QuICR

Quality Improvement & Clinical Research
Alberta Stroke Program

Chinook Regional Hospital

The Team

- **Corinna Hartley**: Stroke Coordinator
- **Kevin Reedyk**: ED Nursing Manager
- **Tony Winder**, MD: Neurologist
- **Kevin Martin, MD**: ED chief
- **Lee Brewerton,** MD: Radiologist
- **Dana Meroniuk**: DI Manager
- **Troy Linderman**: Manager of Operations South Zone EMS
- **Pam Kaytor**: ED Manager
- **Diane Gove**: Angiography Supervisor
- **Pam Dooper**: Stroke Coordinator (former)
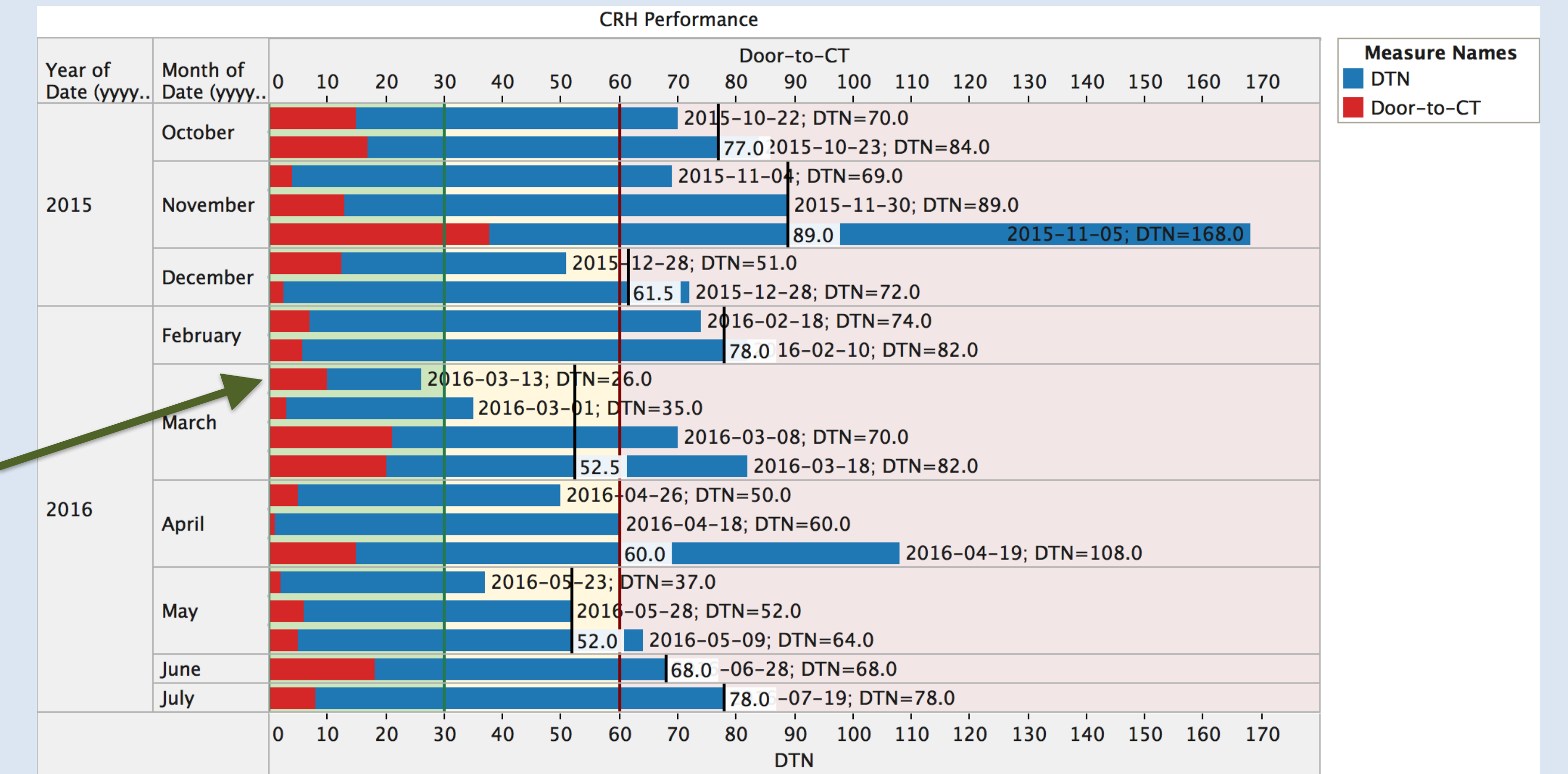
Changes Implemented

Strategies:

- To intiate a Stroke Alert Protocol (October 2015)
- Update our current Stroke Tote
- Improve EMS Pre-notification and Stroke screen use
- Development of an **IT** protocol for accessing South Zone PACS images on Citrix (MyAPPs) for use by Calgary Neurologists to improve time to access images (December 2015)
- Created a CTSTROKE code which prints out a req. for CT HEAD & CT CTA HEAD & NECK
- Improve communication and response times when using Telestroke by improving communication with Calgary Neurologists via RAAPID

Changes:

- Increase in diagnostic Imaging hours to provide CT/CTA coverage until 2315 started September 2015
- The CRH Stroke Alert Protocol started October 19 with several revisions to help guide the process connecting with Telestroke service.
- Improved pre-notification and use of stroke screen by EMS (Local and Rural)
- PACS/RIS team created a CTSTROKE code which prints out a req. for CT HEAD & CT CTA HEAD & NECK saving time on entering the two exams
- Team approach was utilized to improve hyper-acute stroke care outcomes.
- Neurology Team will increase to three neurologists in October 2016
- Increase in education supporting hyper-acute Stroke Care given to ED/ICU and EMS staff in a timely manner

Median DTN ≦ 30 min!

Door to Needle times and Door to CT times for Chinook Regional Hospital since the start of the QuICR DTN initiative. Median is shown by verticle line for each month.

Learning

26 Minute DTN

What went well
- Pre-notification
- Stroke Alert
- Locum coverage
- Team Approach

Some of the members of 26 min. DTN team

Improvements
- PACS/RIS team created a CTSTROKE code which prints out a req. for CT HEAD & CT CTA HEAD & NECK

This saves time on entering the two exams separately.

Emergency Department
STROKE ALERT

STROKE ALERT ACTIVATION

Stroke Alert Criteria:
EMS pre-notification report = Positive Cincinnati Score
or
Any **One Red Finding** in the following areas

F– Facial Droop or Asymmetry
A– Arms can they raise both
S– Speech having difficulty with verbal expression
T– Time less than 6 hours or awoke with stroke symptoms

Activation :
1. **Triage Nurse** makes the decision to activate the Stroke Alert and notifies Unit Clerk of patient's ETA
2. **Unit Clerk**
   - Makes overhead announcement in ED department "Stroke Patient Arrival in _____ Minutes"
   - Calls Stroke Team Members
   - Monitors Response times from Stroke Team
3. Send patient for **STAT CT** via EMS

Stroke Team Members include:
- ED physician
- Neurology Local or Calgary Via RAAPID
- ED RN
- CT or RAD Tech
- Radiologist
- Lab
- Unit Clerk

Lee Brewerton - Radiologist

Dana Meroniuk DI Manager

Troy Linderman– Manager of operations South Zone EMS

Kevin Reedyk ED Nursing Manager

Dr. Tony Winder– Neurologist

Dr. Kevin Martin ED Chief

Pam Kaytor ED Educator

Pam Dooper Stroke Coordinator

Corinna Hartley Stroke Coordinator

Diane Gove Angiography Supervisor