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## ERAS: Improving Surgical Experience in Traumatic Hip Fracture Surgery

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# ERAS: Improving Surgical Experience in Traumatic Hip Fracture Surgery

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THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT  
 COLLEGE OF NURSING  
 AND HEALTH SCIENCES

## Background

- Hip fractures are associated with significant morbidity and mortality, loss of independence and financial burden.<sup>1</sup>
- Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) pathways are utilized to improve postoperative outcomes for treatment of hip fracture without increasing rates of complication or mortality.<sup>2</sup>

## Purpose and Aims

**Purpose:** To improve perioperative care for traumatic hip fracture patients by utilizing ERAS pathway.

**Aim I.** Create an ERAS Orthopedic Pathway (ERAS-OP) for traumatic hip fracture.

**Aim II a.** Evaluate the consistency of implementation of the post-operative Phase of ERAS-OP.

**Aim II b.** Evaluate post-operative ERAS-OP outcomes: length of stay (LOS), cost of care & opioid administration.

## Methodology

- This quality improvement project takes place at an urban Midwest trauma II center.
- 128 hip fracture patients met the eligibility criteria (66 ERAS, 62 control).
- Data were collected on patients treated for traumatic hip fracture with post-operative ERAS-OP (ERAS: June–September 2021), compared to a retrospective cohort of controls managed without ERAS-OP (Control June–September 2020).

### Aim I: Utilizing Evidence Based Practices to Create ERAS Orthopedic Pathway

- A review of the literature revealed evidence based practices specific to hip fracture along with basic ERAS components.

Basic ERAS Components	Hip Fracture Specific Components
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-operative education</li> <li>Oral multimodal analgesia</li> <li>Fluid optimization</li> <li>Early mobilization</li> <li>Early oral intake</li> <li>Scheduled alternatives to opioids, nausea and vomiting control and supported discharge.</li> <li>Pre-operative fasting and carbohydrate treatment</li> <li>Prevention of Post-Operative Nausea and Vomiting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Time to surgery</li> <li>Regional anesthesia</li> <li>Delirium Prevention</li> <li>Early advanced care planning</li> </ul>

### Aim II a: Consistency of Implementation: Post-Operative Protocols

- Time to Nutrition: Full Liquid, Soft or Solid Diet type and diet or snack percentage consumed (> 0%) documented within 13 hours of exiting the OR.
- Time to Ambulation: Documented therapeutic ambulation within 7 hours (13 hours total joints) of leaving the OR.
- Sustained Ambulation Pass: Documented therapeutic ambulation 3 times within 24 hours of leaving the OR.
- Scheduled Alternative to Opioids (ALTO): Verified order of non-opioid medication with scheduled frequency (not prn) for administration on inpatient units.

### Aim II b: Post-Operative Outcomes

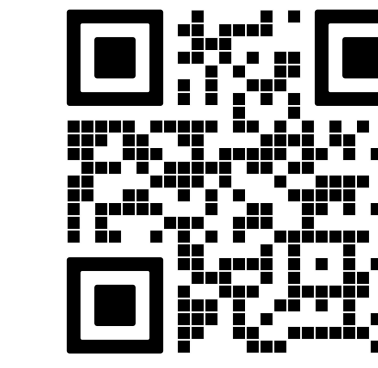
- To compare outcomes pre and post implementation, metrics data (as defined below) were collected from June 2020 through September 2020 (control) and from June 2021 through September 2021 (ERAS).

- Length of Stay:** Length of stay from out of operating room event time to discharge.
- Morphine Milligram Equivalent (MME) administered:** MME administered for all oral and IV pushes from out-of-PACU until discharge.
- Total Cost:** Costs accrued during the patient's entire length of stay.

## Results

### Aim I: Utilizing Evidence Based Practices to Create ERAS Orthopedic Pathway

- The ERAS-OP was approved by the ERAS systems coordinator at the specified trauma II hospital (to see ERAS-OP scan QR)
- Only the post-operative ERAS-OP interventions were in effect as of 6/1/2021.
- The remainder of ERAS-OP will be implemented by 5/1/2022.

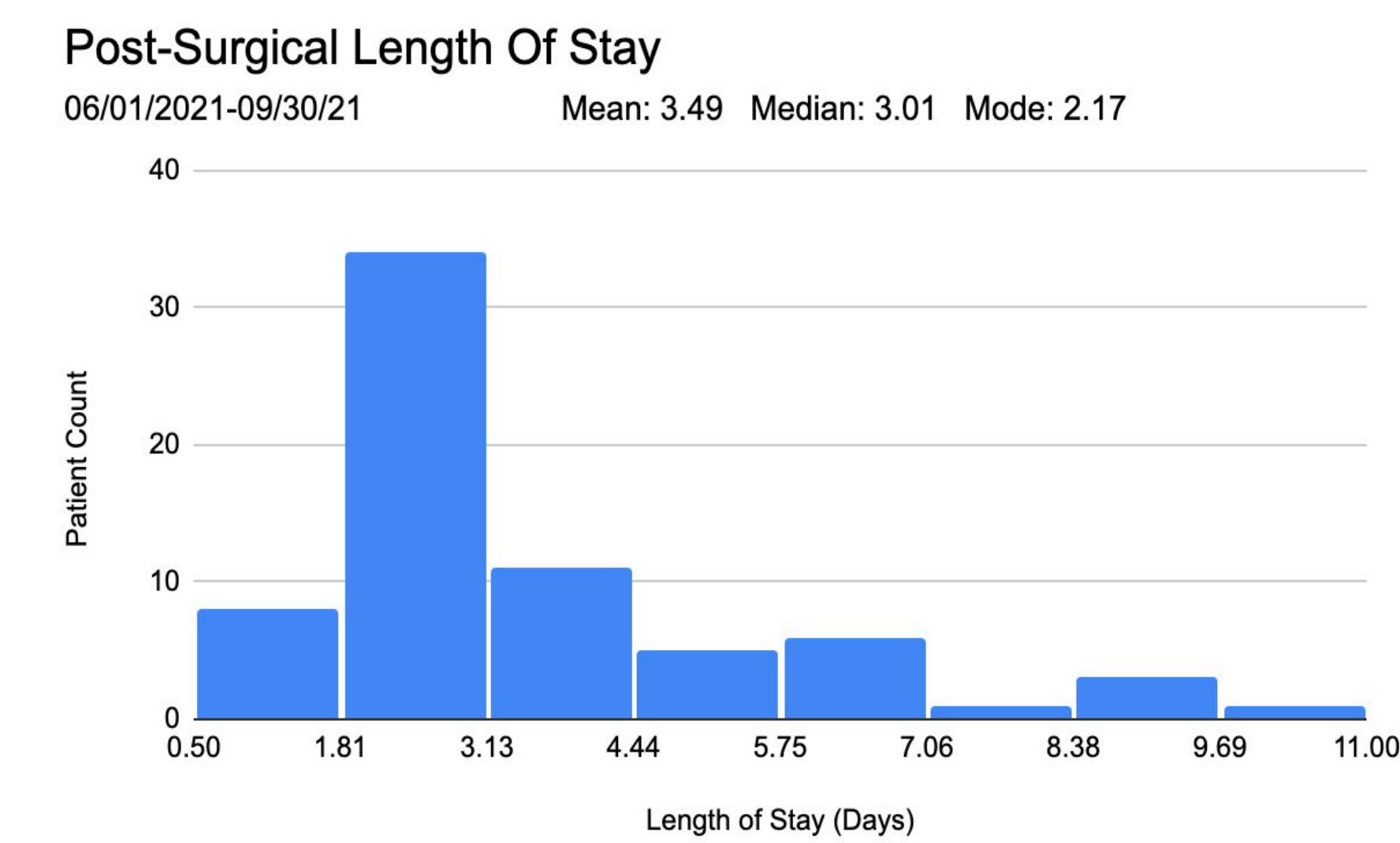
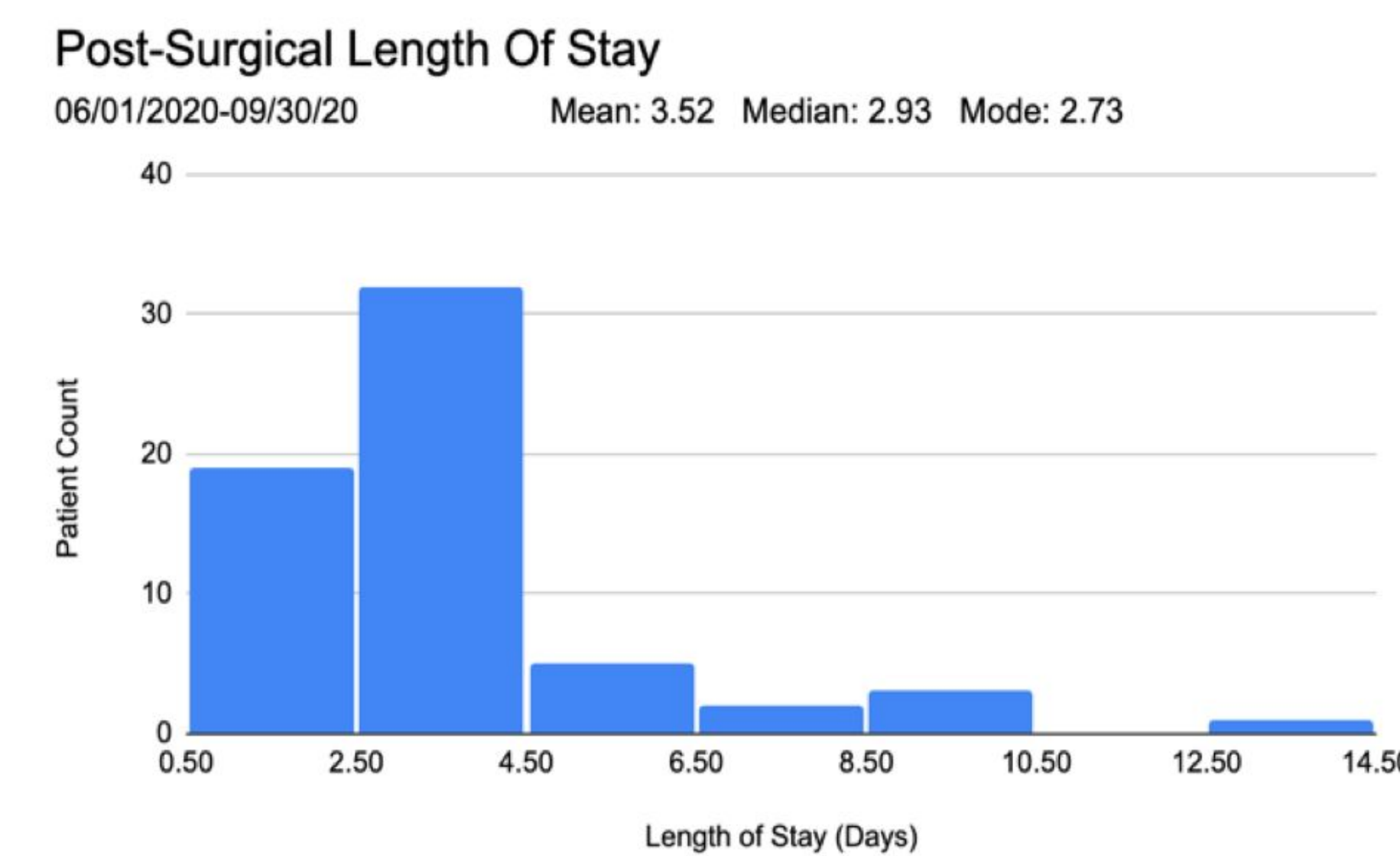


### Aim II a : Consistency of Implementation: Post-Operative Protocols (n= 128)

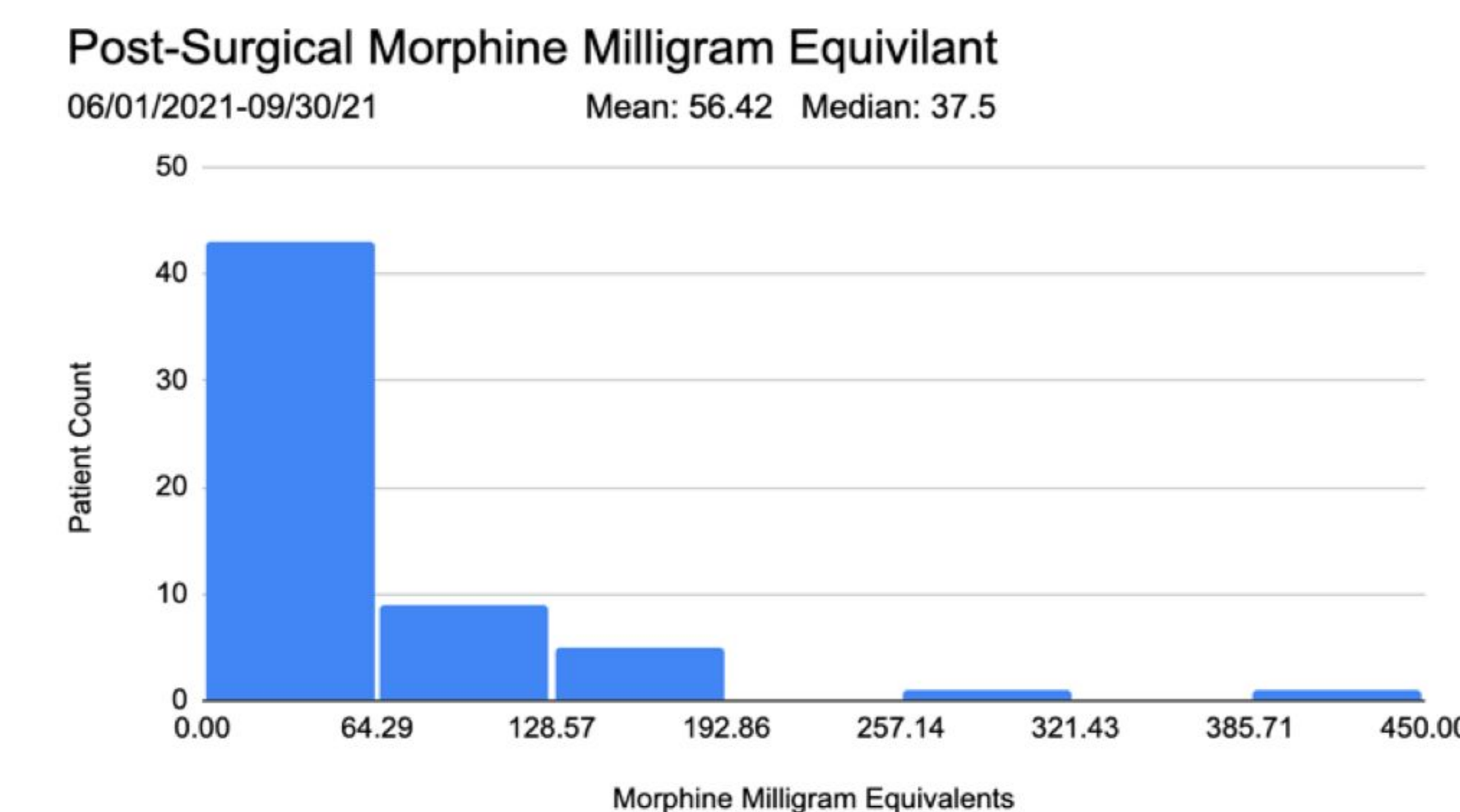
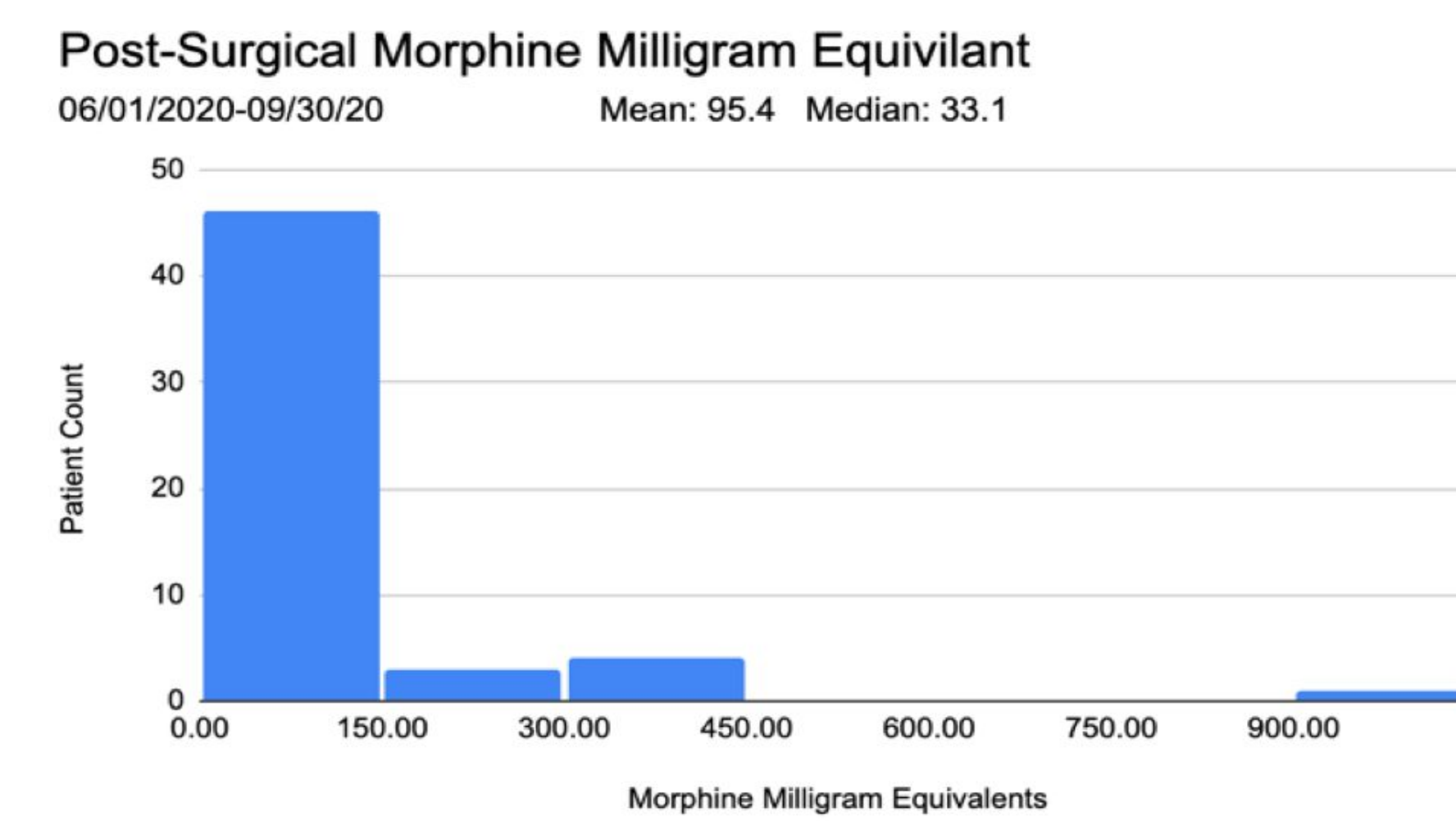
- 42% Time to Nutrition Pass
- 33% Time to Ambulation
- 14% Sustained Ambulation
- 80% Scheduled Alternatives to Opioids

### Aim II b: Post-Operative Implementation

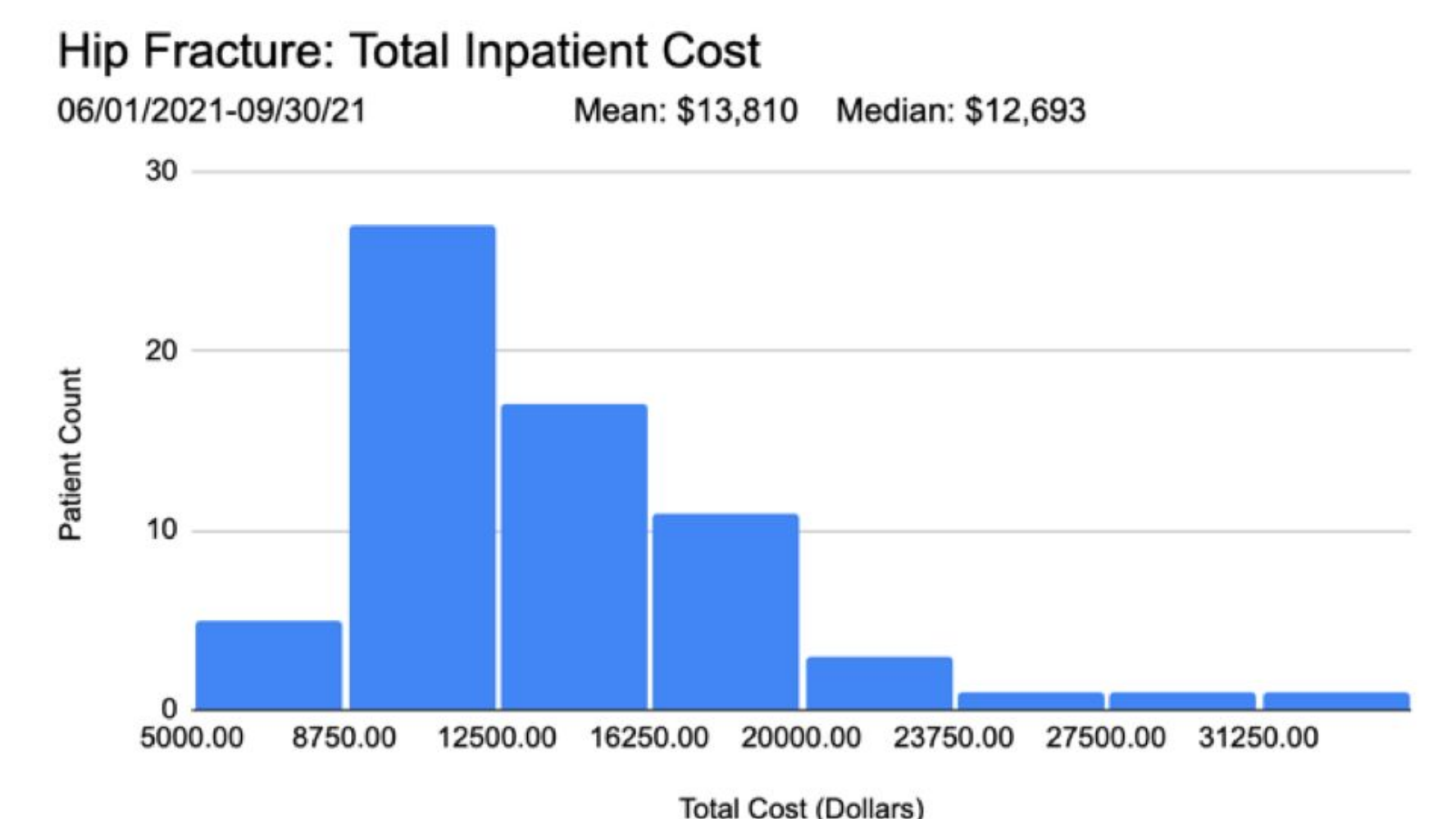
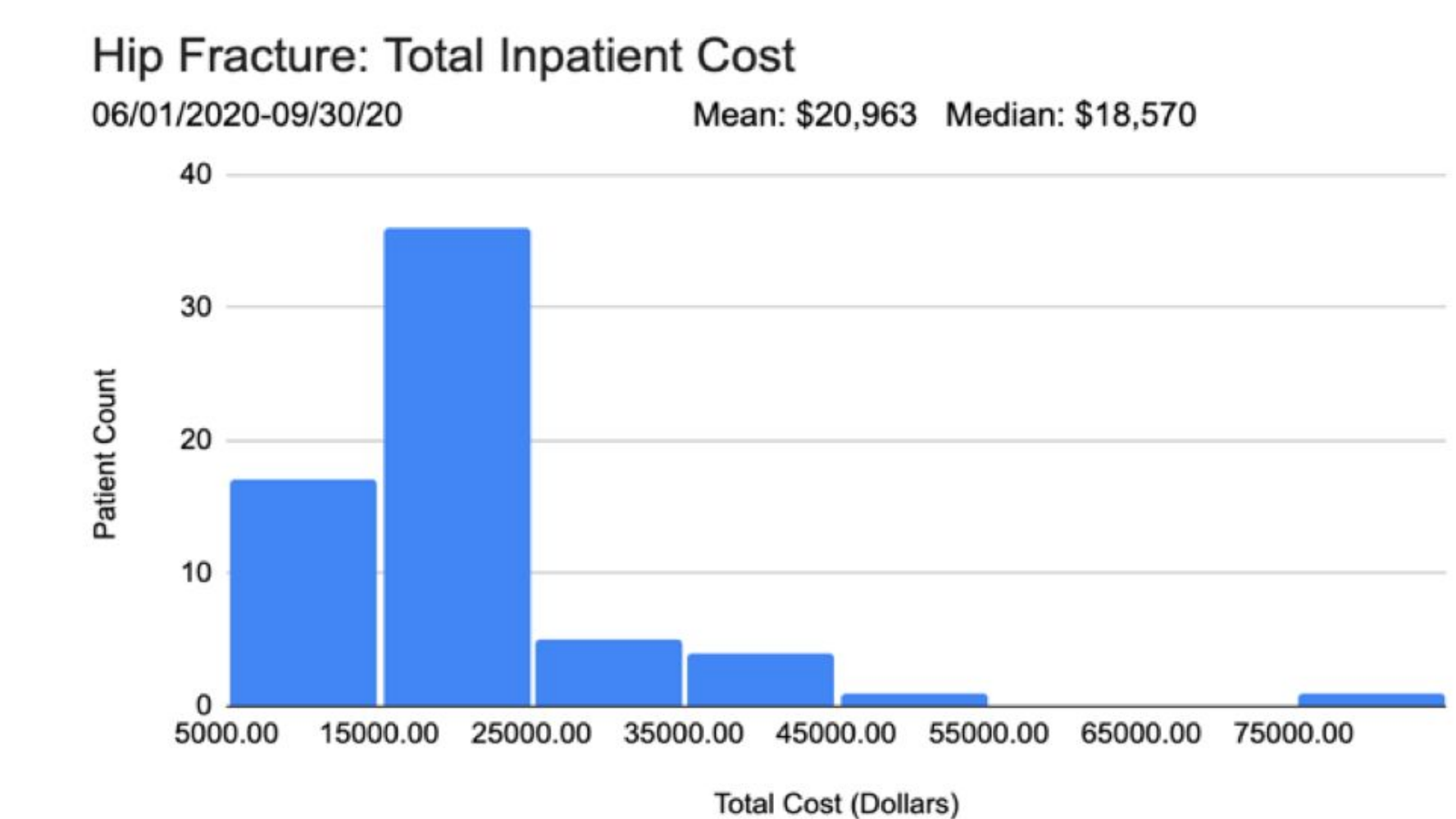
2020 (n=62) vs 2021 (n=66) length of stay from time out of operating room to time of discharge (p=.94)



2020 (n=62) vs 2021 (n=66) morphine milligram equivalents (MME) administered from out-of-PACU until discharge (p=.09)



2020 (n=62) vs 2021 (n=66) costs accrued during the entire length of stay of the patient (p < .001)



## Discussion

### Aim I

- Two barriers to implementation were identified: NPO time to surgery and regional anesthesia administration.
- Further institutional investigation is warranted to identify the scope of these barriers.

### Aim II

This cohort of traumatic hip fracture patients treated with post-operative ERAS-OP demonstrated:

- No significant change to length of stay (p=.94).
  - No reduction in LOS may be due to a shortage of beds available in skilled nursing facilities and rehab facilities, thus prolonging inpatient LOS.
- Inadequate evidence to support decrease of MME (p =.09).
  - Reduction in post-operative MME administration is likely the result of providing scheduled alternative to opioid medications and encouraging early ambulation after surgery.
- Improved outcomes related to:
  - Lower total cost of inpatient care (p < .0001).
    - Reduction in inpatient cost may be the result of the ERAS-OP helping to minimize post-operative complications and costly medication administration.

## Conclusions

- This cohort of traumatic hip fracture patients treated with post-operative ERAS-OP demonstrated a decrease in cost of care.
- The findings from this QI project support the benefit of ERAS for use with traumatic hip fractures.
- Further evaluation will be needed once the entire ERAS-OP is implemented in 2022.

## Future Considerations

- Further research is needed to better understand:
  - Barriers to NPO guidelines.
  - Implementation of regional anesthesia in the Emergency Department.
  - Barriers to provider, nursing and patient compliance with protocol.

## References

- Kang, Y., Liu, J., Chen, H., Ding, W., Chen, J., Zhao, B., & Yin, X. (2019). Enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) in elective intertrochanteric fracture patients result in reduced length of hospital stay (LOS) without compromising functional outcome. *Journal of Orthopedic Surgery and Research*, 14(1), 209-209. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13018-019-1238-2>
- Schnell, S., Friedman, S. M., Mendelson, D. A., Bingham, K. W., & Kates, S. L. (2010). The 1-year mortality of patients treated in a hip fracture program for elders. *Geriatric Orthopedic Surgery & Rehabilitation*, 1(1), 6-14. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2151458510378105>