East London **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

Reducing Pressure Ulcers in the EPCT

Eirlys Evans, Michael McGhee, Kate Corlett, Helen Green, Timi Ogunlowo, Caroline Dowsett, Bisi Oshinbolu, Susan Murray, Tracey Wootten, Reena Tripathi, Adekunle Oladimeji, Odud Miah and James Innes
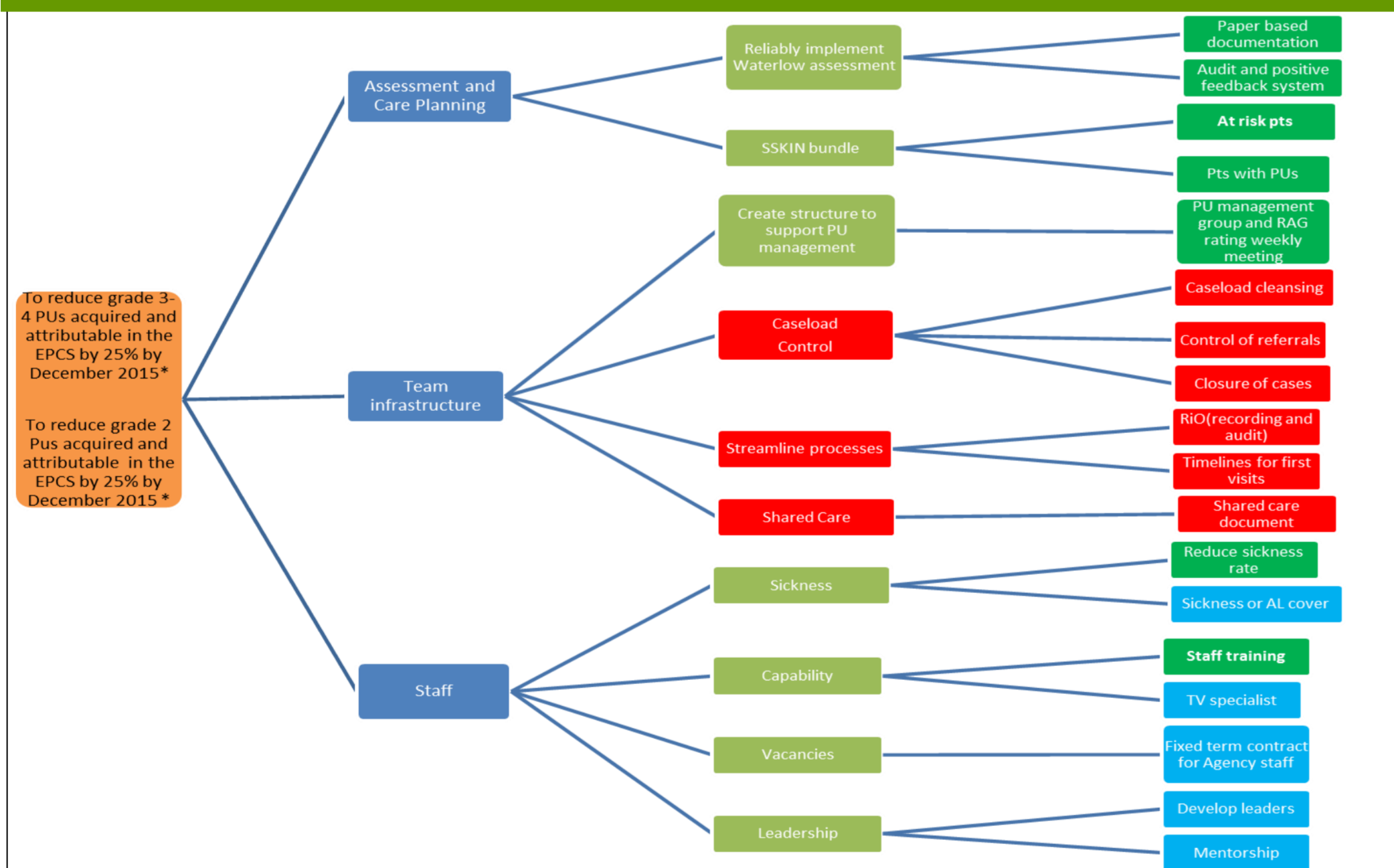
Why is this such an important issue?

- Pressure ulcers can cause serious pain and severe harm to patients.

- Between Feb 2014-Jan 2015, there were a total of 174 acquired grade 2-4 pressure ulcers acquired in the Trust's care, at a total cost of approximately **£1.4 million** (at 2008-2009 reference prices).

- Whilst pressure ulcers acquired during care are now a rare event in inpatient services, they remain a real and pressing issue within the community nursing services (EPCS).

Our aim

- To reduce grade 3-4 pressure ulcers acquired and attributable in the EPCS by 25% by December 2015

- To reduce grade 2 pressure ulcer acquired and attributable in the EPCT by 25% by December 2015
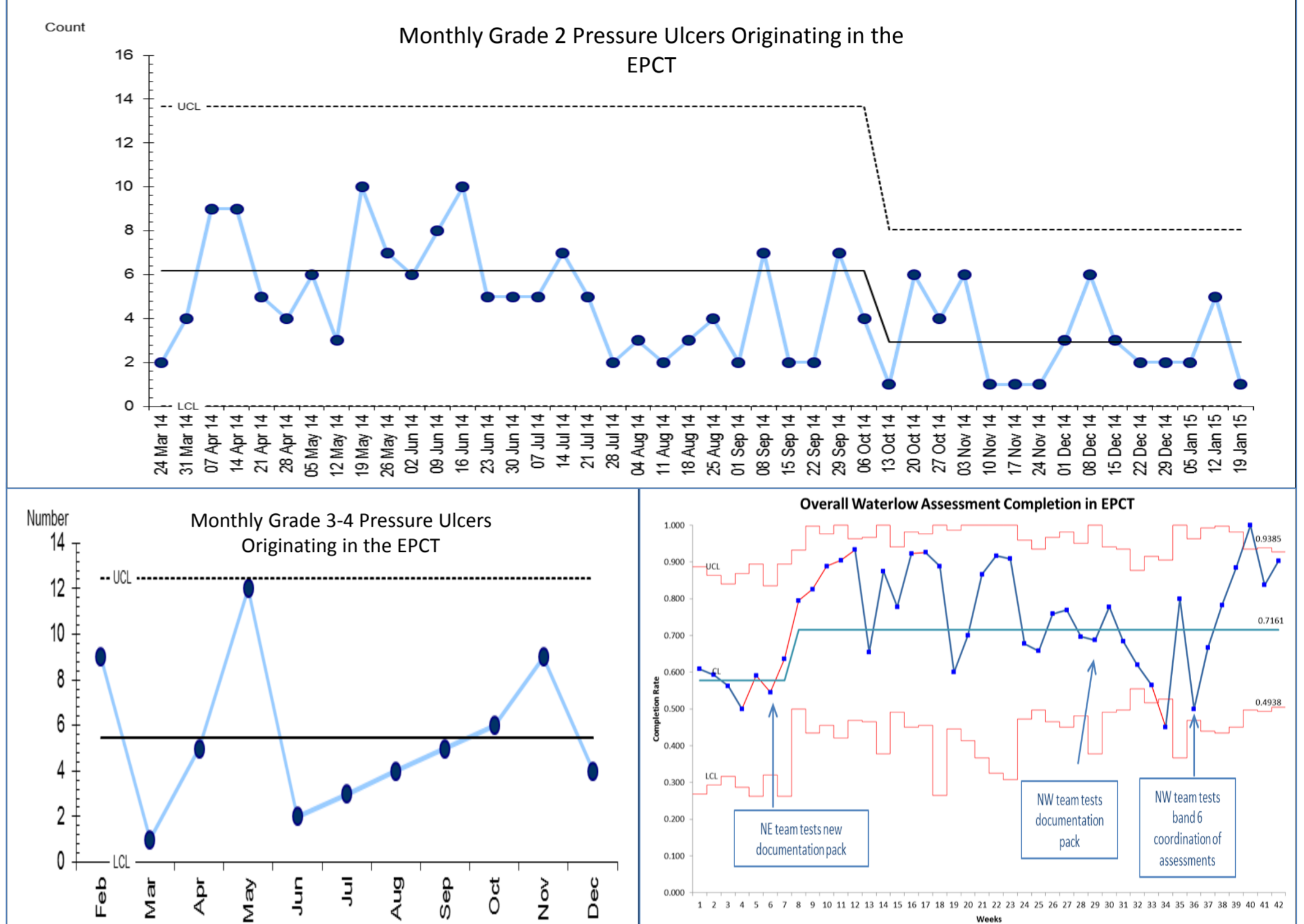
Driver diagram

What are we currently focusing on?

- Increasing reliability of Waterlow assessment on admission to the EPCT caseload (NE and NW teams)

- Improving the clinical management of those with existing pressure ulcers (all teams)

- Working to improve caseload management and close completed cases (all teams)

Our results so far

- The mean number of grade 3-4 pressure ulcers originating within the EPCT currently remains unchanged.

- However, we are now seeing a **50% reduction** in the mean number of grade 2 pressure ulcers originating within the EPCT

Monthly Grade 2 Pressure Ulcers Originating in the EPCT

Monthly Grade 3-4 Pressure Ulcers Originating in the EPCT

Overall Waterlow Assessment Completion in EPCT

- Mean reliability for Waterlow assessment across the entire EPCT has increased from **57%** to **72%**. Further increases are expected shortly.

- EPCT caseload has dropped from **6,037** open cases in June 2014 to **3,846** in February 2015

What's Next?

- Spread of Waterlow reliability change ideas across entire EPCT

- Testing further change ideas to better control caseload and sustain reduction

- Testing further change ideas to improve the prevention and management of pressure ulcers

Staff meeting to raise awareness about pressure ulcers in the EPCT

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME