

# Integrating an Addiction Recovery Program (ARP) into a General Medical Unit



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## The History

- 1985 - Addiction Recovery Unit opened with three inpatient beds to treat patients for alcohol withdrawal
- Progressed to a 14 bed, level-4 detox unit, providing care for patients with polysubstance abuse and medical and/or psychiatric co-morbidities
- 1986 - 'Graduate Group' founded to provide weekly support for patients
- Additional outpatient service programs were developed:
  - Dual Diagnosis
  - Day/Evening Treatment Programs
- Inpatient Consultation and Triage Services were also established

## The Vision

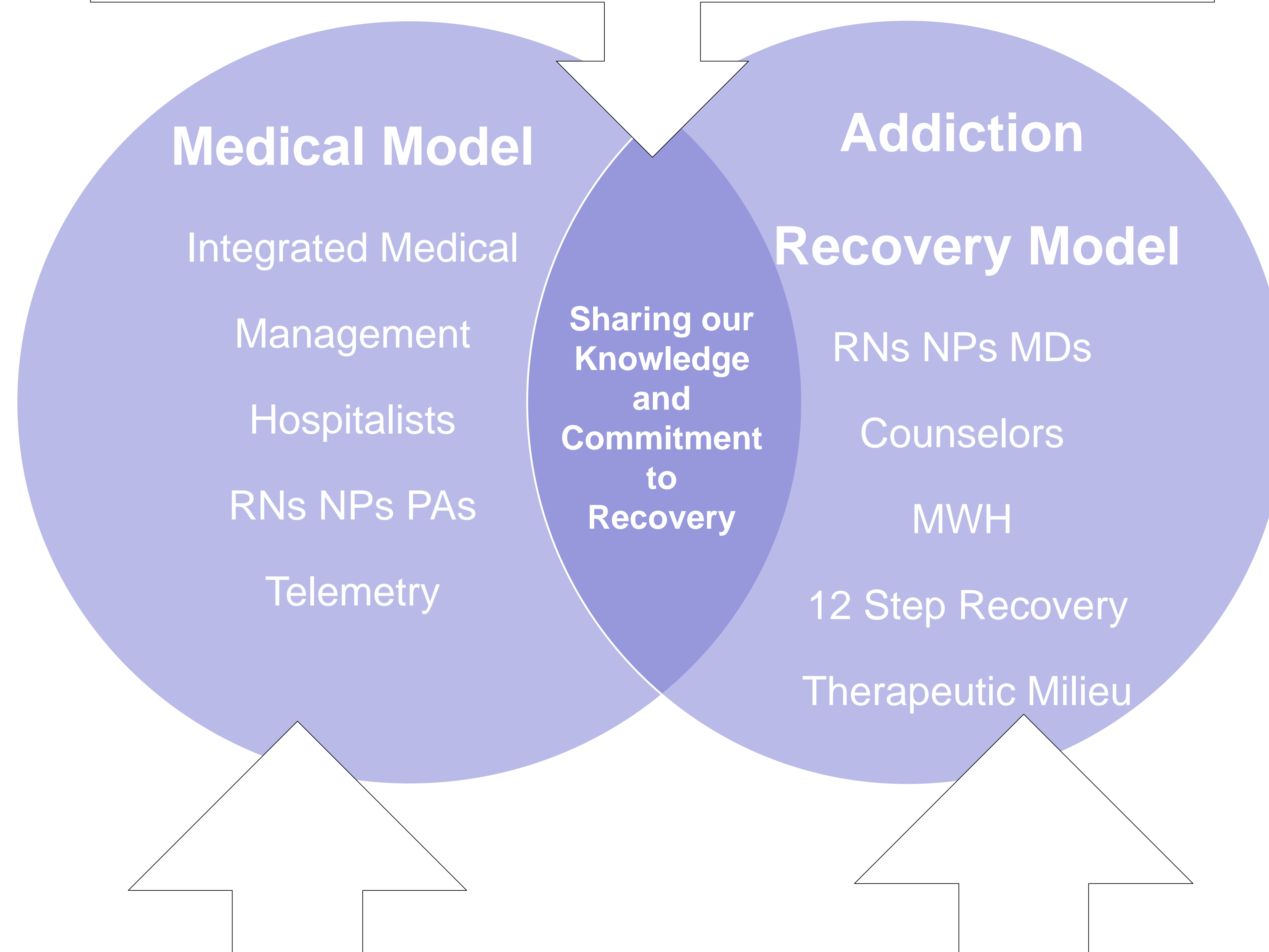
- Spring 2013 – Patients transitioned to 6North, an existing inpatient medical/telemetry unit, to provide 24 hour on-site medical coverage
- Provide access to telemetry and continuous oxygen saturation monitoring
- Enhance nursing expertise in caring for patients with chemical dependency
- Decrease adverse events/transfers to ICU
- Increase integration between addiction care and medical co-morbidity diagnoses
- Improve addiction care to all hospitalized patients through specialty consultation

## Our Commitment

**Time Line:** January 2013 - Present

### Relationships

Cohesive interdisciplinary relationships  
 Collaborative treatment planning expanding the scope of services and skills available to our patients



### Education

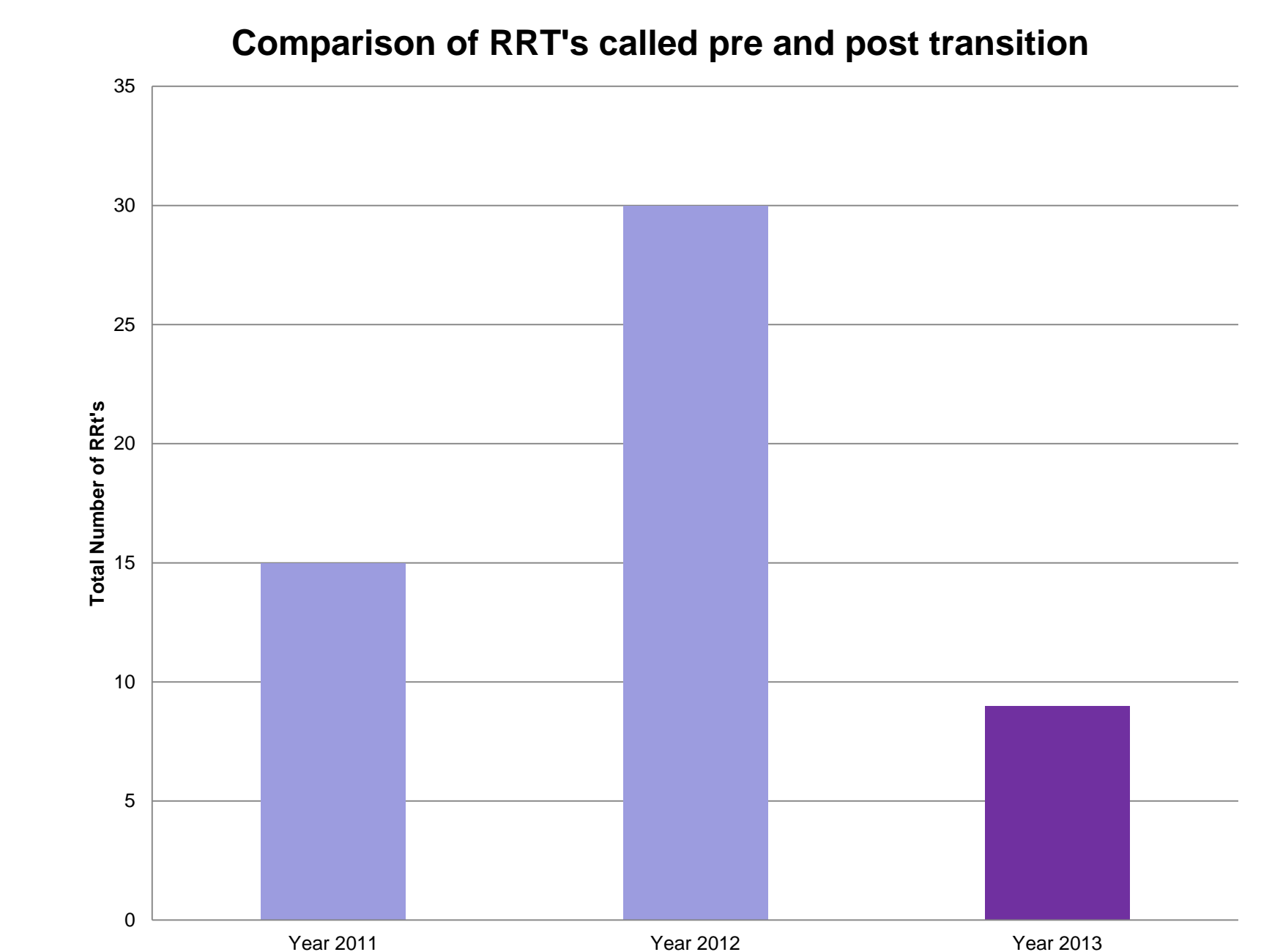
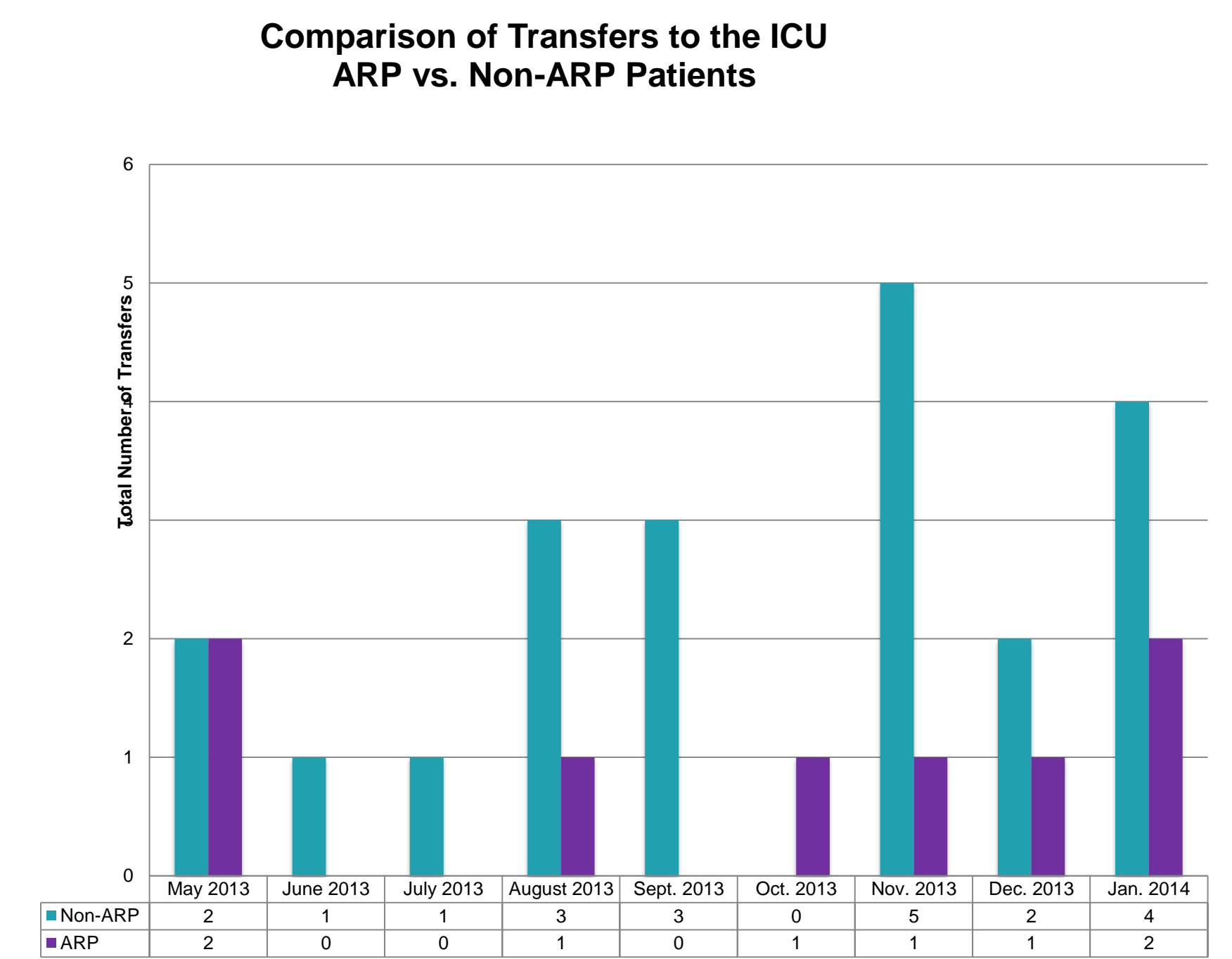
- Didactic sessions, self learning modules, case reviews and 1:1 mentoring for all staff
- Expanded medical training for addiction RNs transitioning to 6 North
- Quarterly work shops to educate hospital community about the available ARP resources
- Consultation outreach for all BWFH patients family and staff

### Environment

- Create a therapeutic milieu
- Group/community space
- Alcohol and drug free/safe
- Sober Support
- Build bridges to community resources

## Impact

Improved quality of care



## Advancing the Practice

- Development of Quarterly ARP educational programs providing opportunities to share our experiences with colleagues
- Hospital wide consultation education for RNs
- Community outreach educating student nurses and medical residents

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