

# Sepsis Mortality Reduction at Uniontown Hospital

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## BACKGROUND:

The need arose to create a focus on mortality, particularly for septic patients, and to evaluate the effectiveness of sepsis bundle compliance.

## SMARTER OBJECTIVE:

A SMART goal was set in 2022 to achieve a 20% reduction in sepsis mortality by 2025. The initiative focuses on:

- Improving documentation
- Real-time chart abstraction
- Targeted outreach to providers and nursing staff

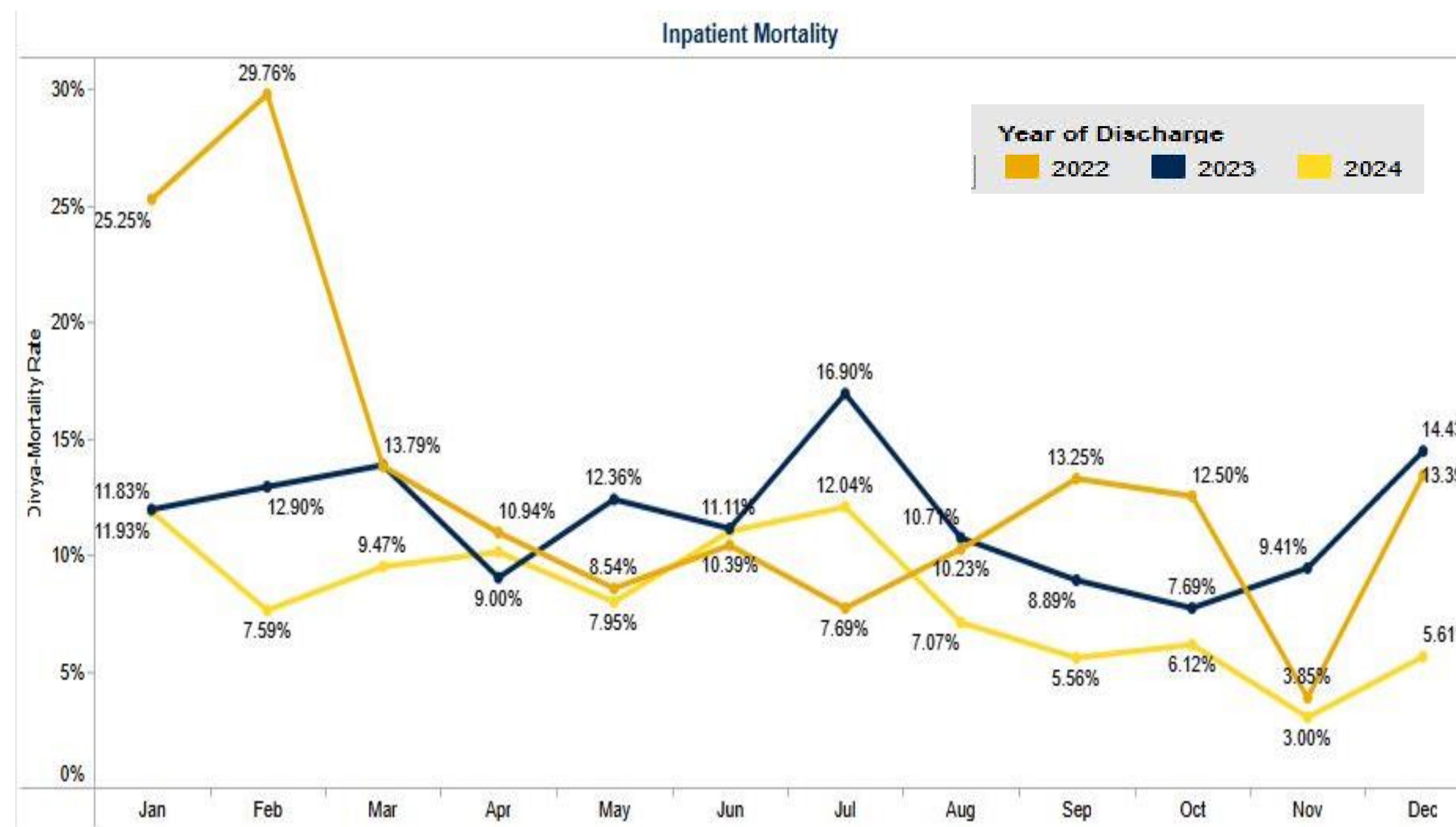
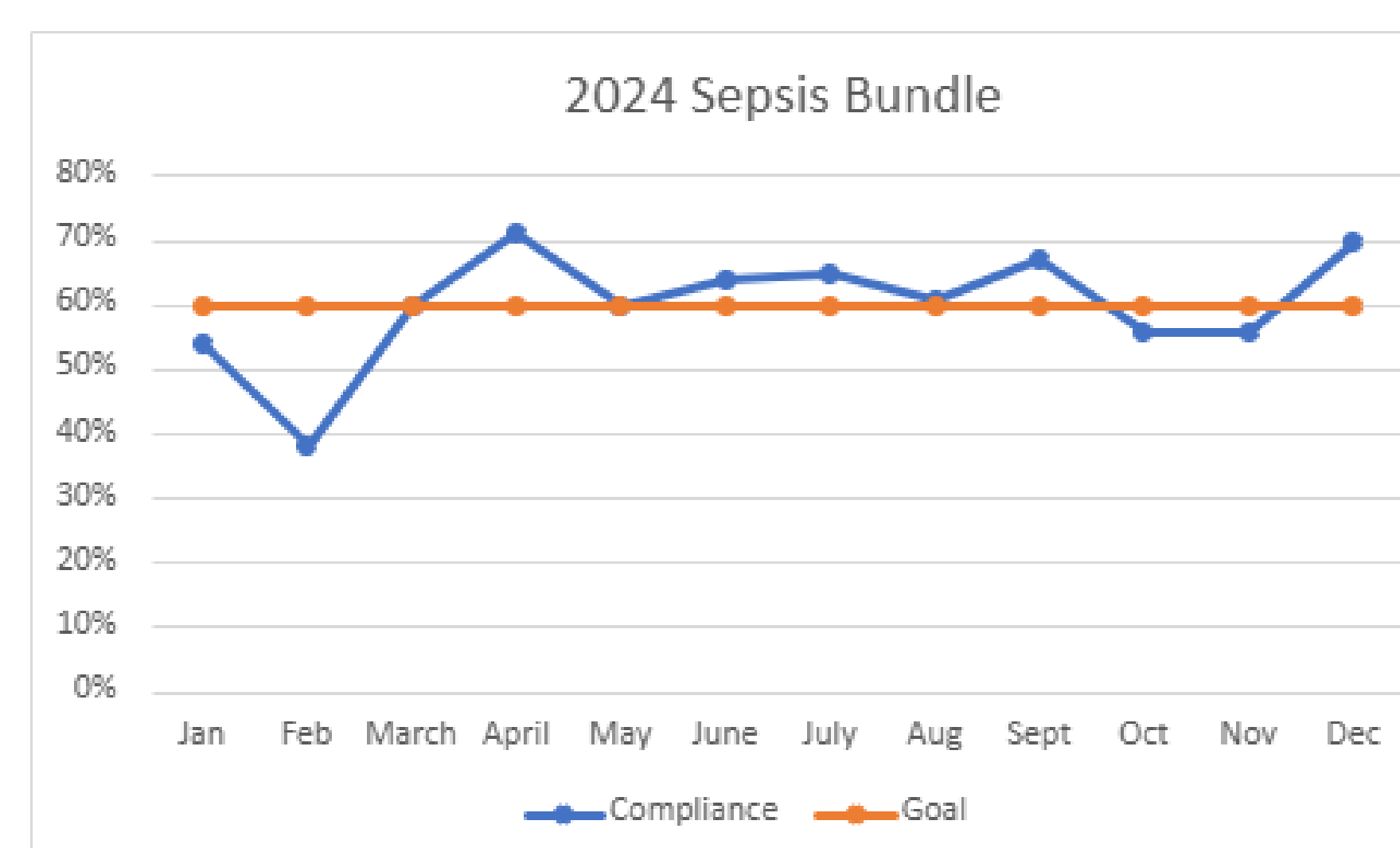
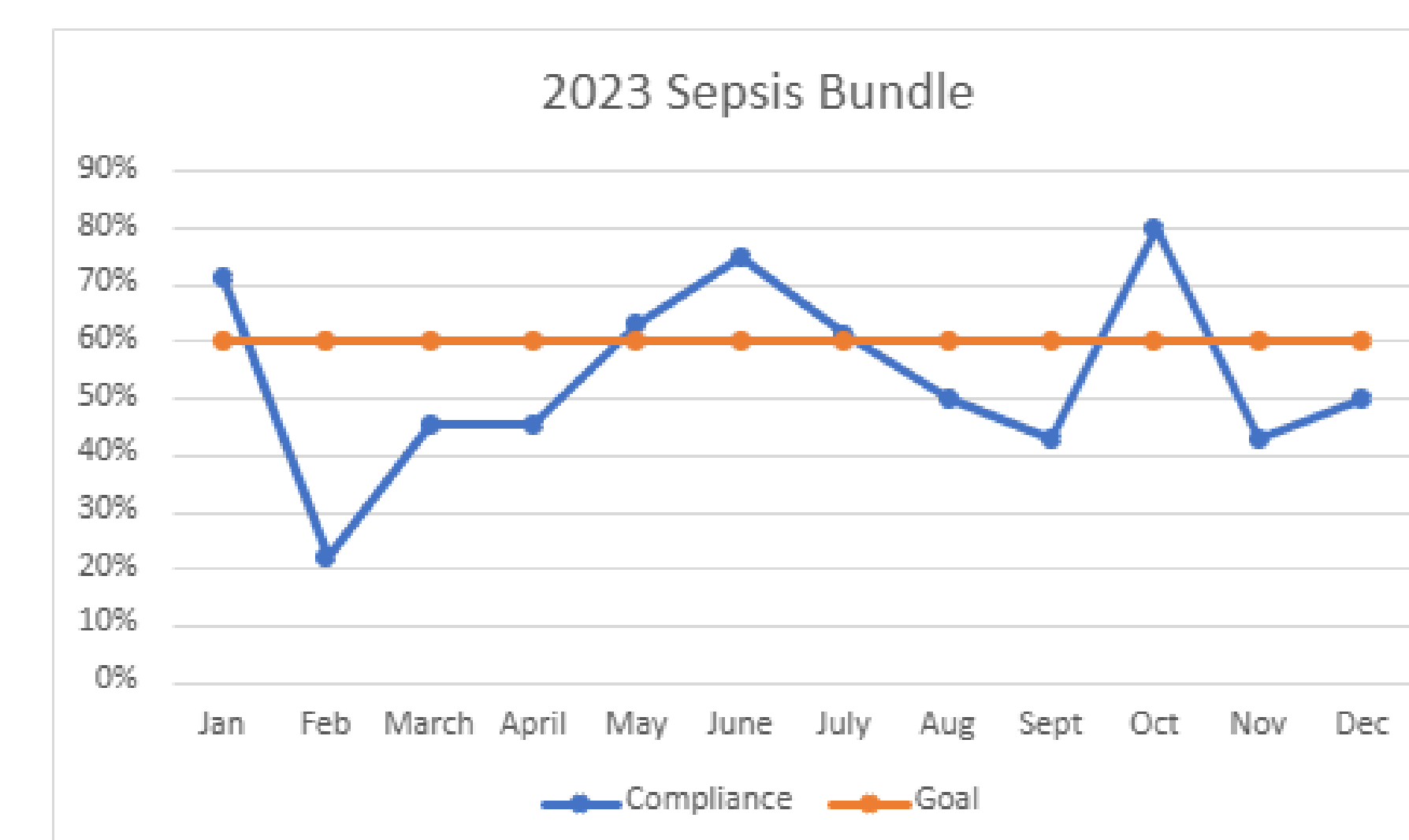
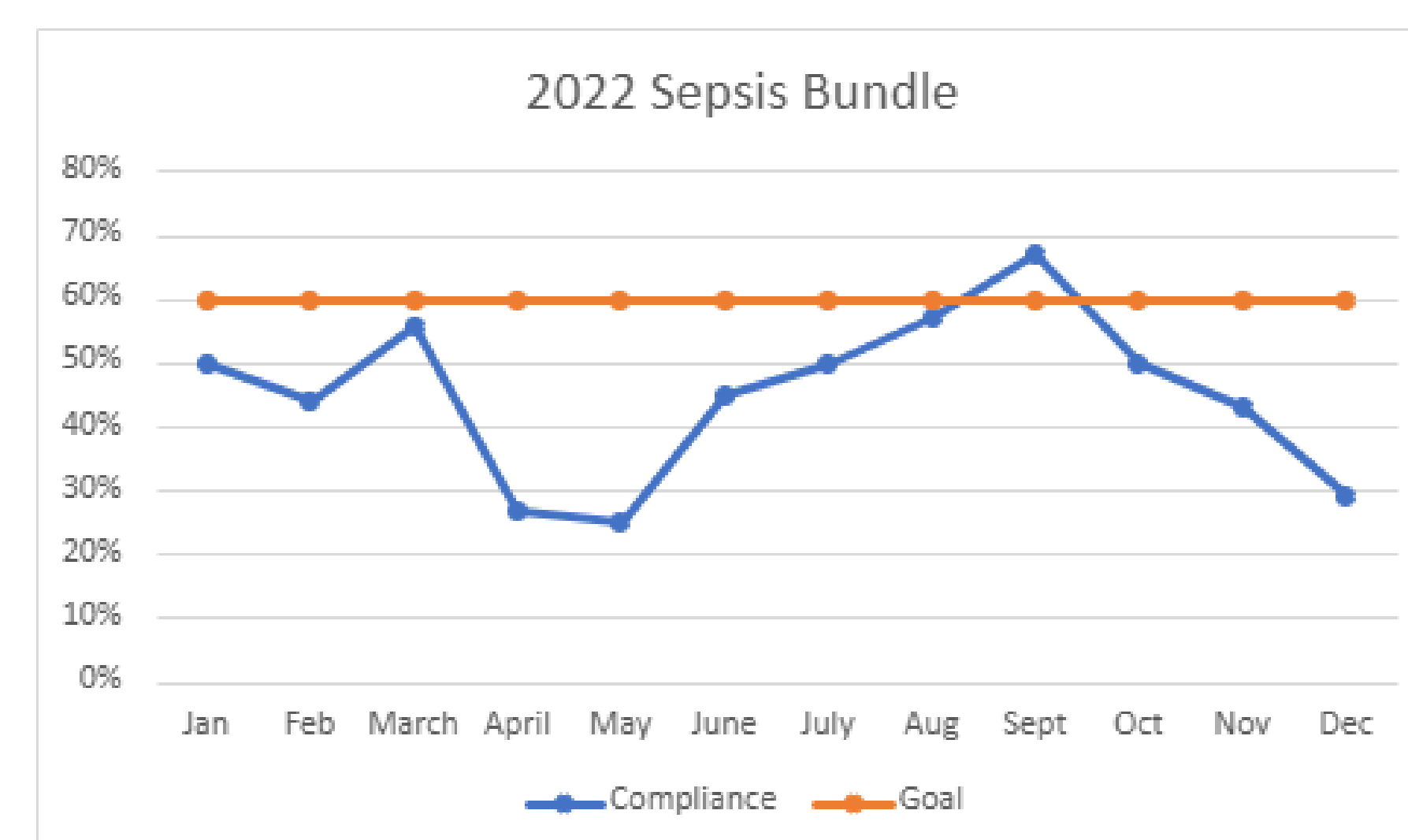
The goal is achieved through existing multidisciplinary efforts, ongoing education, and real-time chart reviews to refine interventions and track progress. This aligns with Uniontown Hospital's mission to improve patient outcomes and meet CMS guidelines.

## IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLAN WITH ACTIONS TAKEN

- A multidisciplinary team comprising quality experts, hospitalists, ED providers, ICU staff, pharmacy, and others.
- Monthly team meetings to review cases that failed Sep-1 Bundle compliance, identify improvement opportunities, and implement interventions.
- Progress tracking using hospital-specific data and comparison of current and future mortality rates.
- Key strategies:
  1. Daily monitoring of patients meeting Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (SIRS) criteria.
  2. Real-time chart abstraction
  3. Targeted outreach for documentation improvements (e.g., fluid exclusions, fluid end times).

## RESULTS:

- Data analysis and trend tracking of Sepsis Bundle compliance (2022-2024).
- Continuous progress measurement towards the set goal.
- A 30% decrease in sepsis mortality observed.



## SCALE UP PLAN:

- Sepsis Letters sent to providers for non-compliant cases, reinforcing adherence to CMS guidelines.
- Targeted outreach to improve documentation practices.
- Enhancing capacity in sepsis care, provider compliance, and documentation, leading to sustained improvements in sepsis management and patient outcomes.

## SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

- To ensure long-term success in sepsis prevention, identification, and management:
- Ongoing education for healthcare providers on best practices.
  - Development of computer-based learning (CBL) modules for nursing staff.
  - Promoting a culture of continuous learning and improvement in sepsis care.

## LESSONS LEARNED:

The Quality team should regularly review the Sepsis specifications manual to stay updated on standards and practices, ensuring compliance, preventing errors, and enhancing patient safety with the latest guidelines.