

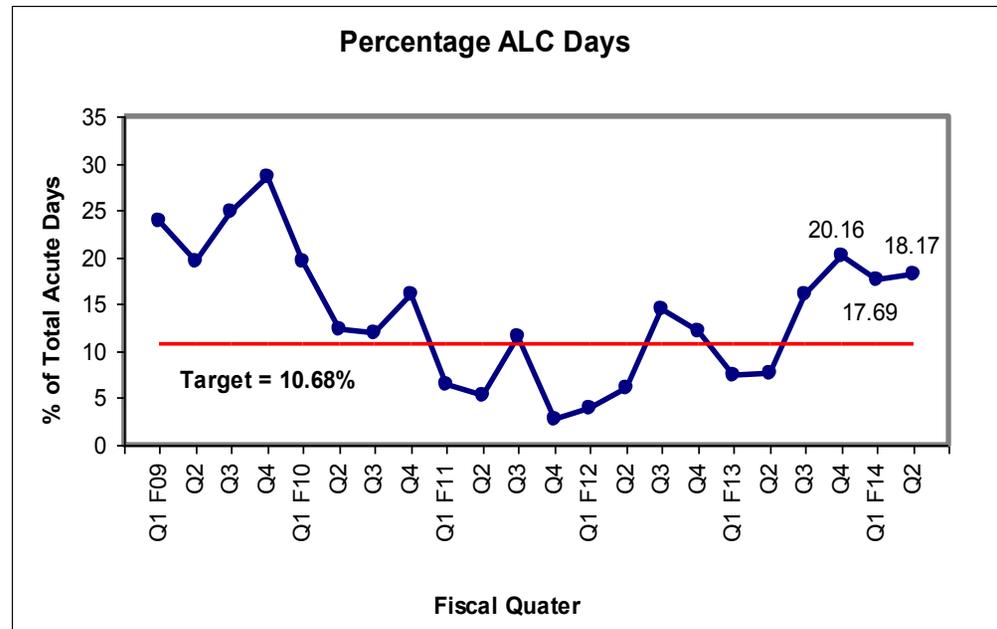


Awaiting Alternate Level of Care

Alternate Level of Care (ALC) patients are those who no longer require acute care at the hospital, but who remain in an acute bed waiting for rehabilitation, complex care or for a space to open up in a long term care facility. Around the province, the number of ALC patients is a challenge for hospitals, where bed space is always limited, and back-ups mean longer wait times in almost every department.

Getting patients into the most appropriate level of care requires a joint effort and a balance of resources among various sectors of the health care system, including the hospital, long term care, community services and home care. Measuring the number of ALC patients in our acute care beds is one way of monitoring how well we are managing this balance.

While initiatives such as Home First and the new GERI Acute service have helped to improve ALC rates at the Ross Memorial, they remain a challenge to patient flow.



Exceptional people committed to providing exceptional care.