



# IMPROVING TEAMWORK IN MEDICAL EDUCATION

AHA Team Training Monthly Webinar  
November 14, 2018

# RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

- Audio for the webinar can be accessed in two ways:
  - Through the phone (\*Please mute your computer speakers)
  - Through your computer
- A Q&A session will be held at the end of the presentation
- Written questions are encouraged throughout the presentation and will be answered during the Q&A session
  - To submit a question, type it into the Chat Area and send it at any time during the presentation

# UPCOMING TEAM TRAINING EVENTS



## 2019 AHA Team Training National Conference

June 12-14 ★ San Antonio [aha.org/teamtraining](http://aha.org/teamtraining)



Grab your cowboy boots and block your calendar - AHA Team Training is heading to San Antonio next June for our annual conference! We'll be sharing more conference information over the coming months, but first get ready to answer our [Call for Proposals](#). Registration will open in January 2019.

# UPCOMING TEAM TRAINING EVENTS

We have spots available in our final [Master Training Course](#) in 2018:

- December 6-7 in New Orleans, LA with Tulane University

## Monthly webinars:

- December 12: “Taking Steps to Sustain a Just Culture” with Lynn Fricke, MPS, RN and Ronnie McKinnon RN, JD, CPHRM, CPSO, CPPS, Adjunct Professor Health Law, Loyola Law School, Beazley Institute for Health Law and Policy

# CONTACT INFORMATION

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Phone: 312-422-2609

# TODAY'S PRESENTERS



**Rick Lang**  
TeamSTEPPS Master Trainer  
Medical Student – Class of 2019  
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
Pat Tillman Foundation – Tillman Scholar



**Tom Kuriakose**  
TeamSTEPPS Master Trainer  
Medical Student – Class of 2019  
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

# STUDENT CHAMPIONS: OUR RWJMS STUDENT TEAM



**Kevin Fitzpatrick**

TeamSTEPPS Master Trainer

Medical Student – Class of 2019

Robert Wood Johnson Medical School



**Kristin Raphel**

TeamSTEPPS Master Trainer

Medical Student – Class of 2019

Robert Wood Johnson Medical School



**Stephanie Latham**

TeamSTEPPS Master Trainer

Medical Student – Class of 2021

Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

# KEY SUPPORT / CHAMPIONS

## Rutgers - Robert Wood Johnson

- Project Faculty Advisors
  - Dr. Carol Terregino, MD
  - Dr. Greg Peck, DO
- Additional Faculty Champions
  - Dr. Joyce Afran, MD
  - Dr. Robert Lebeau, EdD
  - Dr. Robert Like, MD
  - Dr. Karen Lin, MD
  - Dr. George Mulheron, PhD
  - Dr. Paul Weber, MD

## AHA / AHRQ

- Abby Evensky
- Chris Hund
- Dr. Kevin Krane, MD
- Rita Preiskaitis, RN

# WEBINAR LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Discover how a combined student-faculty implementation team can enhance teamwork training within the academic medical center
- Learn challenges and limitations associated with attempts to teach teamwork through an '*exposure-based*' model in academic curriculums
- Illustrate the importance of *recurring* teamwork barrier assessment in iterative teamwork training program improvement
- Understand how to apply lessons learned from this initiative to improve teamwork training programs at local academic institutions

# DISCLOSURES

**Financial:** This work was partially supported with funding provided by:

1) American Medical Association (AMA)

- Home Visit / Interprofessional Learner Team (ILT) Grant

2) Pat Tillman Foundation

- Travel & scholarship support – Rick Lang

**DOD:** *“The views expressed in this article reflect the results of research conducted by the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Department of the Navy, Department of Defense, nor the United States Government”*

# WEBINAR OUTLINE

- Background: Identifying & Understanding the Problem 5 min
- Initial TeamSTEPPS Intervention (High Points) 10 min
- Results & Survey Analysis 12 min
- Lessons Learned & Application 12 min
- Questions 15 min

# BACKGROUND:

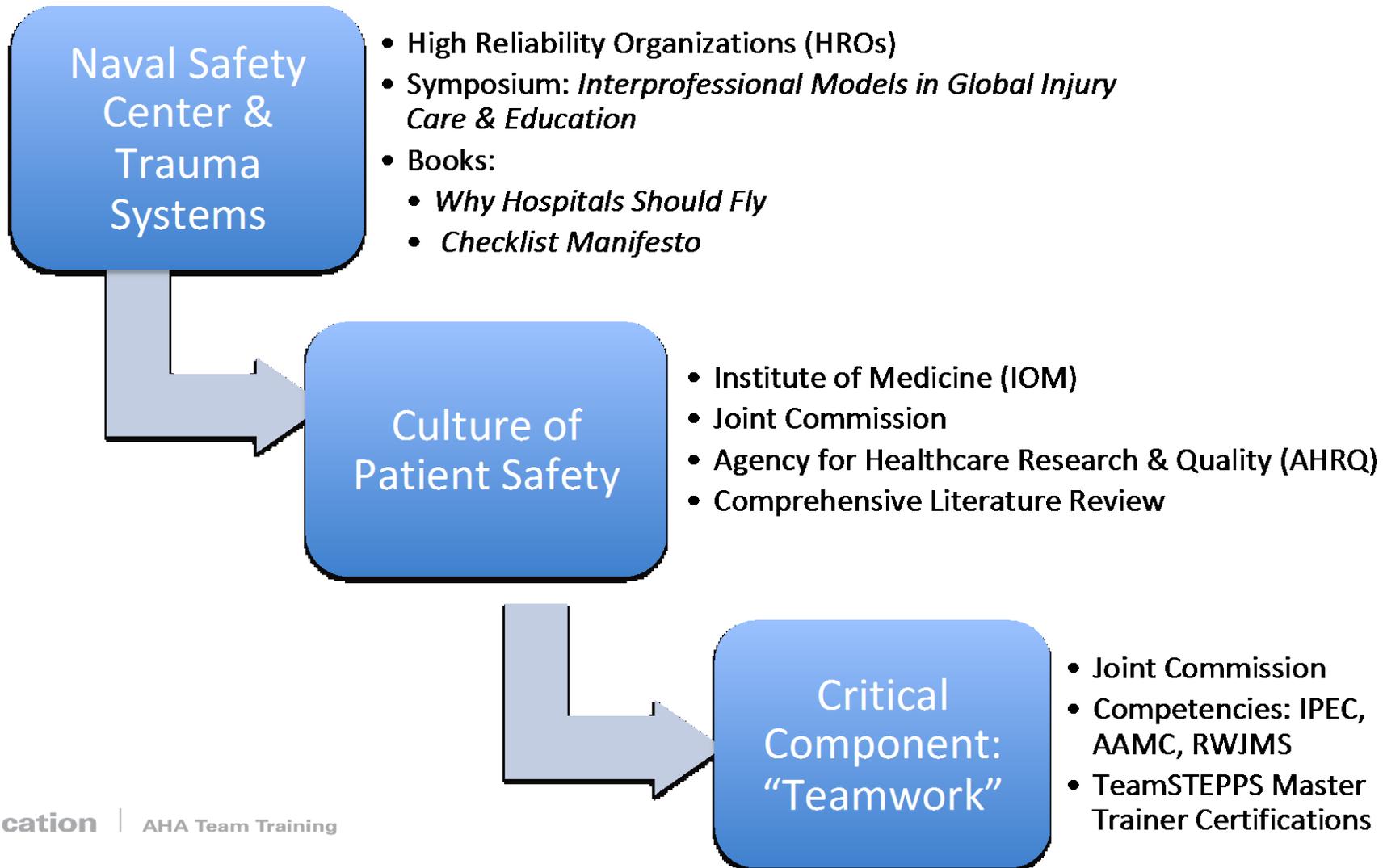
## What is the problem?

# FALL 2015 - FIRST EXPOSURE TO MEDICAL SCHOOL TEAM-BASED CURRICULUM

*“I am still unsure as to whether we were trying to help with his leg, disregard the leg and focus on blood pressure, or if any of us were on the same page (with each other or the patient) as to exactly what the patients goals and desires for his appointment were ...”*

- RWJMS M1 Student-Veteran Clinical Reflection

# SPRING 2016: RESEARCH PHASE



# MORTALITY REDUCTION WITH TEAM TRAINING

## Association Between Implementation of a Medical Team Training Program and Surgical Mortality

Julia Neily, RN, MS, MPH

Peter D. Mills, PhD, MS

Yinong Young-Xu, ScD, MA, MS

Brian T. Carney, MD

Priscilla West, MPH

David H. Berger, MD, MHCM

Lisa M. Mazzia, MD

Douglas E. Paull, MD

James P. Bagian, MD, PE

**Context** There is insufficient information about the effectiveness of medical team training on surgical outcomes. The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) implemented a formalized medical team training program for operating room personnel on a national level.

**Objective** To determine whether an association existed between the VHA Medical Team Training program and surgical outcomes.

**Design, Setting, and Participants** A retrospective health services study with a contemporaneous control group was conducted. Outcome data were obtained from the VHA Surgical Quality Improvement Program (VASQIP) and from structured interviews in fiscal years 2006 to 2008. The analysis included 182 409 sampled procedures from 108 VHA facilities that provided care to veterans. The VHA's nationwide training program required briefings and debriefings in the operating room and in-

- 18% decrease in mortality ( $p = .01$ )
- Dose-response relationship:
  - For every increase in briefing / debriefing → mortality reduced 0.6/1000 procedures

# OVERVIEW OF RWJMS CURRICULUM

- Years 1 & 2 = “Pre-clinical” (didactics)
- Years 3 & 4 = “Clinical” (rotations)
- Longitudinal **Patient Centered Medicine** thread
- Existing “Teamwork” Curriculum: “EXPOSURE-based”
  - Repeated exposures to INTER & INTRAprofessional “team” environments
  - **\*\*NO INTEGRATED TEAMWORK TRAINING MODEL\*\***



# INITIAL TEAMSTEPPS INTERVENTION

# TEAMSTEPPS INTERVENTION DESIGN

## Goals

1. Understand teamwork behaviors within existing “*exposure-based*” curriculum
2. Increase teamwork behaviors
3. Understand barriers to effective teamwork training in existing curriculum

“*Hail Mary*”: Ignite cultural change within the academic health system

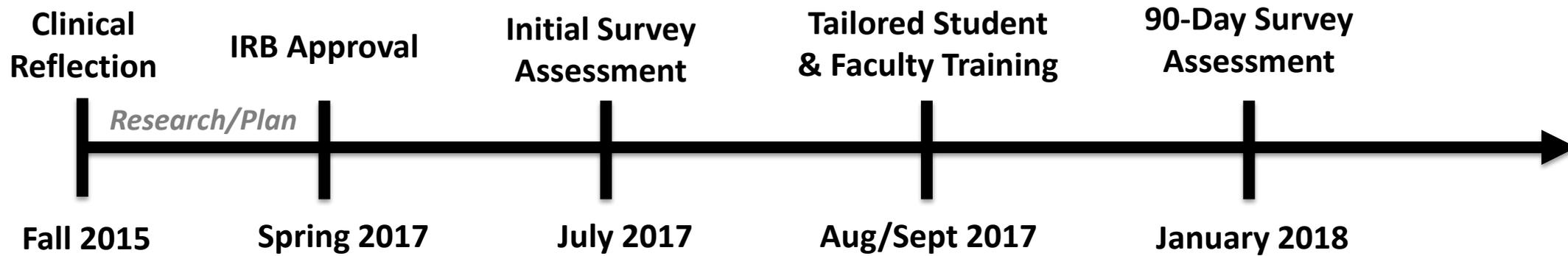
Implementation Focus: Preclinical curriculum → Follow-on expansion to Clinical curriculum

Student-Faculty Implementation Team: 2 student-veterans + 2 faculty champions

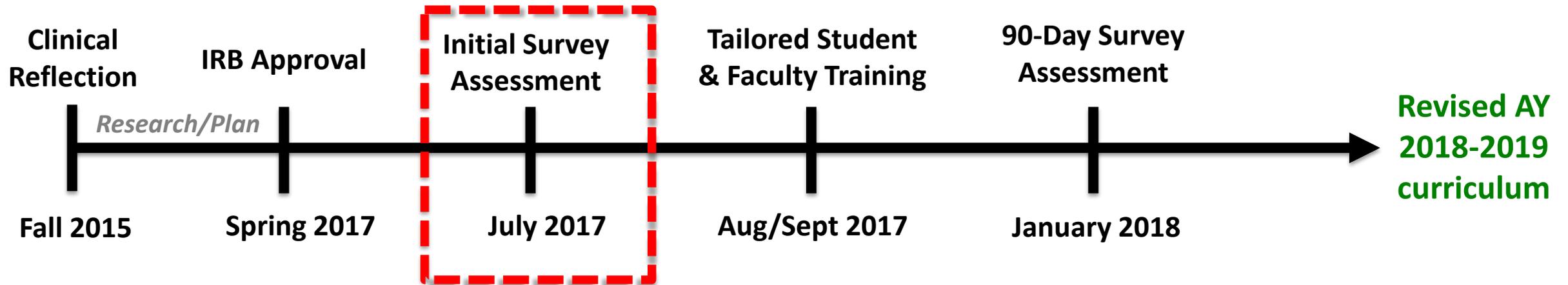
# THREE SELECTED TEAM SETTINGS

Team Setting	Student Year	Team Makeup
<b>Anatomy Lab</b>	M1	<i>Intra-professional</i>
<b>Home Visit Program / Interprofessional Learning Teams</b>	M2	<i>Inter-professional</i>
<b>Promise Clinic</b>	M1 - M4	Primarily <i>Intra-professional</i>

# PROJECT TIMELINE



# PROJECT TIMELINE



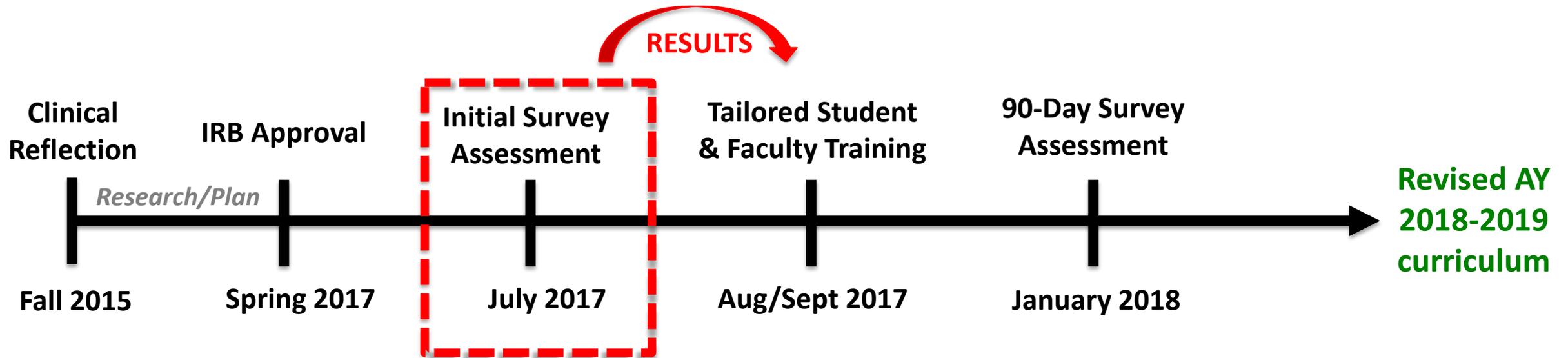
## **CONTROL GROUPS**

- ***“Exposure-Based” Curriculum***
- ***PRE-TeamSTEPPS***

# IRB APPROVED SURVEY

- 43-item TeamSTEPPS-based survey
  - Teamwork behaviors
  - Frequency of briefing & debriefing
  - Curriculum effectiveness
- Limitations:
  - TS-TPQ & TS-TAQ competency domains combined
  - Slight modification for applicability to student curriculum

# PROJECT TIMELINE

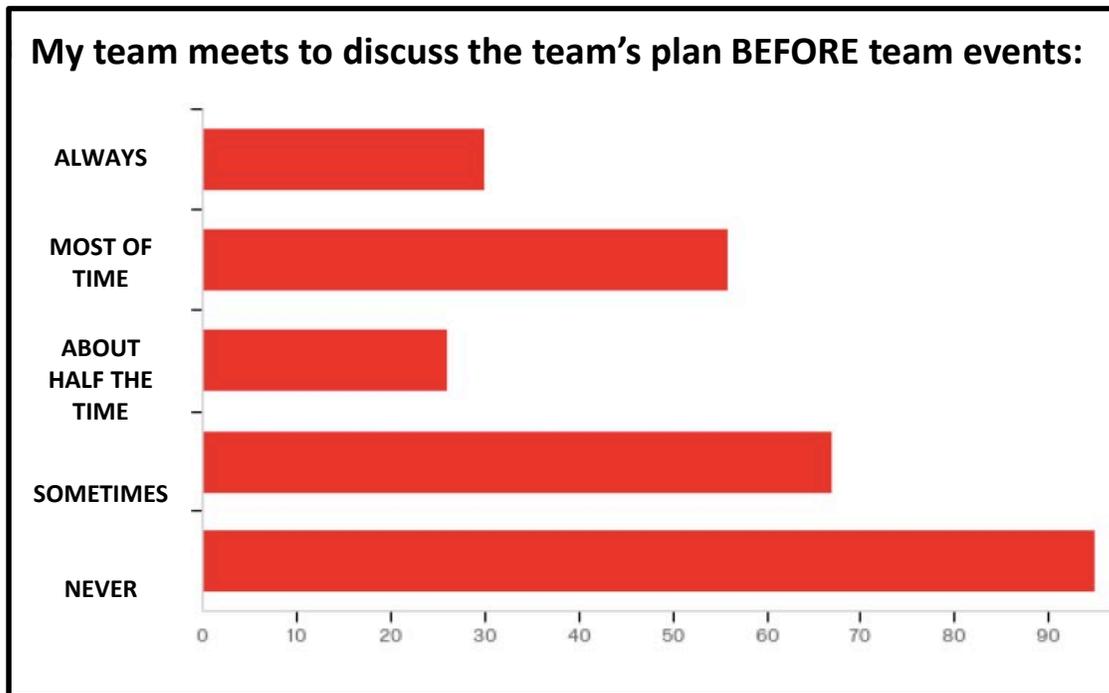


## CONTROL GROUPS

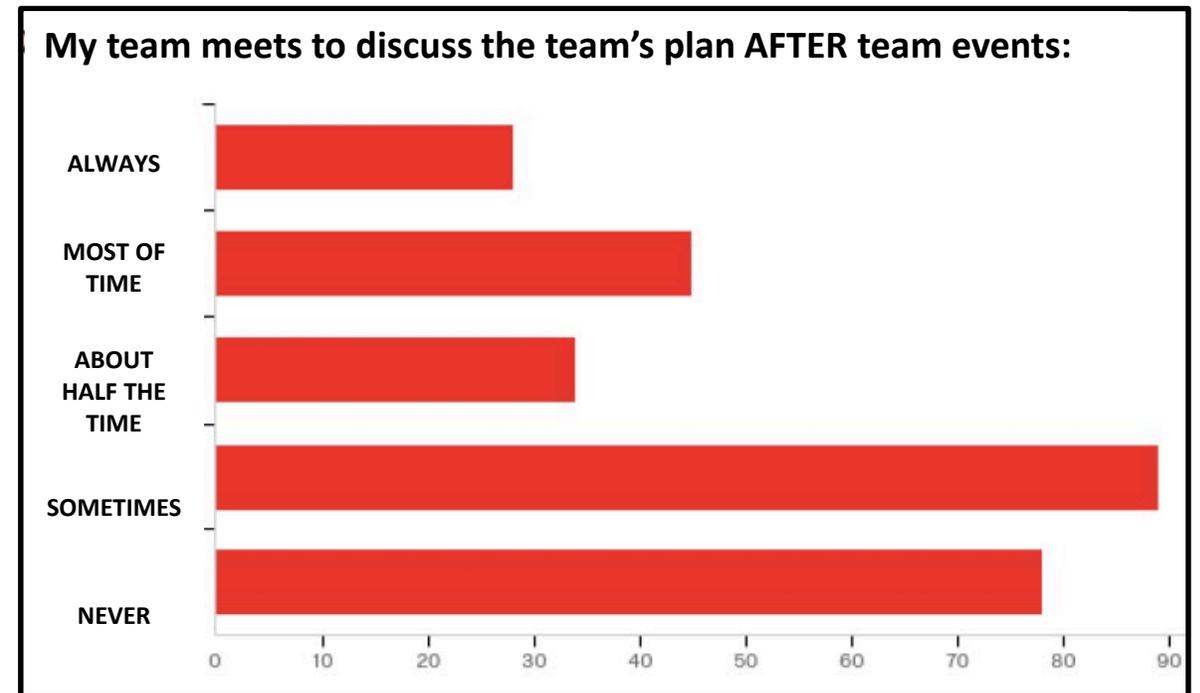
- *“Exposure-Based” Curriculum*
- *PRE-TeamSTEPPS*

# EXPOSURE-BASED CURRICULUM RESULTS (PRE-INTERVENTION)

Frequency of BRIEFING (All 3 team settings)



Frequency of DEBRIEFING (All 3 team settings)



- 60% of 283 students reported NEVER or SOMETIMES for briefing & debriefing
- Only 10% of 283 students reported ALWAYS for briefing & debriefing

# EXPOSURE-BASED CURRICULUM RESULTS (PRE-INTERVENTION)

*“Students don’t like working in teams because they don’t understand the fundamental importance of it.”*

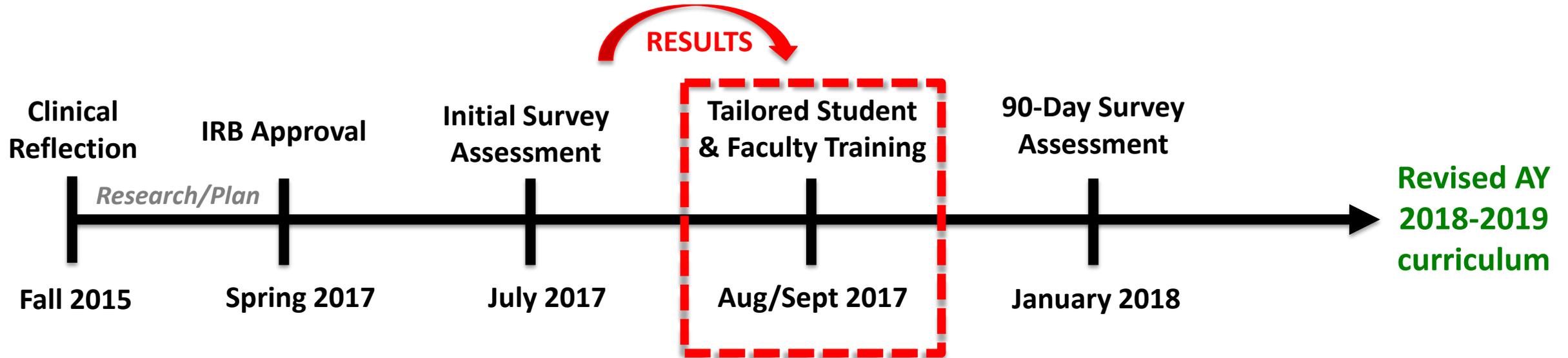
*“...Limited tools are provided to teach students how to be effective team members of healthcare teams. Evidence-based methods are not taught.”*

*“...there needs to be training to teach us HOW to do dissections as a team.”*

*“School tends to tell us we’re going to be leaders one day, instead of showing us how to properly lead...”*

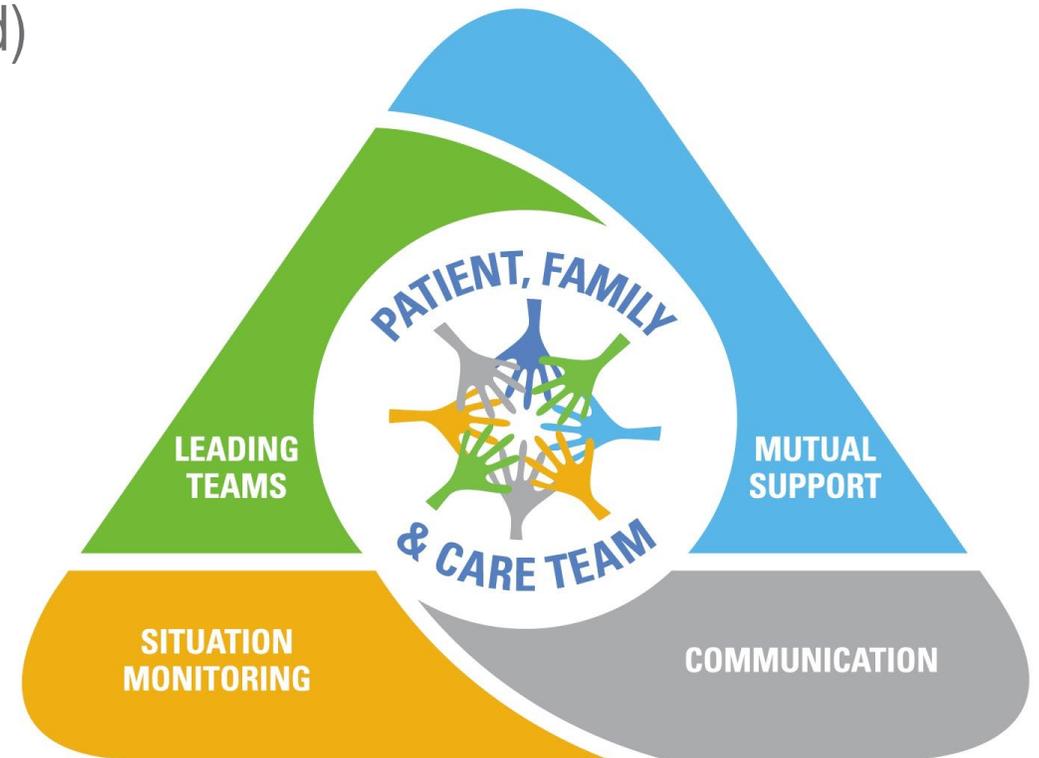
*“We did NOT have a team leader.” (multiple students)*

# PROJECT TIMELINE



# INITIAL TEAMSTEPPS INTERVENTION

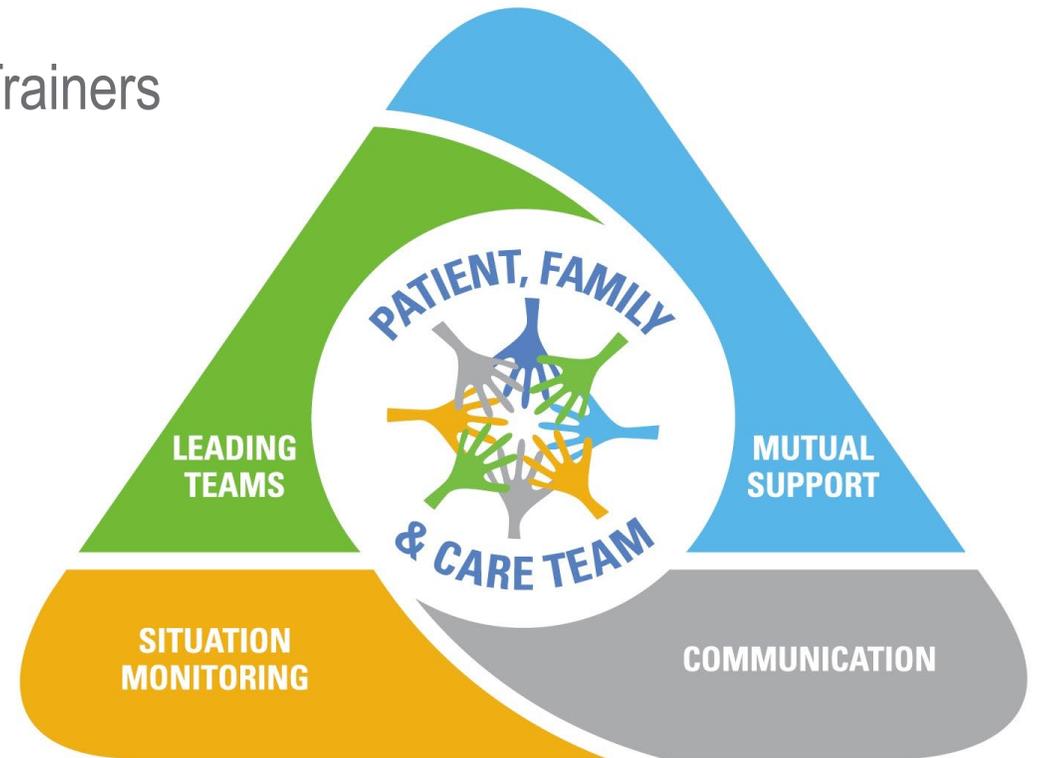
- 90-minute didactic presentation (student-instructed)
- “RWJMS Teamwork Playbook”
- Targeted TeamSTEPPS competencies :
  - **Teamwork = Patient Safety**
  - **Team Structure**
  - **Leading Teams**
    - Briefing & Debriefing Frequency
  - **Communication**



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# AY 2017-2018 TRAINING COMPLETED

- **650 Students Trained**
  - Instructed by Student TeamSTEPPS Master Trainers
- **80 Clinical Faculty Trained**
  - AHRQ TeamSTEPPS Master Trainer Course
  - Dr. Kevin Krane, MD (Tulane University)
  - Rita Preiskaitis, RN (Tulane University)



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**Robert Wood Johnson Medical School "Teamwork Playbook"**

**Team Set-Up / Structure**

- Establish **Designated Leader**  
*(Situational leaders may emerge real time)*
- **Select Team Size & Members**
  - Diversify talents/background
  - Involve Patient &/or Family
- Set **Brief Time**
- Set Conditions for team success
  - Sufficient personnel, training/skills, equipment / space, time needed

**Team Events**

Sharing the Plan

- **Brief** - Short session prior to start to share the plan, discuss team formation, assign roles and responsibilities, establish expectations and climate, anticipate outcomes and likely contingencies

Monitoring and Modifying the Plan

- **Huddle** - Ad hoc meeting to re-establish situational awareness, reinforce plans already in place, and assess the need to adjust the plan

Reviewing the Team's Performance

- **Debrief** - Informal information exchange session designed to improve team performance and effectiveness through lessons learned and reinforcement of positive behaviors

**BRIEF Checklist**

*Normally conducted by Designated Leader*

Core Brief Items

- Goal(s)**
- Roles** (& Responsibilities as req'd)
- Plan**
- Contingency plan** (ie. "huddle if req'd")

Optional

- Resource considerations* during shift:
  - Team members availability
  - Workload considerations
  - Resource Changes / Limitations
- Expected* TeamSTEPPS tools
- Questions?

**DEBRIEF Checklist**

*Normally conducted by Designated Leader*

Core Debrief Items

- Quick **factual** recap of events
- What went well?**
- What can we improve?**
  - *ie. Errors or near misses?*
  - *ie. Breakdowns in situational awareness*

Optional

- Did teamwork barriers exist?
- Did we achieve stated goal(s)?
- Clarity of roles / responsibilities
- Resource management
- Workload distribution

**Feedback**

Information provided to team members for the purpose of improving team performance

Feedback should be:

- **Timely** – given soon after the target behavior has occurred
- **Respectful** – focuses on behaviors, not personal attributes
- **Specific** – relates to a specific task or behavior that requires correction or improvement
- **Directed** toward improvement – provides directions for future improvement
- **Considerate** – considers a team member's feelings and delivers negative information with fairness and respect

**BARRIERS to TEAMWORK**

- Inconsistency in Team Membership
- Lack of Time
- Lack of Information Sharing
- Hierarchy
- Defensiveness
- Conventional Thinking
- Complacency
- Varying Communication Styles
- Conflict
- Lack of Coordination and Followup With Coworkers
- Distractions
- Fatigue
- Workload
- Misinterpretation of Cues
- Lack of Role Clarity

TeamSTEPS Communication Tools  
(Not every tool will apply to each team setting)

**SBAR**

A technique for communicating critical information that requires immediate attention and action concerning a patient's condition

**Situation** – What is going on with the patient?  
*"I am calling about Mrs. Joseph in room 251. Chief complaint is shortness of breath of new onset."*

**Background** – What is the clinical background or context?  
*"Patient is a 62-year-old female post-op day one from abdominal surgery. No prior history of cardiac or lung disease."*

**Assessment** – What do I think the problem is?  
*"Breath sounds are decreased on the right side with acknowledgment of pain. Would like to rule out pneumothorax."*

**Recommendation and Request** – What would I do to correct it?  
*"I feel strongly the patient should be assessed now. Can you come to room 251 now?"*

**Check-Back**

Using closed-loop communication to ensure that information conveyed by the sender is understood by the receiver as intended

The steps include the following:

1. Sender initiates the message
2. Receiver accepts the message and provides feedback
3. Sender double-checks to ensure that the message was received

Example:  
**Doctor:** "Give 25 mg Benadryl IV push"  
**Nurse:** "25 mg Benadryl IV push"  
**Doctor:** "That's correct"

**Application:**  
 Medication orders, Patient Hand-offs, complex or rapidly delivered important communication, etc.

**Call-Out**

Strategy used to communicate important or critical information

- Informs all team members simultaneously during emergent situations
- Helps team members anticipate next steps
- Important to direct responsibility to a specific individual responsible for carrying out the task

Example during an incoming trauma:  
**Leader:** "Airway status?"  
**Resident:** "Airway clear"  
**Leader:** "Breath sounds?"  
**Resident:** "Breath sounds decreased on right"  
**Leader:** "Blood pressure?"  
**Nurse:** "BP is 96/62"

**Benefits of Effective Teamwork**

- **Shared Mental Model**
- **Improved Performance (Adaptability, Accuracy, Productivity, & Efficiency)**
- **Improved Knowledge & Attitudes**
- **Decreased Medical Error & Improved Patient Safety**

**Patient HANDOFF**

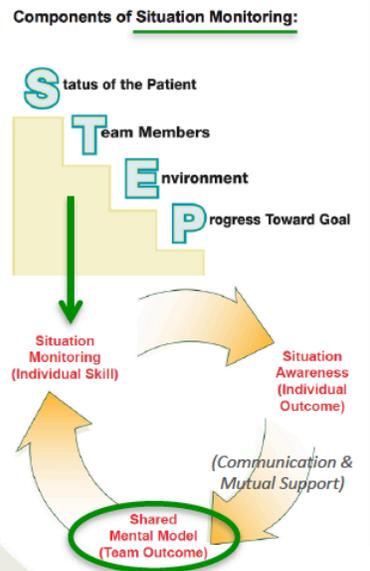
**\*\*Poor handoff's => Risk of Patient Harm\*\***

<b>I</b>	Illness Severity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stable, "watcher," unstable</li> </ul>
<b>P</b>	Patient Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary statement</li> <li>• Events leading up to admission</li> <li>• Hospital course</li> <li>• Ongoing assessment</li> <li>• Plan</li> </ul>
<b>A</b>	Action List	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To do list</li> <li>• Time line and ownership</li> </ul>
<b>S</b>	Situation Awareness and Contingency Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know what's going on</li> <li>• Plan for what might happen</li> </ul>
<b>S</b>	Synthesis by Receiver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receiver summarizes what was heard</li> <li>• Asks questions</li> <li>• Restates key action/to do items</li> </ul>

TeamSTEPS Situation Monitoring & Mutual Supt  
(Not every tool will apply to each team setting)

**STEP**

A tool for monitoring situations in the delivery of health care



**Two-Challenge Rule**

Empowers all team members to "stop the line" if they sense or discover an essential safety breach

When an initial assertive statement is ignored:

- It is your responsibility to assertively voice concern at least **two times** to ensure that it has been heard
- The team member being challenged must acknowledge that concern has been heard
- If the safety issue still hasn't been addressed:
  - Take a stronger course of action
  - Utilize supervisor or chain of command

**DESC Script**

A constructive approach for managing and resolving conflict

**D** = Describe the specific situation or behavior; provide concrete data

**E** = Express how the situation makes you feel/what your concerns are

**S** = Suggest other alternatives and seek agreement

**C** = Consequences should be stated in terms of impact on established team goals; strive for consensus

**CUS**

Assertive statements:

I am **C**ONCERNED!

I am **U**NCOMFORTABLE!

This is a **S**AFETY ISSUE!

*"Stop the Line"*

**Joint Commission Handoff Guidelines**

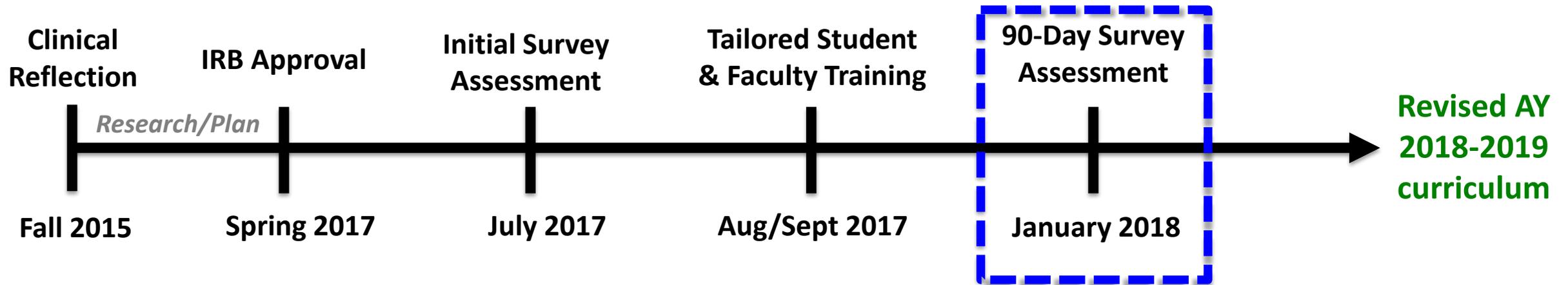
- 1) Face-to-Face, two-way communication
- 2) Standardized handoff templates /procedures (\*30% medical error reduction\*)
- 3) Make quality handoffs a cultural priority
- 4) Transfer ownership/responsibility

Rev(3): 7/1/18

References: 1) <https://www.ahrq.gov/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/professionals/education/curriculum-tools/teamstepps/instructor/essentials/pocketguide.pdf> - Accessed January 16, 2017.  
 2) The Joint Commission. Joint Commission Sentinel Event #58: Inadequate hand-off communication. <https://www.jointcommission.org> - Published Sept. 12, 2017. Accessed Aug. 1, 2018.

# RESULTS

# PROJECT TIMELINE



## **INTERVENTION GROUPS**

- *POST-TeamSTEPPS Training*

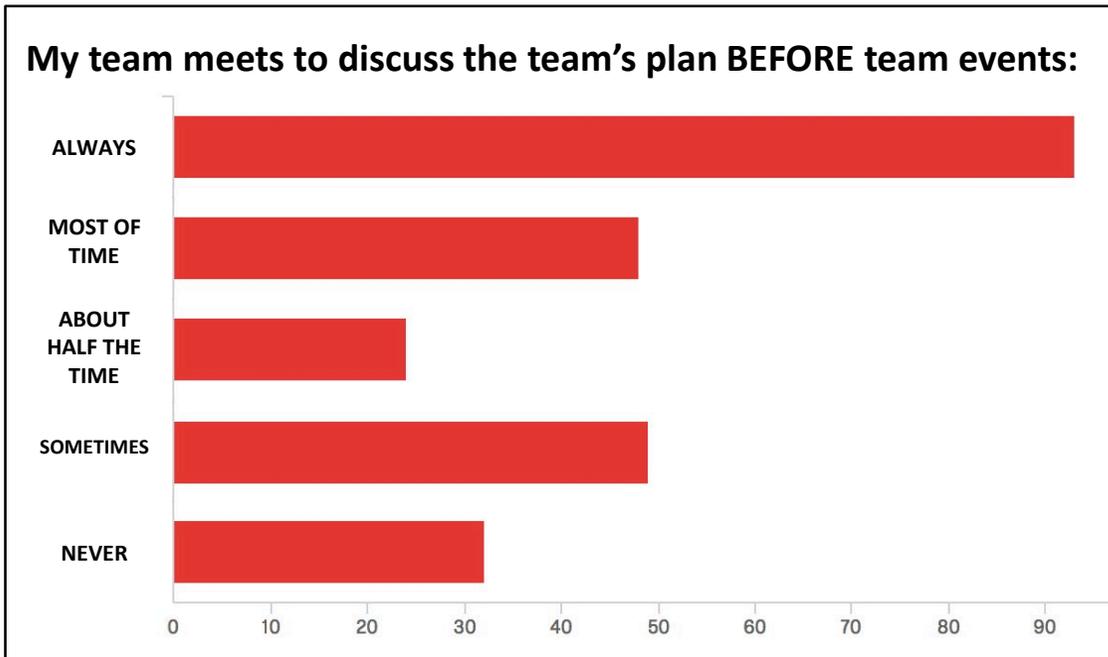
# DATA ANALYSIS

- Quantitative Analysis
  - Teamwork behaviors
  - Pre & Post mean scores by teamwork competency
  - Cohen's-D effect size: **magnitude of behavioral change**
- Qualitative Analysis
  - **Perceived Effectiveness** of teamwork curriculum
  - **Frequently expressed Implementation Barriers**
- Graphically plotted for visual analysis

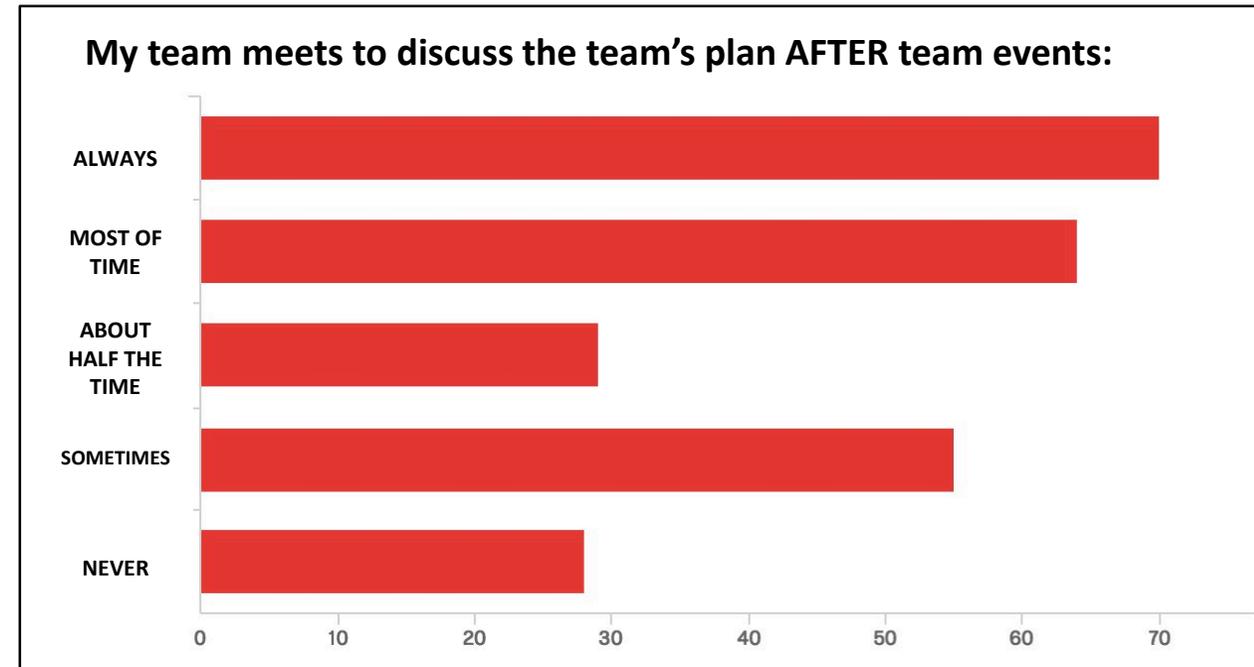


# TEAMSTEPPS-BASED CURRICULUM RESULTS (POST-INTERVENTION)

Frequency of BRIEFING (All 3 team settings)

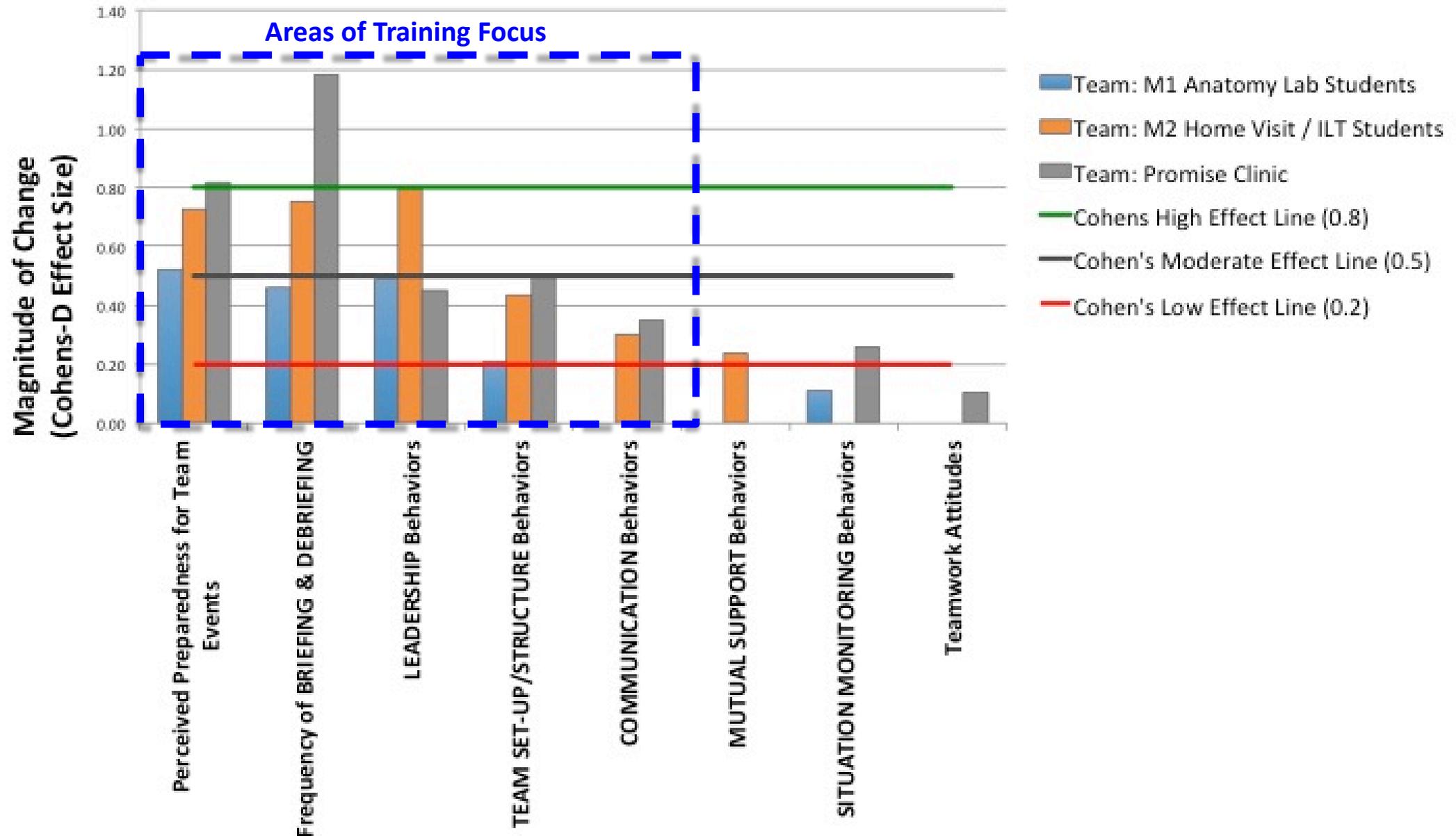


Frequency of DEBRIEFING (All 3 team settings)

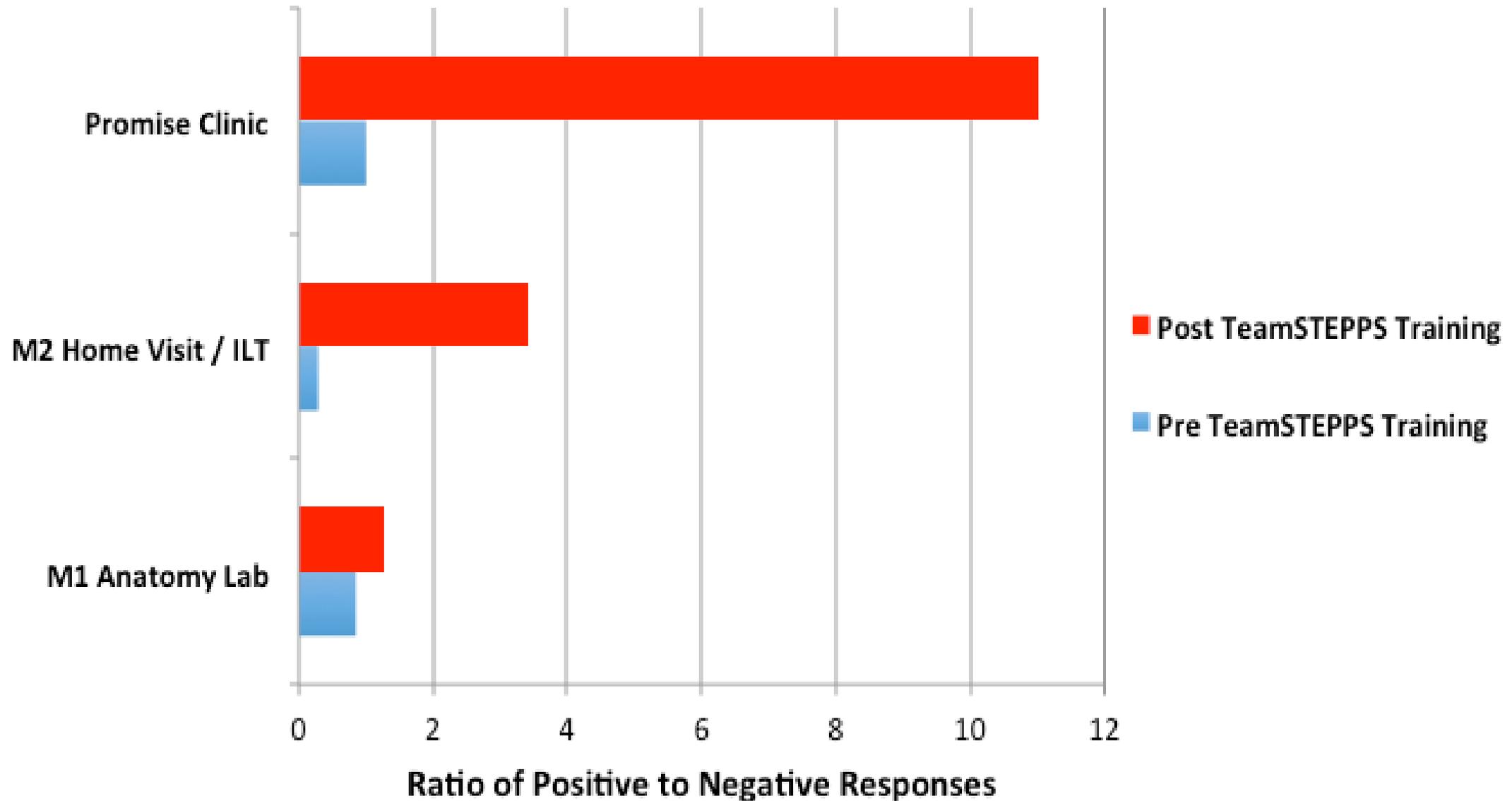


- 60% of students reported ALWAYS or MOST OF THE TIME for briefing & debriefing
- Only 12% of students reported NEVER for briefing & debriefing

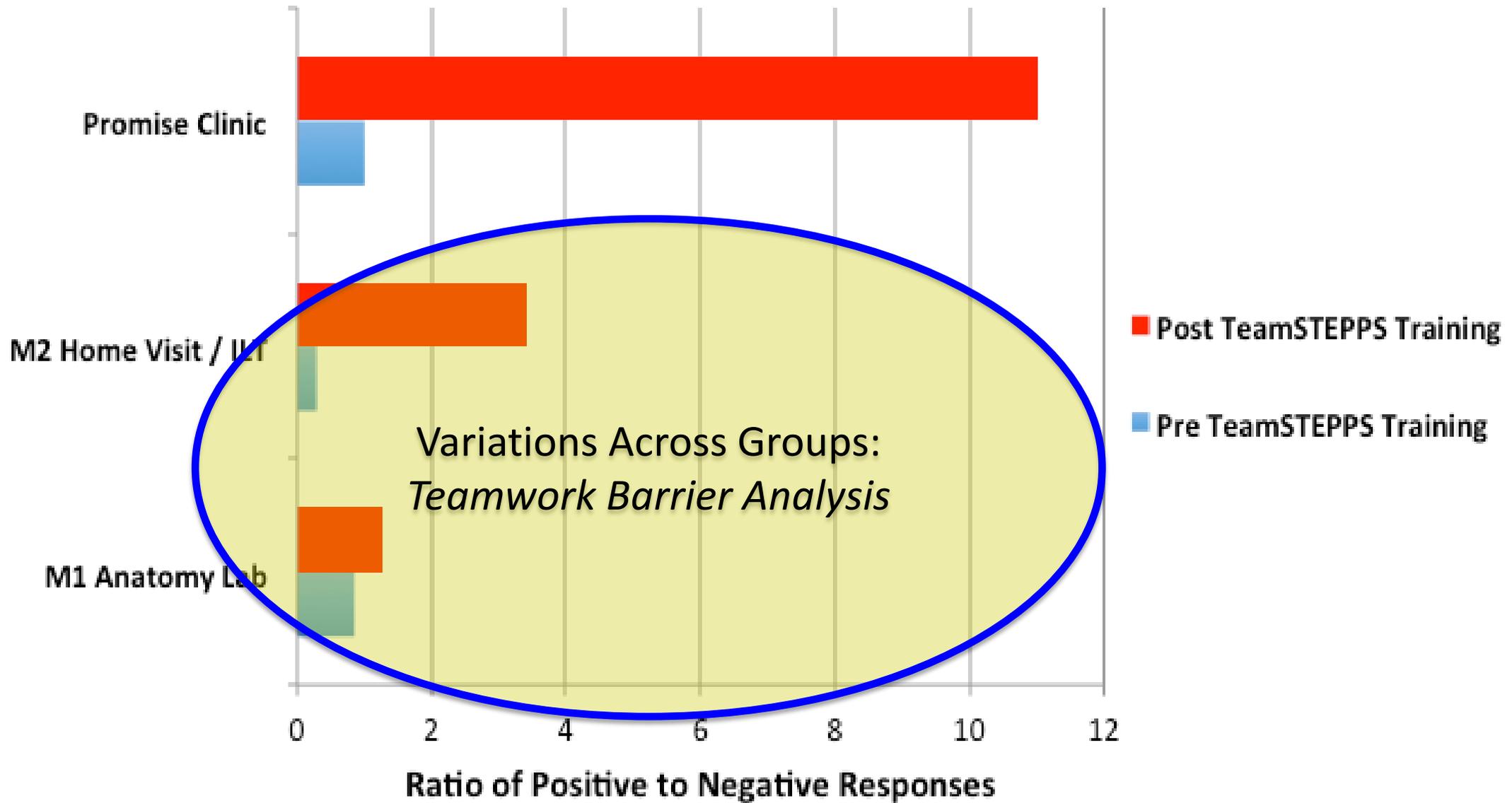
# Magnitude of Change in Medical Student Teamwork Knowledge and Behaviors in Three Student Team Settings



## Open Response Analysis: Student Perceived Effectiveness of RWJMS Teamwork Training in Three Team Settings



# Open Response Analysis: Student Perceived Effectiveness of RWJMS Teamwork Training in Three Team Settings



# TEAMWORK BARRIER ANALYSIS

## M2 Home Visit / ILT Student Comments:

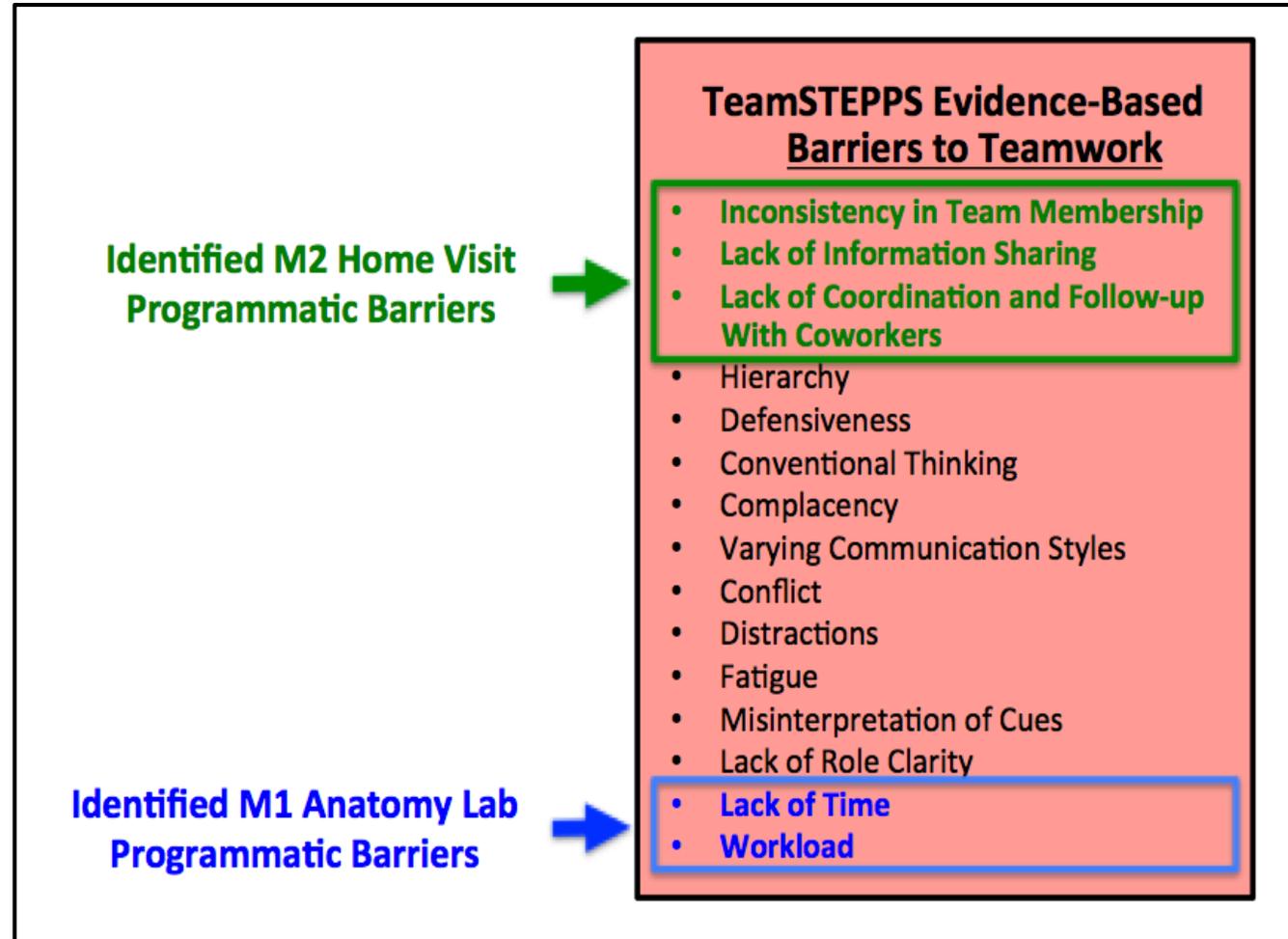
- Intra-team training disparities
- Participation requirements not standardized across schools
- Team members not responding to team emails

## Anatomy Lab Student Comments:

- “Too much”: too many competing demands, too little time

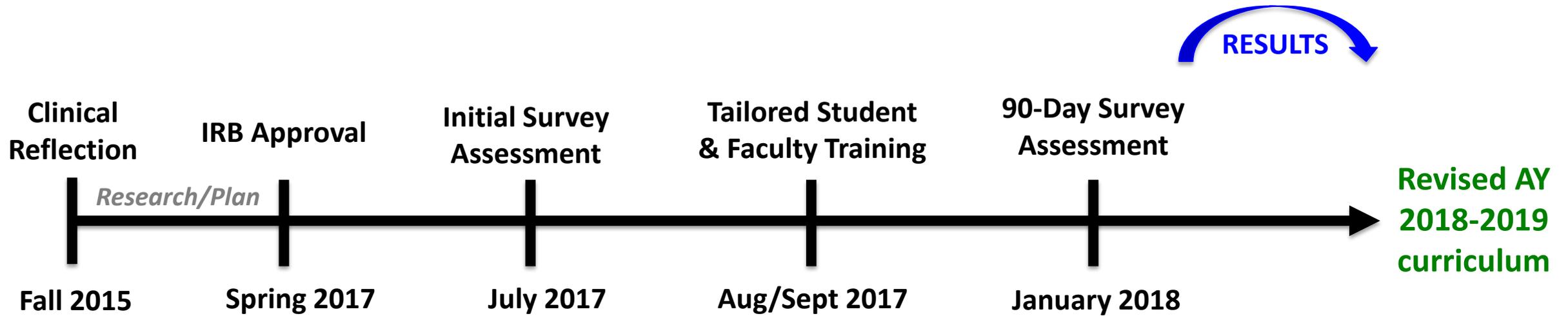
## Present in BOTH GROUPS

- Desired more small-group reinforcement through M1-M4
- Insufficient faculty support / knowledge of concepts



# LESSONS LEARNED

# PROJECT TIMELINE



# DISCUSSION: PROMISE CLINIC ENVIRONMENT

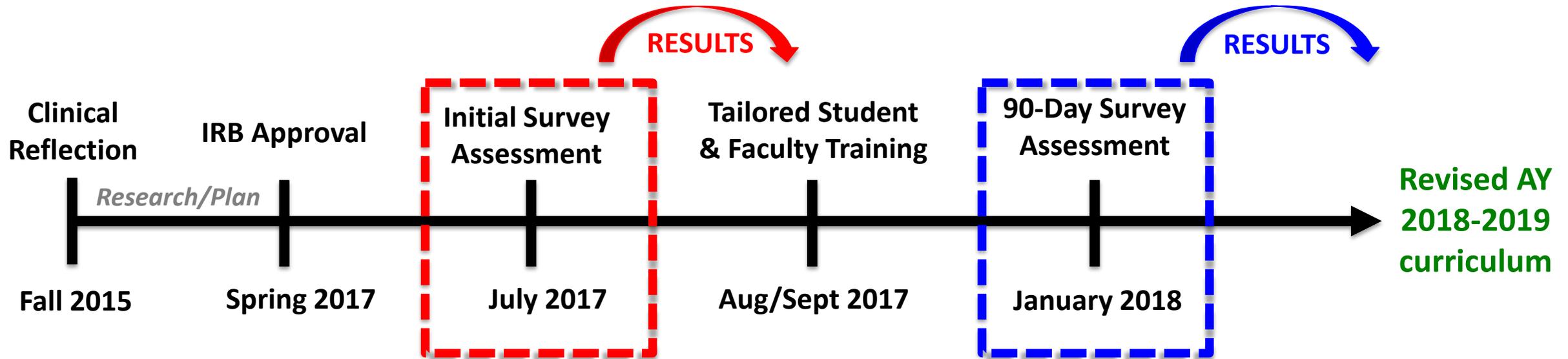
- **No consistent teamwork barriers identified in student comments**
  - Clear clinical application of TeamSTEPPS tools
  - Training and TeamSTEPPS tool use reinforced via Promise Clinic leadership
  - All Promise Clinic students received TeamSTEPPS training
  - Student-led appointments with consistent team member attendance
- Promise Clinic infrastructure/leadership allowed continuous real-time barrier identification and mitigation → more effective teamwork training

# KEY LESSONS LEARNED

1. “Exposure-based” curriculums result in IMPROPER teamwork habit patterns
  - i. Medical education curriculums need an effective teamwork training model
2. Student-instructed TeamSTEPPS training is effective within medical education curriculum
3. Most limiting barriers to effective training were:
  - i. Institutional/programmatically-imposed
  - ii. Initially unforeseen in intervention planning
4. Magnitude of behavioral change is INVERSELY proportional to presence of barriers
5. **Effective training requires RECURRING barrier analysis and ITERATIVE change**

# APPLICATION: DESIGNING EFFECTIVE TEAMWORK TRAINING CURRICULUMS

# PROJECT TIMELINE



## CONTROL GROUPS

- "Exposure-Based" Curriculum
- PRE-TeamSTEPPS

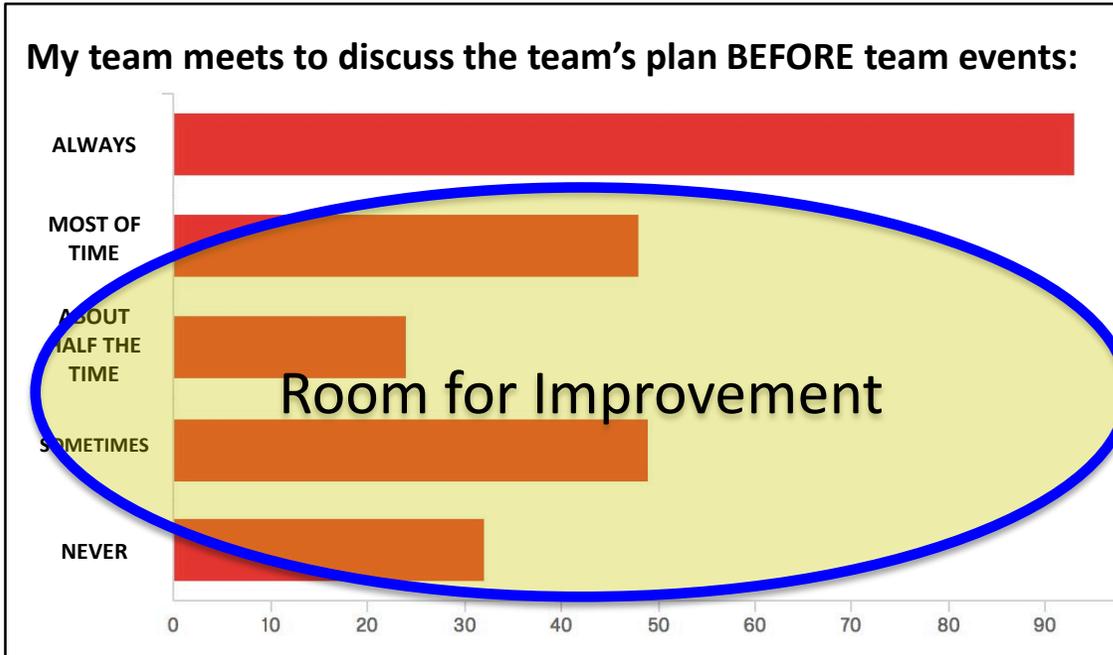
## INTERVENTION GROUPS

- POST-TeamSTEPPS Training

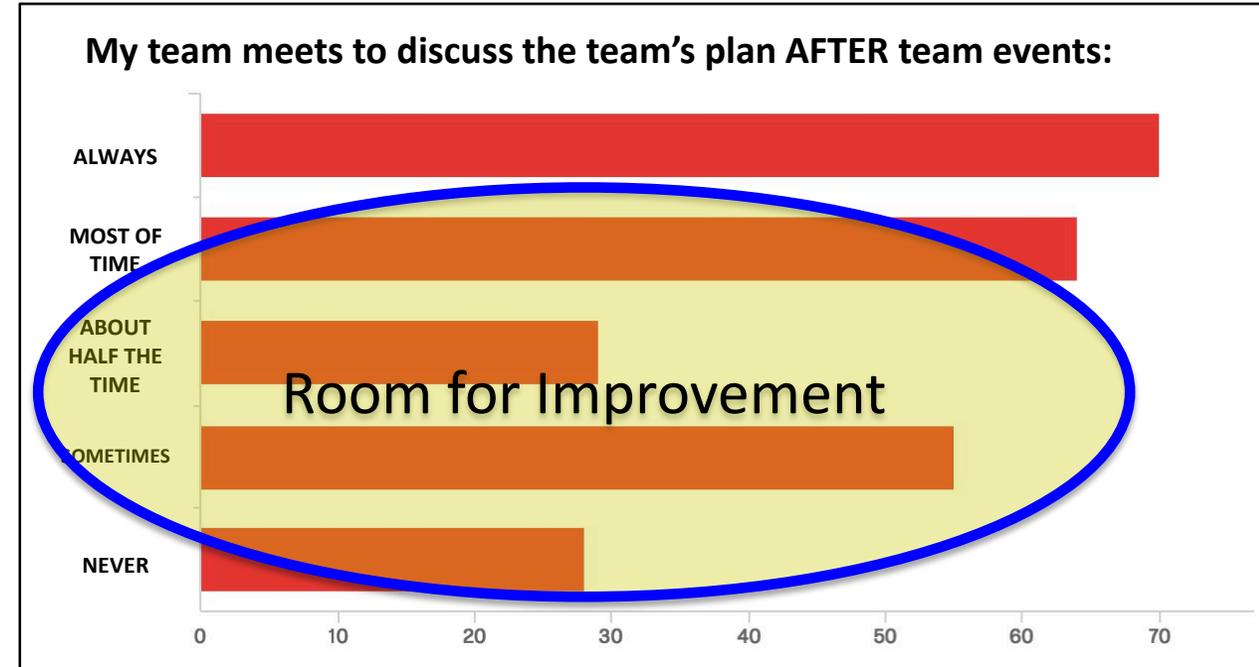
**ITERATIVE CHANGE!**

# TEAMSTEPPS-BASED CURRICULUM RESULTS (POST-INTERVENTION)

Frequency of BRIEFING (All 3 team settings)



Frequency of DEBRIEFING (All 3 team settings)



# BUILDING A CURRICULUM: WHAT STUDENTS WANT

1. Students have strong desire for standardized teamwork training
2. Longitudinal TeamSTEPPS curriculum likely more effective than traditional single-dose course
  - i. Two-day Master Trainer course not feasible within most academic curriculums
3. Suggested model: 30-45 min didactic + recurring small-group case-based application
4. Organized one-page pocket reference helpful (example: *RWJMS Teamwork Playbook*)
5. Sufficient Faculty support & coaching critical
6. Tie training into reward pathway (graded events) periodically to enhance student motivation

# CONCLUSION

# INSPIRED CULTURAL CHANGE

- Inspired Cultural Change
  - Expansion throughout medical school curriculum
  - Growth of TeamSTEPPS movement among Rutgers interprofessional schools
  - Integration of TeamSTEPPS into multiple hospital departments
  - Project briefings to RWJ Executive Council & RWJ/Barnabas Chief Medical Officer
- TeamSTEPPS Community Involvement
  - 2018 AHA Team Training National Conference – Poster
  - 2018 AAMC Accelerate Change in Medical Education Consortium – Case Study

# SPRING 2017 STUDENT SURVEY FEEDBACK

*"TeamSTEPPS has transformed how my team functions. We are so much more organized, directed, and efficient. Communication and knowledge of our roles has greatly increased. I think it has translated to better care for our patient and a better experience for students."*

**- Student, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School**

# QUESTIONS?

- Stay in touch! Email [teamtraining@aha.org](mailto:teamtraining@aha.org) or visit [www.aha.org/teamtraining](http://www.aha.org/teamtraining)



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TeamSTEPPS® available from AHA Team Training

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