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f. Advancing Your Education to the Doctoral Level: Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

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Advancing Your Education to the Doctoral Level: Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

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Choosing the DNP

- **Practice-based doctorate**
- **Translation of evidence to practice**
- **Tailored to advanced practice nurse**
 - **Clinical nurse specialist**
 - **Nurse practitioner**
 - **Certified nurse-midwife**
 - **Nurse anesthetist**

Choosing the school

Manageable with work schedule

Accredited program

Curriculum

Faculty member with similar research interest

Cost

Start dates

Became process of elimination

Curriculum overview: Walden University DNP

In this program, you will be prepared to:

- **Improve health outcomes through leadership in the nursing field.**
- **Guide your advanced nursing practice by analyzing current research in the nursing field.**
- **Develop a foundation for lifelong learning in the nursing field by taking a leadership role in professional organizations.**
- **Advocate for the advancement of nursing and healthcare policy.**

<https://info.waldenu.edu>

Coursework

- **Healthcare policy and advocacy**
- **Quality improvement**
- **Evidence-based practice**
- **Information systems/technology**
- **Advanced nursing practice**
- **Organizational and systems leadership**

<https://info.waldenu.edu>

Challenging experience

Instructors in online program are not necessarily permanent faculty

- **Doctoral project manuscript approval process**
- **Awareness of resources for students**

Rewarding experience

Opportunity to interact with advanced practice nurses from many backgrounds and geographic areas

DNP Project: Background

- **Obstetric hemorrhage is one of the most common causes of maternal morbidity and mortality.**
- **Measurement of quantitative blood loss (QBL) at delivery permits early recognition of hemorrhage for prompt treatment.**

Problem

~~QBL~~

Not practiced consistently

EBL (Estimated Blood Loss)

Most common method of measurement



Underestimation of blood loss



Delay in identification and treatment of hemorrhage

Project Design/Method

Prepare weekly scorecards

- **Blinded individual data**
- **Aggregate unit data**

Display

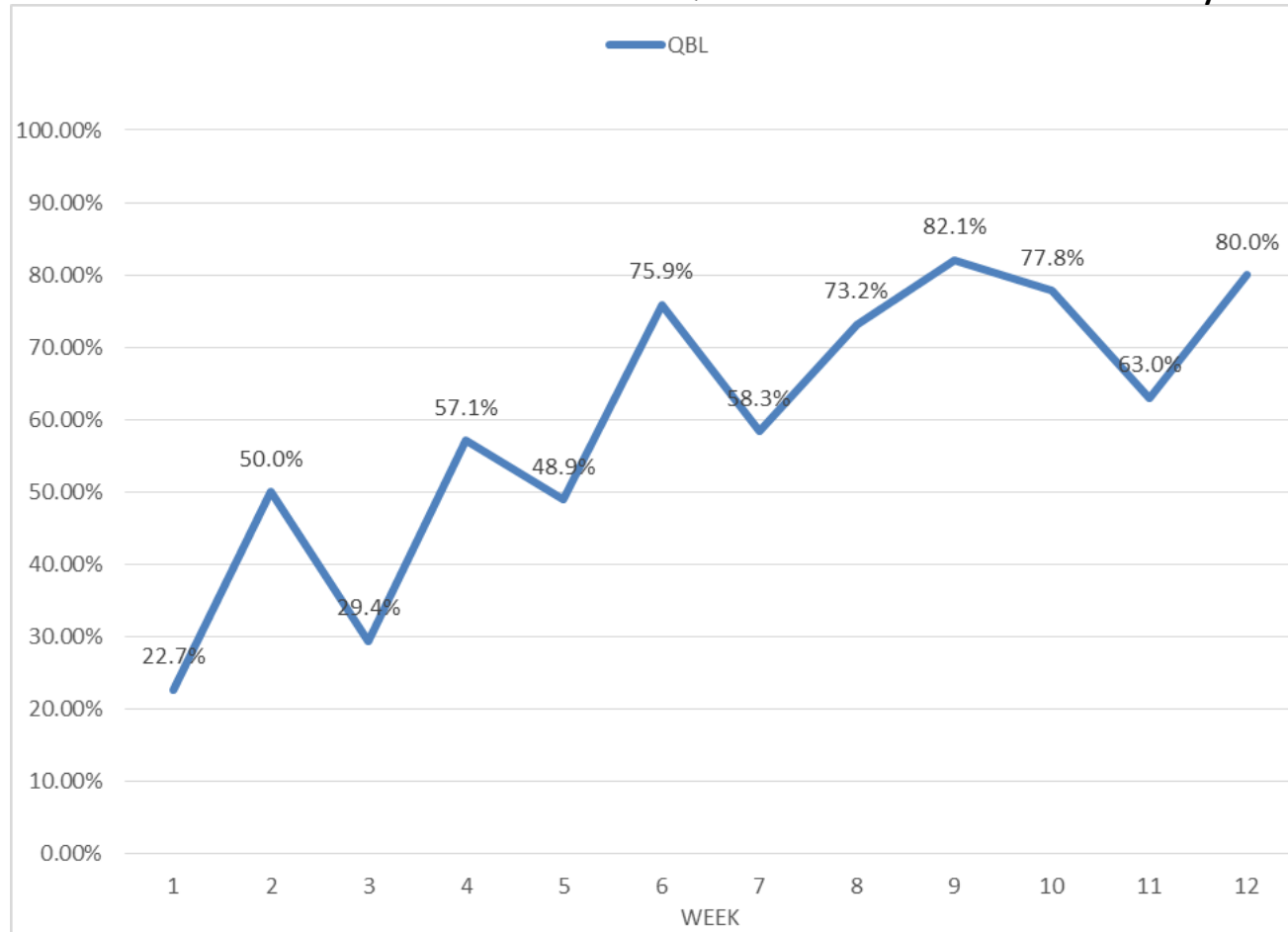
- **Percent of patients with blood loss documented**
- **Percent of patients with QBL documented**

Present scorecards as feedback

- **At weekly meetings**
- **Post on unit**

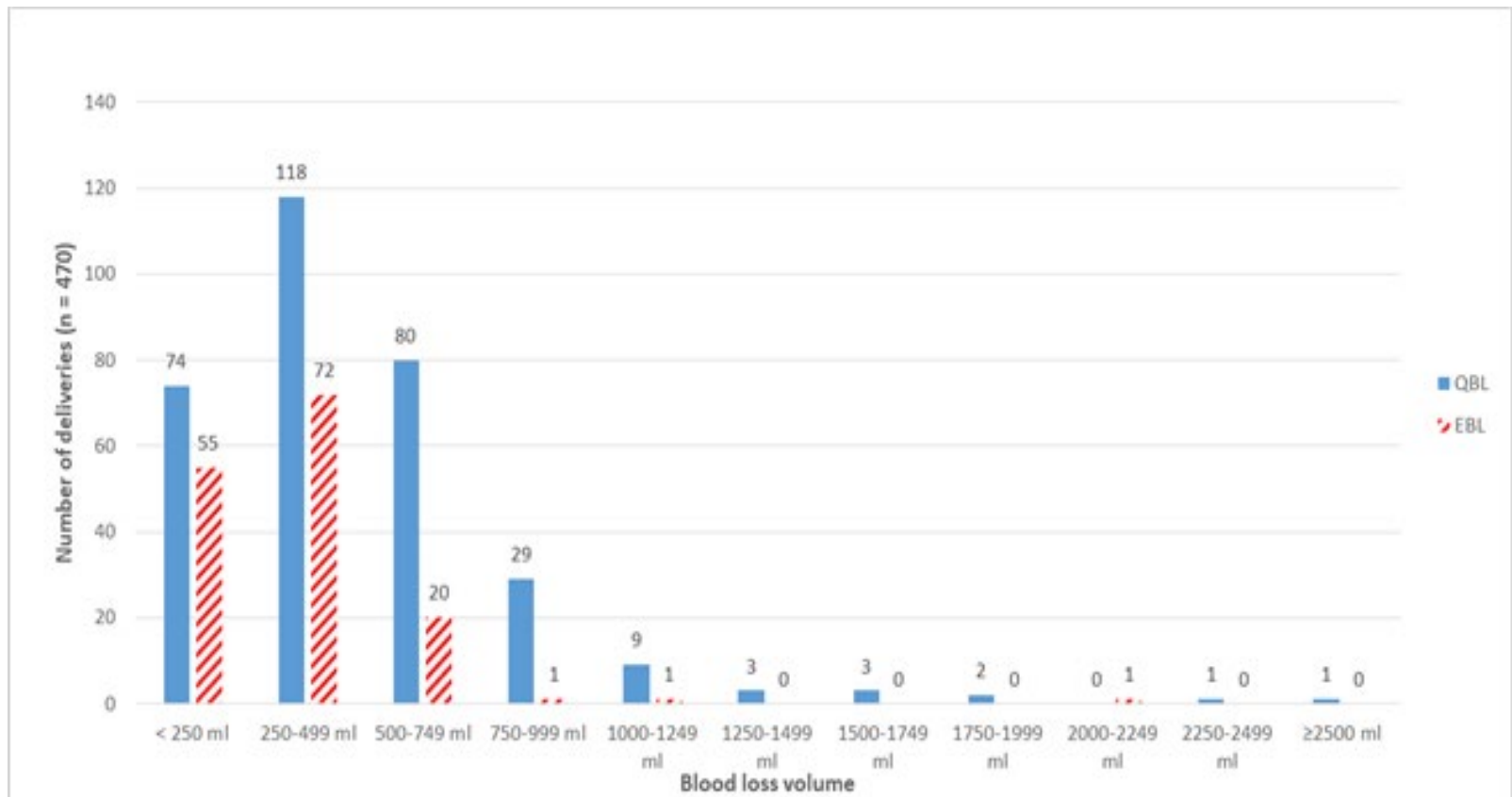
Findings

Percent of Patients with QBL Documented at Delivery



Findings

Comparison of QBL and EBL Volumes for Total Deliveries



Findings

Balancing measures:

- **Number of patients who received blood products (7)**
- **Number of units of blood products administered (1 – 7 units)**

Transfusions during weeks 1, 2, 4, 8, 10, 11

No apparent association with increasing QBL documentation

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