



Introduction

Operating Theatres in SGH have been using conventional safety straps as positioning aids for patients during surgery. As operating tables are narrow, these safety straps will help prevent patients from falling off the table.

After each patient's use, these safety straps will be clean with disinfectant wipes. The straps are usually slightly damp after each wipe and this causes some discomfort for the next patient. Infection control issues was also highlighted during recent JCI audits.

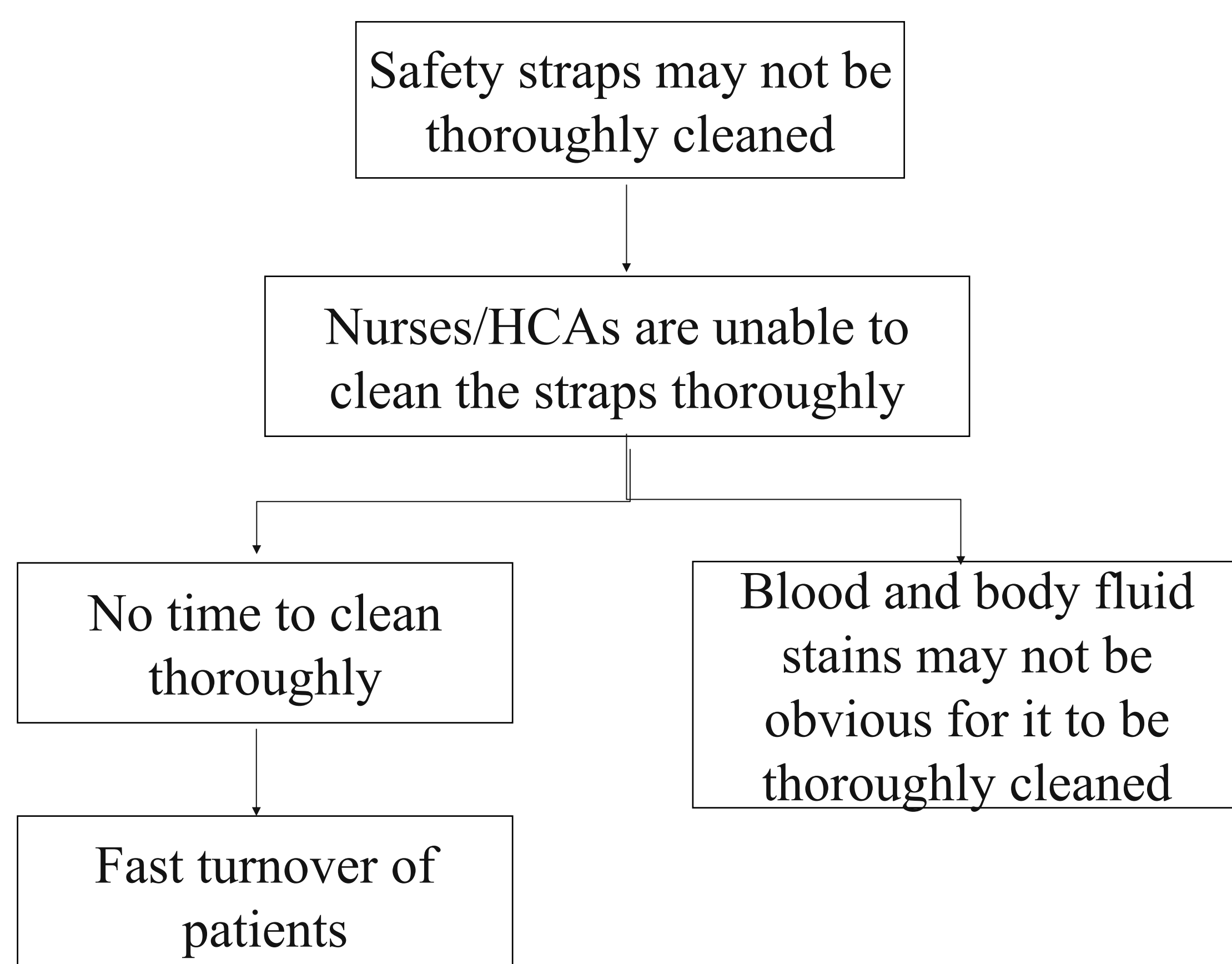


Reusable Strap is unsightly

Mission Statement

To ensure compliance to the infection control protocol while using safety straps during surgeries, and optimize patients' safety and comfort level within 6 months.

Analysis of Problem



Hence, the team decided to brainstorm for a solution to improve the ease of cleaning of the straps, which will help to minimize time spent on cleaning during the turnover of patients as well.

Methodology

To source for a suitable safety strap that is strong enough to provide safety to patient during surgeries and does not compromised with infection control protocols. A single use disposable strap will be strong to strap patient safely and does not compromise with infection control protocol. It could provide safe and comfort to patients and proper security when used. A single use disposable strap is soft against patient providing comfort and able to facilitate the work of the OT team in complying to the infection control standards while providing a safe and appropriate patient care for best outcome.



1st initiative: Needs to bend under the table to strap the patients.

Problem



3rd initiative: Does not need hooks. Just insert strap onto metal bar on OT table

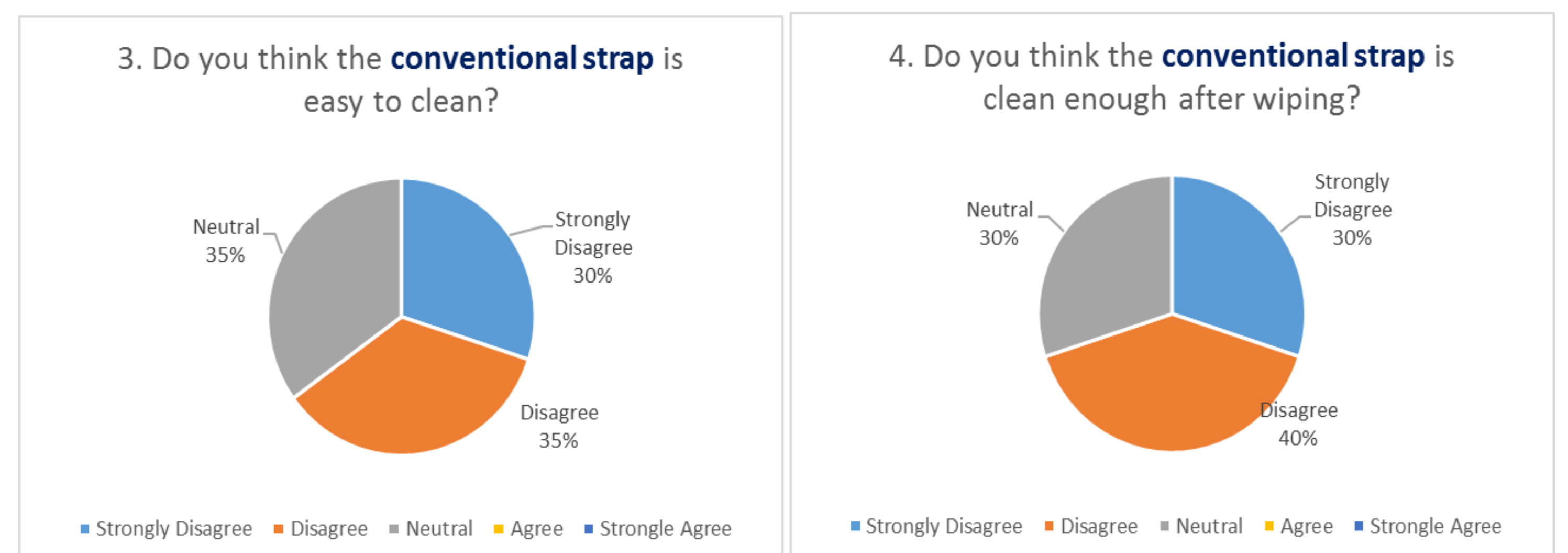
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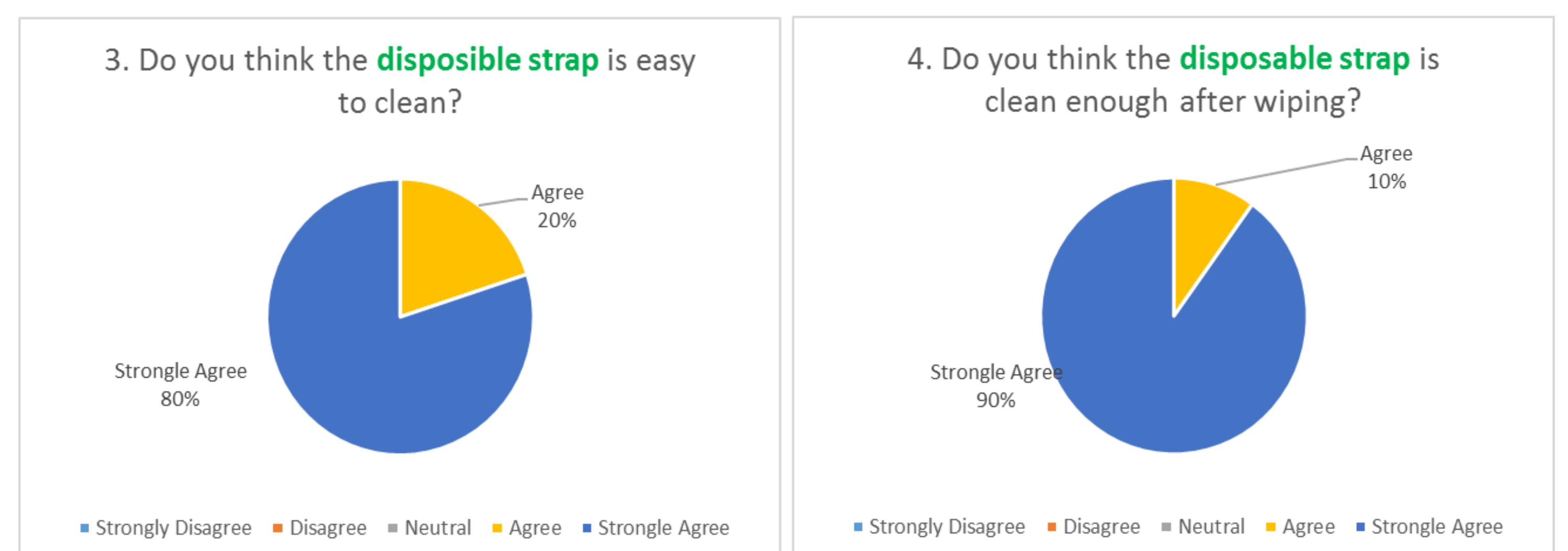
2nd initiative: Needs to insert straps into the metal hook

Problem

Results



Pre-Implementation Staff Survey Results



Post-Implementation Staff Survey Results

From the survey, majority of the staff agree that the new safety straps have improved ease of cleaning, and hence reduce issues in compliance to infection control protocols. In addition, 95% of the staff agrees that the disposal strap is more comfortable and secure for the patient.

Conclusion

All reusable safety straps are removed from the operating theatre and training are provided to all staff involved in the positioning of patients. Other hospitals in Singapore have also started to purchase the straps from the supplier, which we worked with, for their own usage.