

# IHI UBC Student Practicums: Immersed in Clinical Quality Improvement

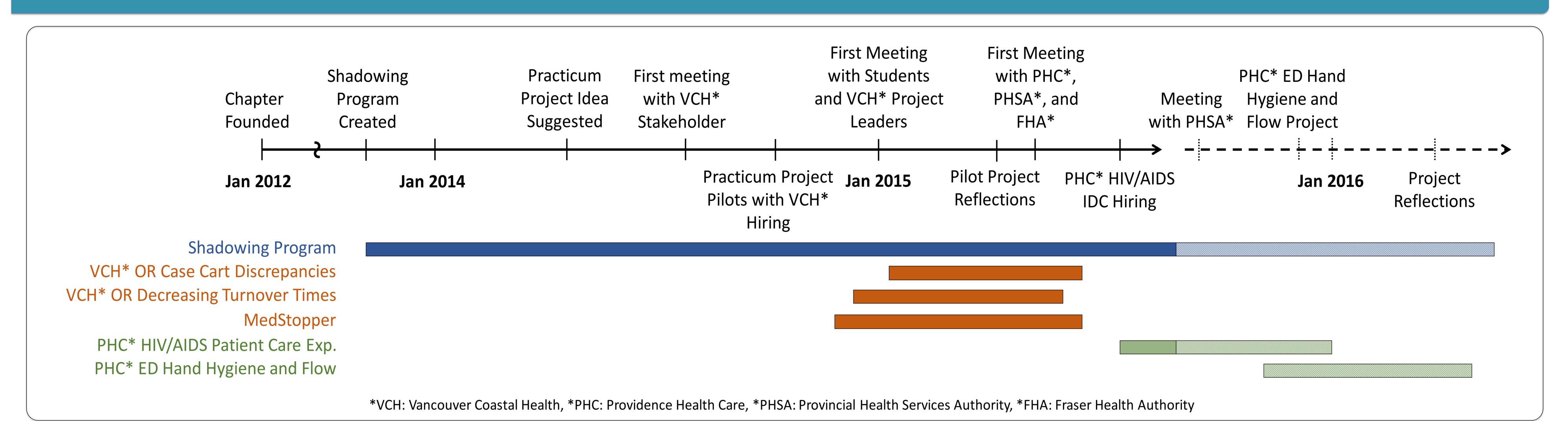


Institute for Healthcare Improvement Open School: University of British Columbia Chapter

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### Overview



### Background

The success of our IHI UBC Shadowing program has shown that undergraduate and graduate students are passionate about improving the current quality of care.

Many participants have requested the creation of longterm, practical projects to both complement their learning and open up career opportunities.

#### <u>Mission</u>

To provide both short-term and long-term practical opportunities for UBC students to learn from and contribute to the work of QI health care professionals in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

# January 2015 Pilot Projects

Students were self-guided with support from staff, the IHI Open School Quality Improvement Practicum Course (QI 201), and IHI UBC co-directors.

#### **↓ OR Turnover Times**

### Created protocol to improve communication between healthcare professionals, cleaners, and other staff

With use of protocol, decreased turnover time by 4 min.

MBA, BASc BA Psychology

BSc Pharmacy

### **↓ OR Case Cart Discrepancies**

- Modified an existing highlighting communication system to improve interdepartmental communication
- Updated surgical case cart sheets

BSc Pharmacology BSc Computer Science

MHA, BSc Biology

### MedStopper

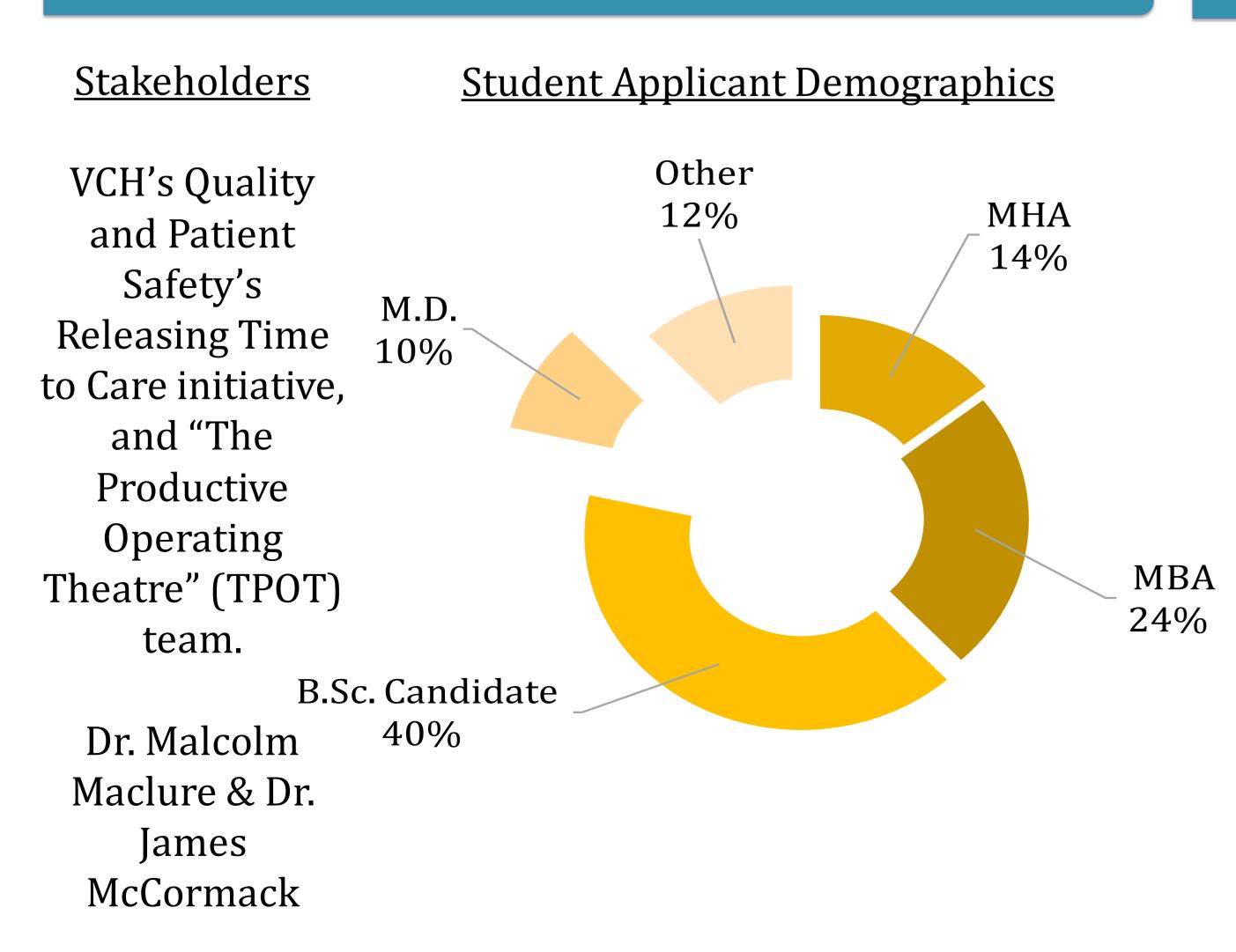
- Evaluated effectiveness of the MedStopper tool in reducing polypharmacy in a senior care home
- Changes to user interface made

BMLSc

BSc Pharmacology BSc Integrated Science

Tool is now available online

Recruitment



### **Lessons Learnt**

#### <u>Challenges</u>

Summary

Student

Team

- -Integrating student-centered objectives and institutional outcomes
- -Breaking down initial barriers between students and staff
- -Structured vs. flexible projects?

MHA, RN

- -Dissemination of results and experiences
- -Are the projects too short to be able to implement and sustain meaningful change(s)?

#### Student Feedback

"Our interdisciplinary background lent itself to....new perspectives"

"[I worked] with...a team of people from different fields than me but with the same interest in improving healthcare, one small step at a time."

#### Staff Feedback

"I liked having the opportunity to share our... challenges with the students and... to hear their perspectives of our challenges."

### **Future Plans**

MD, BSc Microbiology

We currently have 4 projects ongoing with PHC and PHSA! We plan to introduce the practicum as an option for UBC MD

BSc Kinesiology

students to participate for school credit as part of the "FLEX" program.

## Acknowledgements



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