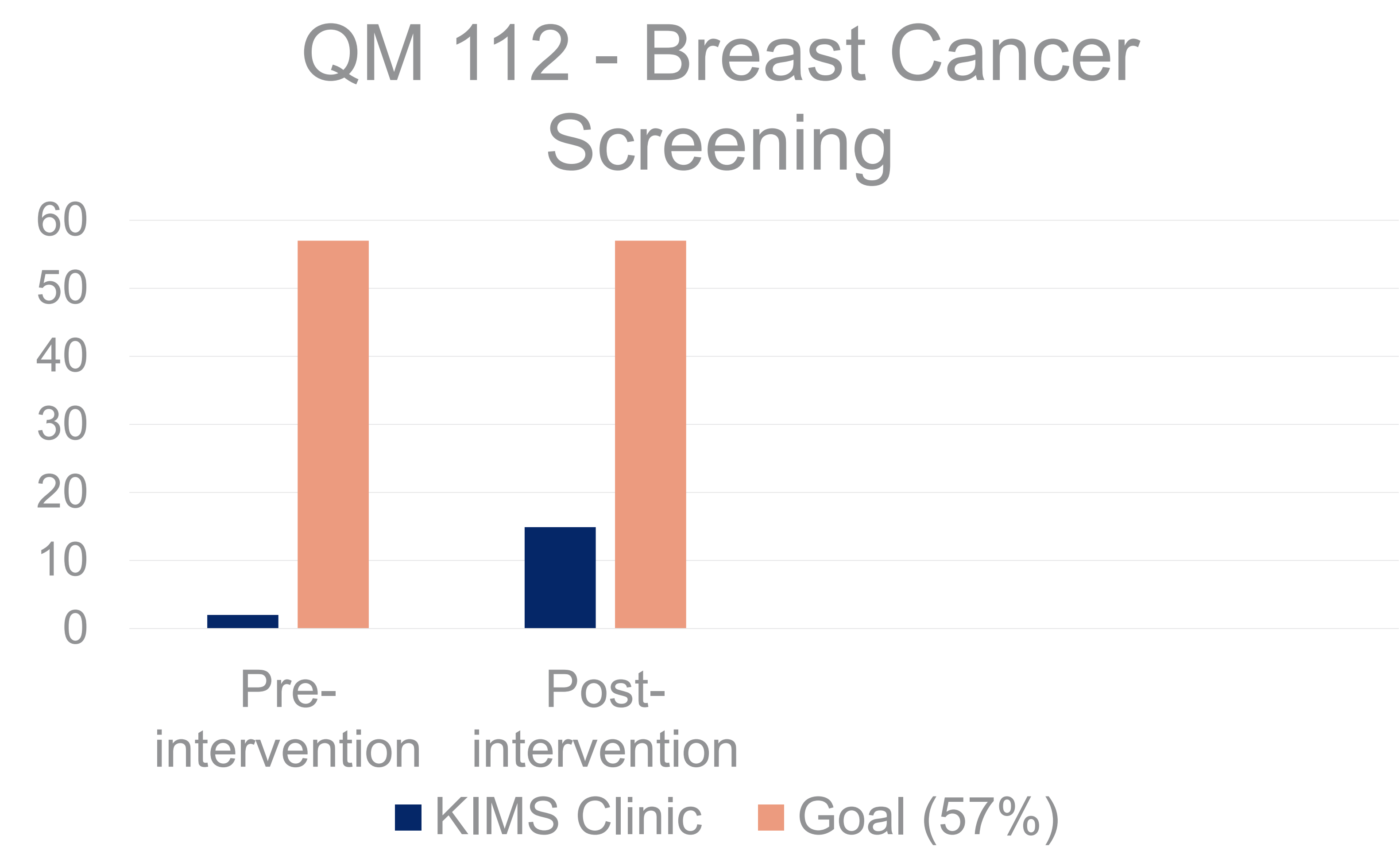
This study aims to assess whether a eight-month intervention involving discussing screening requirements during morning huddle meetings with residents, medical assistants, and attending physicians will enhance the documentation of appropriate quality measures for clinic patients and increase proper screenings among patients.

## Methods

Study period: June 2023 – February 2024

- Comprehensive educational resources were be provided to Residents and Medical Assistants, outlining the screening criteria tailored to each patient.
- An instructive video that demonstrated proper documentation of quality measures was shown every Monday for 5 weeks, with Residents encouraged to review the video at the beginning of each Clinic week.
- A championship resident was available every clinic week to provide guidance and orientation on the appropriate steps to follow for ordering of the mammography for Breast cancer screening and documentation of exclusion criteria's as needed.

## Results



## Discussion

The improvement was more 12.9%, which represented 6 times more than the metrics recorded before intervention, however, this result still remains under the desired enterprise goal. Challenges such as the complexity of the screening process, patient factors influencing adherence, and the need for further training may have contributed to this outcome. Moving forward, a multi-faceted approach, including ongoing education, addressing barriers to screening, and collaboration with patients, will be essential for sustained improvements. Possible future intervention include a staff assigned to careful follow up of the screening test ordered to identify barriers for achievement.

## Conclusion

This project highlighted the complexity of the screening process and the importance of addressing barriers to adherence. This QI project provided residents the knowledge to properly order a screen test, and made them comfortable on teaching those skills to incoming residents as well. Future interventions should aim for strict follow ups of the screening orders.

## References

- United States Preventive Services Task Force. "Breast Cancer Screening." USPSTF, [www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/breast-cancer-screening](http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/recommendation/breast-cancer-screening).
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. "Medicare Part B Claims Quality Measure Specifications." CMS Quality Payment Program, 2023, [qpp.cms.gov/docs/QPP\\_quality\\_measure\\_specifications/Claims-Registry-Measures/2023\\_Measure\\_112\\_MedicarePartBClaims.pdf](http://qpp.cms.gov/docs/QPP_quality_measure_specifications/Claims-Registry-Measures/2023_Measure_112_MedicarePartBClaims.pdf).