



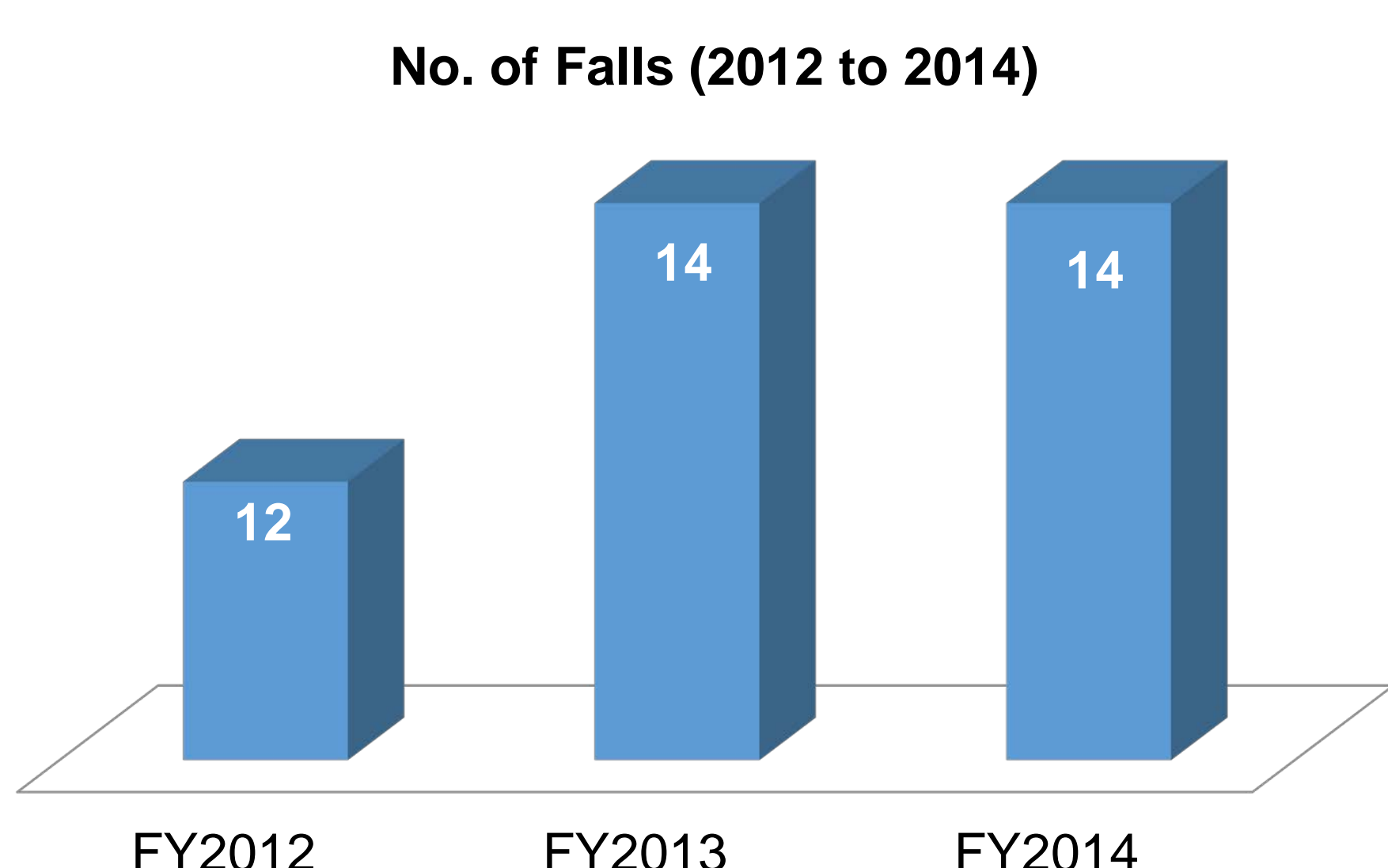
Morse Fall Scale

A fall risk assessment tool to reduce fall rates in the Obstetrics and Gynaecology wards

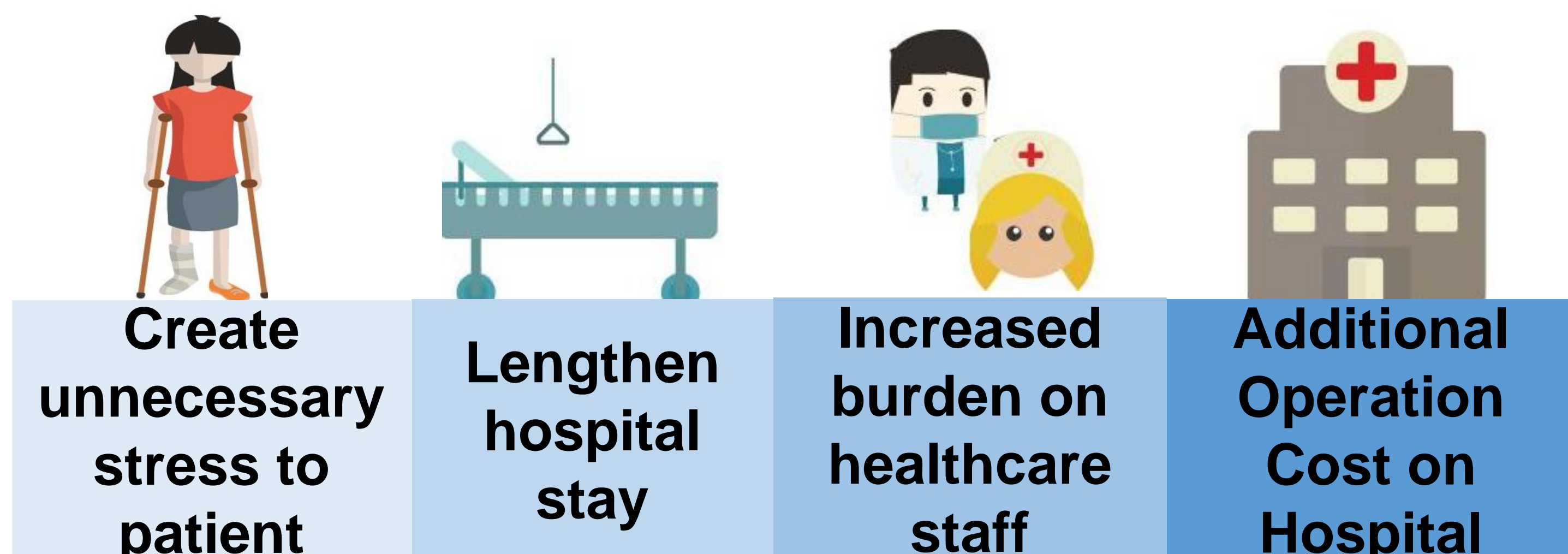
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Introduction

Patient falls remained one of the most fretting issues faced by hospitals today. Unfamiliarity of the environment, medical conditions and effects of medication and surgical procedures are some contributory factors that increase patients' risk for fall. Incidences of adult falls at KKH have increased:



Some of the problems that resulted from injurious falls:

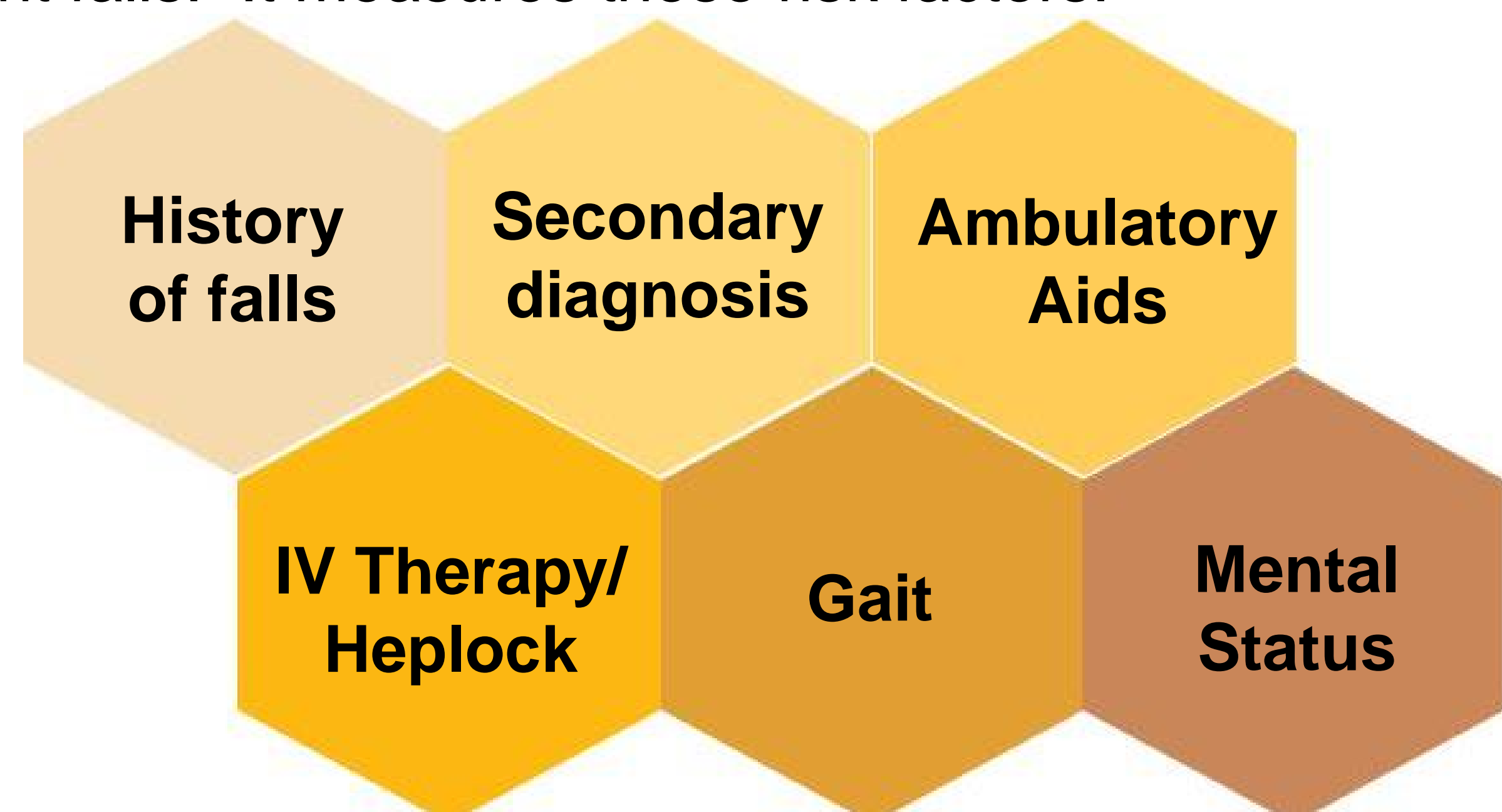


Aim

To prevent adult patient fall rates by adopting the Morse Fall Scale (MFS) risk assessment tool in both Obstetric and Gynaecology (O&G) wards.

Method

MFS is a validated assessment tool adopted by several healthcare institutions to predict the likelihood of adult patient falls. It measures these risk factors:



With different risk levels identified in patients based on their scorings, tailored interventions were selected to address specific areas of fall risk.

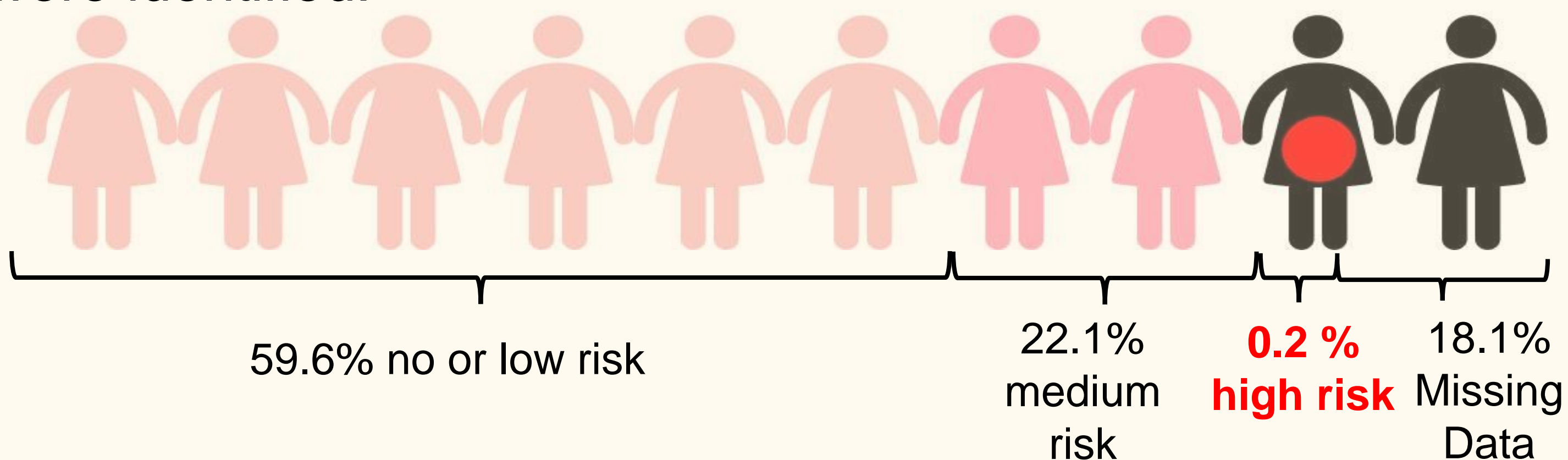
A pilot exercise to test the MFS was conducted in two adult wards. Prior to the exercise:

- (i) Staff were trained over 2 weeks in May 2015.
- (ii) Staff competencies were tested based on case scenarios.

Duration of pilot exercise	1 month	
Total number of patients assessed	240	
Total number of assessments performed on 240 patients	1,725	

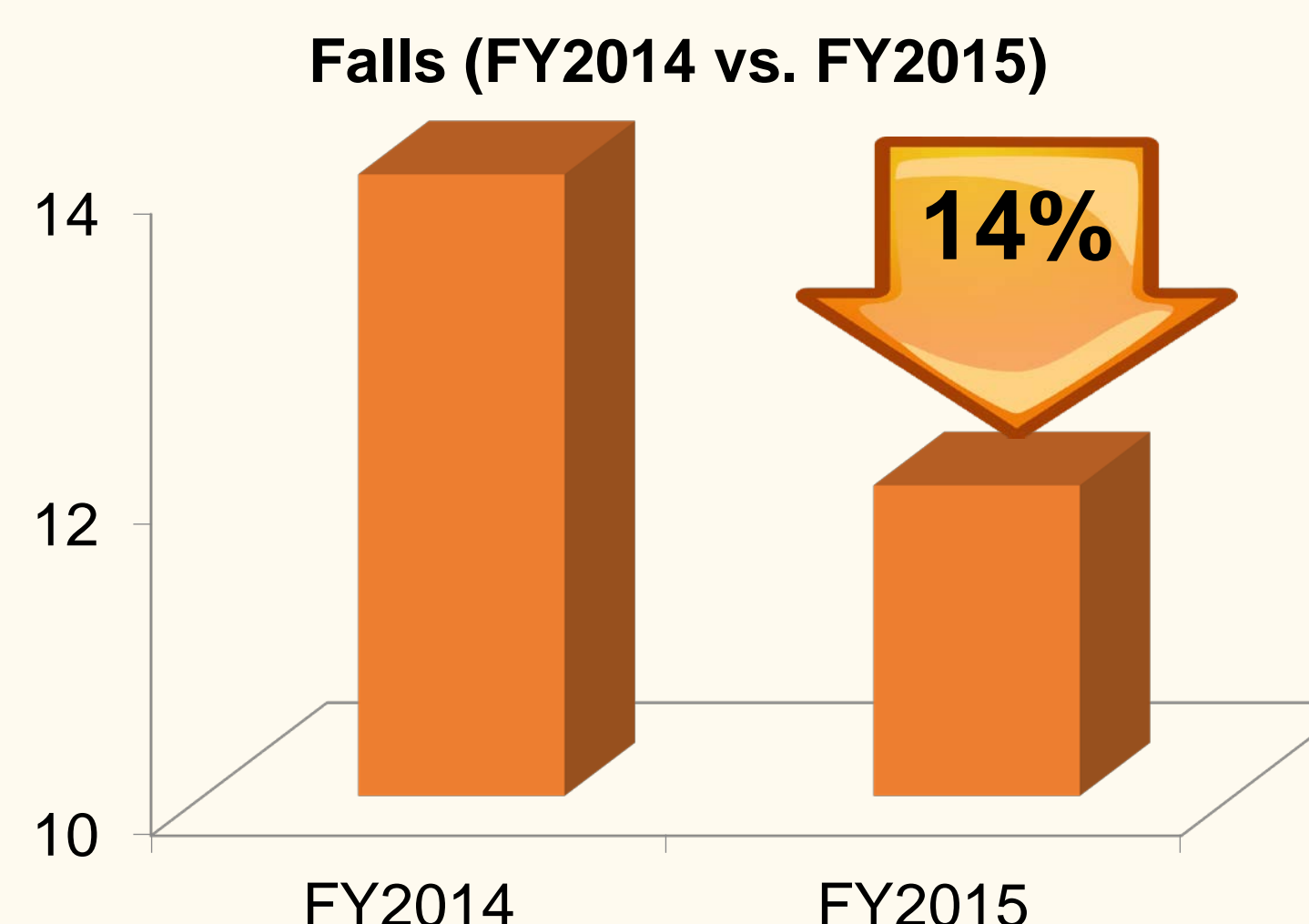
Findings

Out of the 240 patients assessed using the MFS, the risk levels were identified:



There were 18.1% missing data from the assessments during the pilot exercise due to incomplete information in the assessment forms. This was because of the short duration of the pilot exercise, attributing to staff being unfamiliar with documentation. No falls were reported in Ward 34 and 44 during the pilot exercise in June 2015.

June
Zero
Patient falls



MFS was implemented in all O&G wards since August 2015. There was a reduction of fall rates by 14% in FY2015 compared to FY2014.

Conclusion

Adopting the MFS assessment tool has shown that by identifying their risk levels, patient falls are preventable with appropriate interventions. The MFS is now a part of nursing care practice.

Acknowledgement

Acknowledgement to all Wards 34 and 44 staff for their contributions in completing the pilot exercise.