# Implementation of a new patient case management system at a large health system specialty pharmacy

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## Background

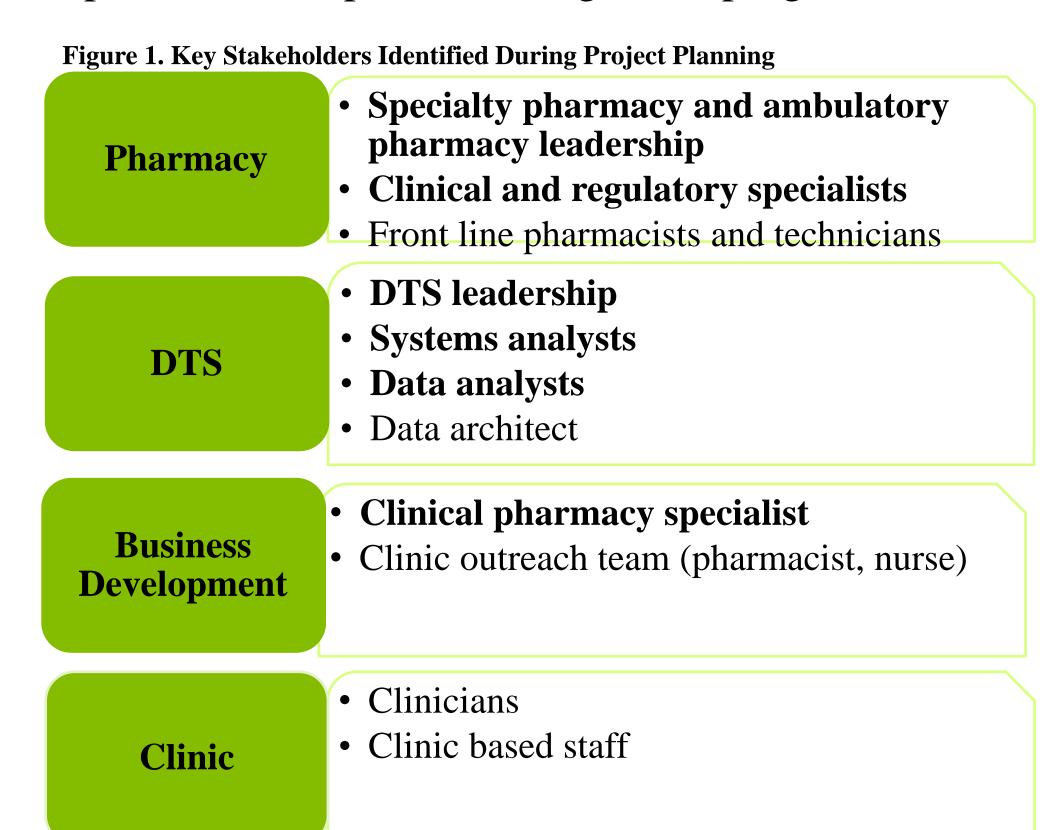
- Outpatient Pharmacy Services (OPS) at Yale New Haven Health is a health system specialty pharmacy (HSSP) that serves patients on specialty medications across a wide spectrum of clinical areas.
- To manage current and planned growth, OPS transitioned from an in-house electronic health record (EHR) documentation platform to Epic Systems' new case management application Compass Rose.

## **Objective**

• Implement a new patient management application that facilitates care across a broad scope of specialty conditions, medications, and services with minimal disruption to patient care.

#### **Methods**

- Champions were identified from leaders within ambulatory and specialty pharmacy, prior authorization and medication assistance teams, and the YNHH information technology team, Digital and Technology Solutions (DTS) (Figure 1).
- Workgroups co-led by DTS and pharmacy created new technology infrastructure, workflows, documentation templates, reports, and education to meet project deliverables and timelines (Table 1).
- Project health and escalated issues were reported weekly to project champions (Figure 1, bold).
- Dispensing efficiency (number of specialty medication dispenses per 100 refill outreach calls), call center efficiency (speed of answer and abandonment rate), and customer service complaints were used to assess disruptions to patient care.
- Utilization of quality management tools and documentation of clinical care were measured to evaluate impacts of Compass Rose on potential to improve clinical patient management program.



# Results

Project Milestone	Target Time to Completion	Target Completion	Actual Completion
Project Kick Off	~	August 2022	August 2022
Core Compass Rose Build and Workflow	12 weeks	December 2022	December 2022
Complete Compass Rose Build and Workflow	6 weeks	January 2023	January 2023
Initial validation	3 weeks	December 2022	December 2022
Large scale validation	4 weeks	February 2023	February 2023
Training curriculum development	8 weeks	February 2023	March 2023
Superuser training	1 week	February 2023	March 2023
End User Training	4 weeks	March 2023	May 2023
Clinic Education	4 weeks	March 2023	April 2023
Conversion Run Through	4 weeks	March 2023	April 2023
Compass Rose Subproject: Non-specialty Workflow <sup>1</sup>	4 weeks	April 2023	April 2023
Go-Live	8 months (from Kick Off)	April 2023	May 2023
			<b>Bold= delayed deliverable</b>

Figure 2. Dispensing efficiency

**Table 1. Project Milestone Timeline** 

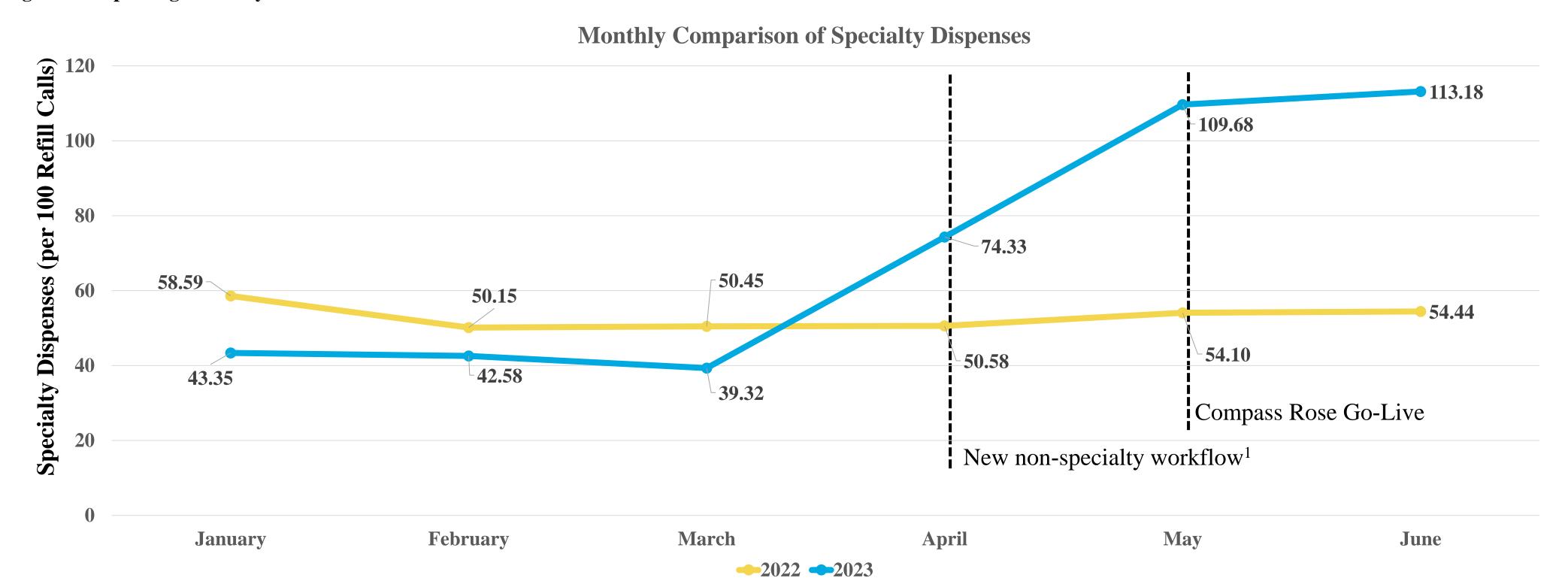
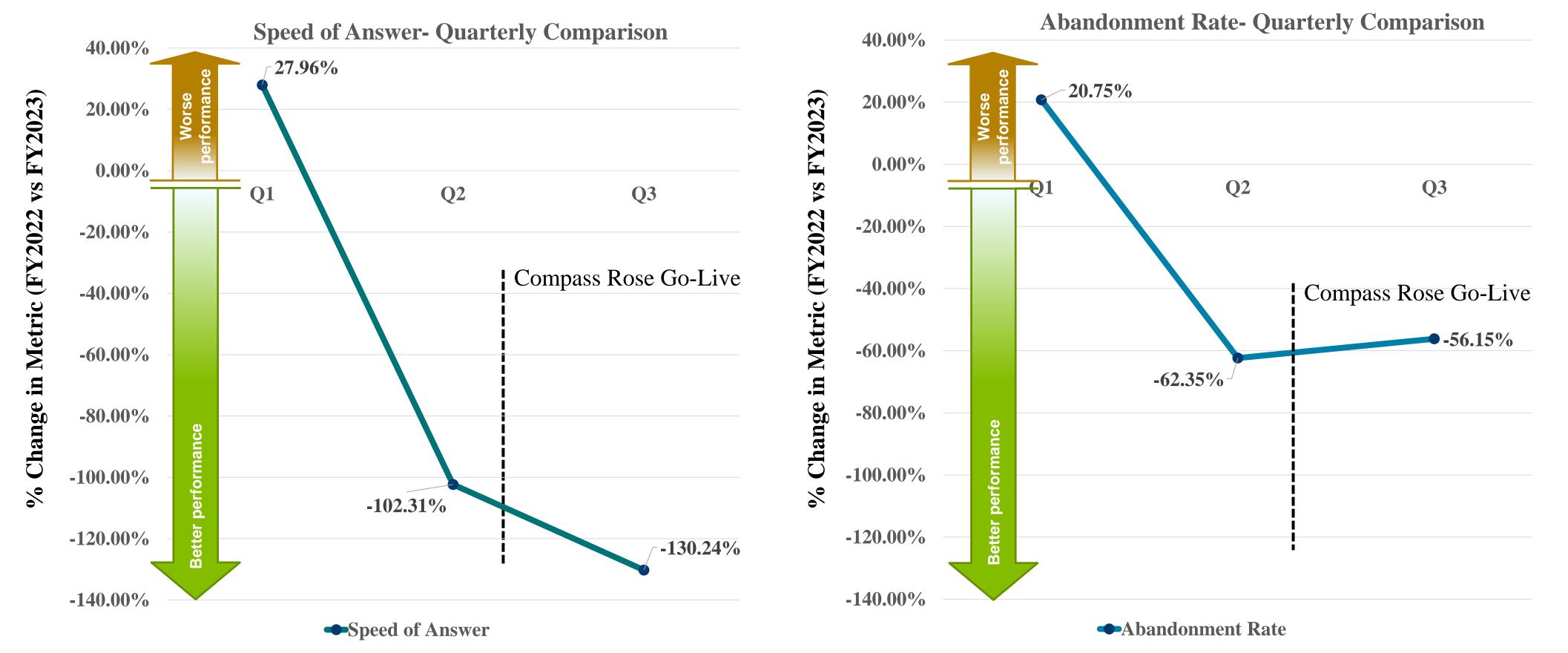


Figure 3. Call Center Efficiency



**Table 2. Quality Assurance Measurements** 

Quality Assurance Metric	Pre-Implementation	Post-Implementation
Clinical audits (n per month)	10	10
Regulatory audits (n per month)	10	30
Clinical interventions documented (n per 100 patients)	19.25	28.87
Customer complaints (n per 1000 specialty dispenses)	1.49	2.32

#### Discussion

- Documentation for non-specialty medications was streamlined through implementation of a new workflow outside of Compass Rose prior to its implementation.<sup>1</sup>
- Compass Rose may have contributed to observed post-implementation increases in dispensing efficiency, independent of staffing volume (Figure 2).
- Compass Rose implementation may have contributed in part to improvements in call center efficiency in FY2023 Q2 and Q3 relative to FY2022 (Figure 3).
- The observed increase in customer service complaints may be confounded by a concomitant influx in newly hired staff and an initiative to increase deliveries by mail over courier (Table 2).
- The new system was designed to support more efficient and specific auditing, thereby leading to a four-fold total increase in regulatory and clinical quality assurance audits (Table 2).
- Transition from i-Vent to Medication Therapy Problem (MTP) documentation workflow in Compass Rose increased volume of documented clinical interventions (Table 2).

#### Conclusion

• Implementation of the new case management application contributed to increased operational efficiency, eased barriers to clinical documentation, and improved clinical and regulatory oversight.

#### **Barriers/Limitations**

- Project benefitted from resources of large health system with integrated EHR and dispensing system.
- Additional time was allocated for training based on feedback from front line staff.<sup>3</sup>

#### **Future Directions**

- Enhancements to reduce duplicate documentation in Compass Rose and the dispensing system.
- Evaluation of patient and provider complaints pre and post Compass Rose implementation.
- Creation of quality assurance tools to guide clinical, regulatory, and operational adherence.

#### References

- DelVecchio M et al. Development of a workflow to manage non-specialty medications at a specialty pharmacy. Poster presented at: NASP Annual Meeting & Expo, Sept 18-21, 2023; Grapevine, TX.
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