

National cardiac registry improves equity and access for South Island (NZ) residents

/ ANZACS QI (All New Zealand Acute Coronary Syndrome Quality Improvement)

Cardiovascular disease

- the leading cause of death worldwide

In New Zealand, age-standardised mortality rates for cardiovascular disease are higher than many other Western countries and significant disparities exist between some ethnic groups and geographic locations.

The ANZACS QI Registry

A national cardiac registry, All New Zealand Acute Coronary Syndrome Quality Improvement (ANZACS QI), was introduced in 2012. The aim of the registry is to support appropriate evidence-based treatment, short- and long-term, of acute coronary syndrome (and, subsequently, other cardiac patients) regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic status or location.

National implementation

- All 41 public hospitals and six private hospitals that admit acute coronary syndrome patients have implemented ANZACS QI.
- Each hospital is audited annually. National data accuracy is 95%.
- A total of 27,936 public hospital admissions with suspected ACS were registered between August 2007 and 20 June 2015.
- Complete data is available for 87.9% of admissions with a final confirmed diagnosis of ACS in 79.4% of admissions.

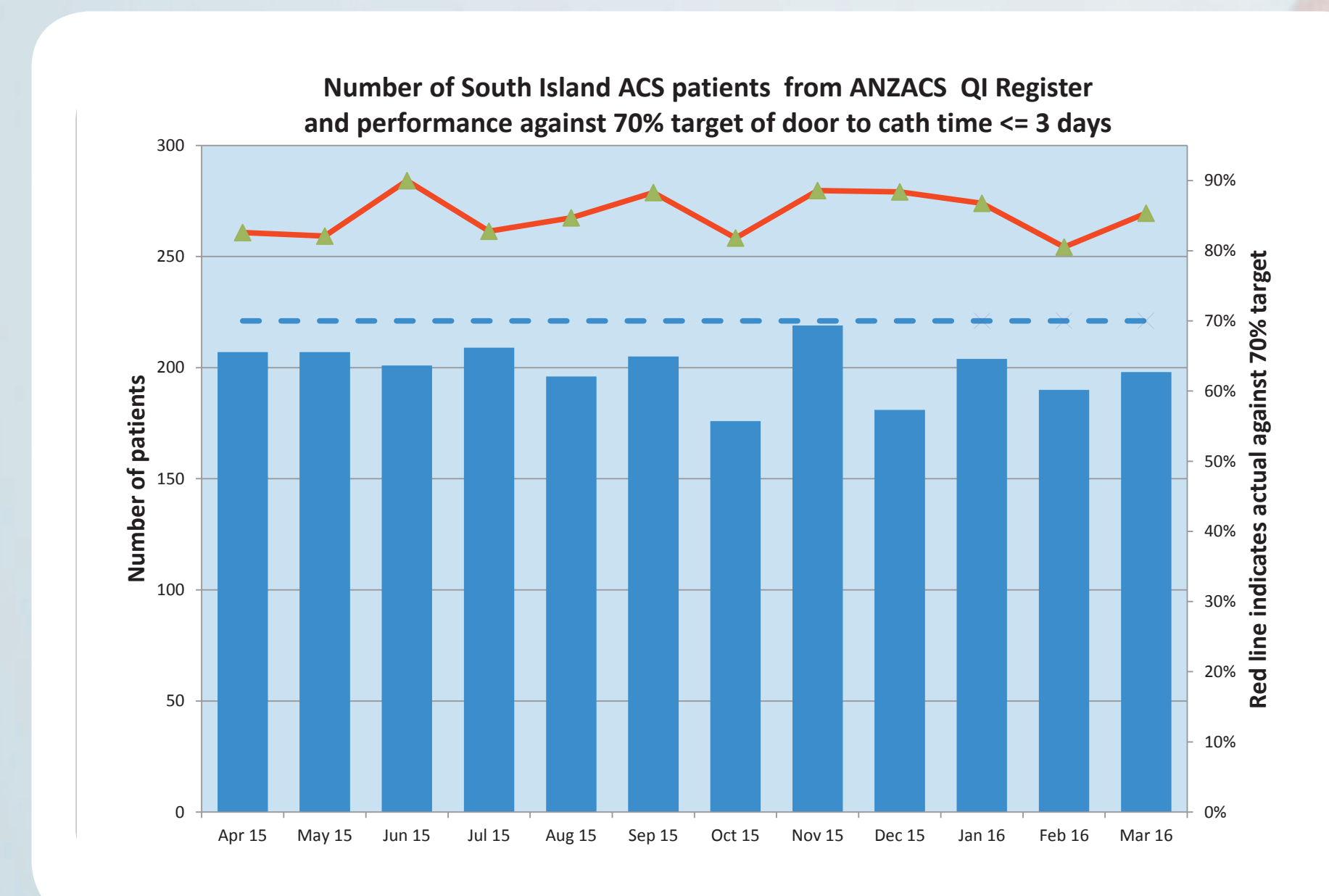
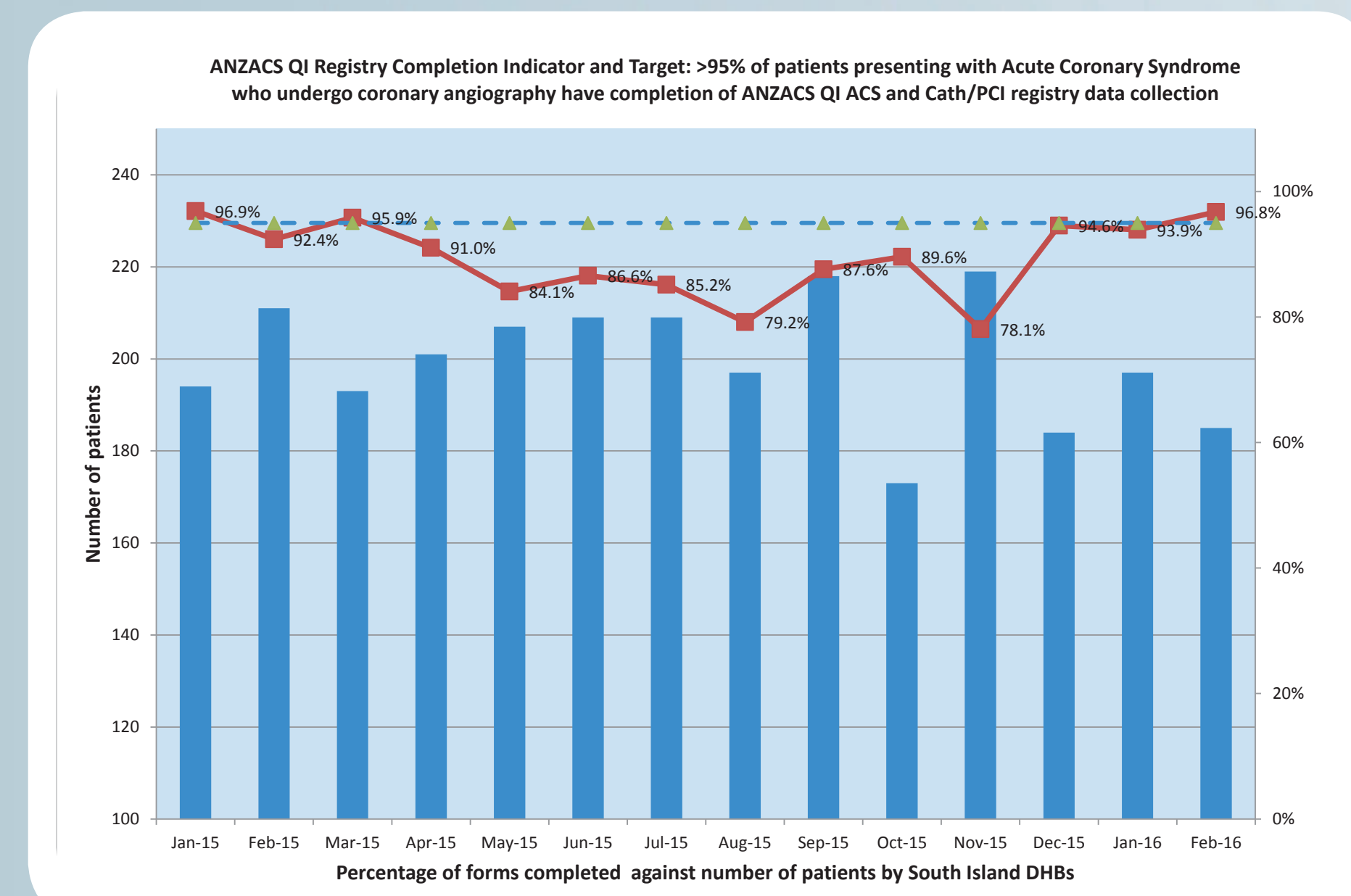
The South Island approach

The South Island Alliance's Cardiac Services workstream supported the implementation of ANZACS QI, and now actively monitors the registry and applies the data for the benefit of South Island patients. Hand in hand with the need for equity in getting to the cathlab within 72 hours, South Island DHBs have formed a regional agreement with St John to streamline dedicated ambulance services for inter-hospital transfers. The efficiency gained from this is a major factor in connecting cardiac services.

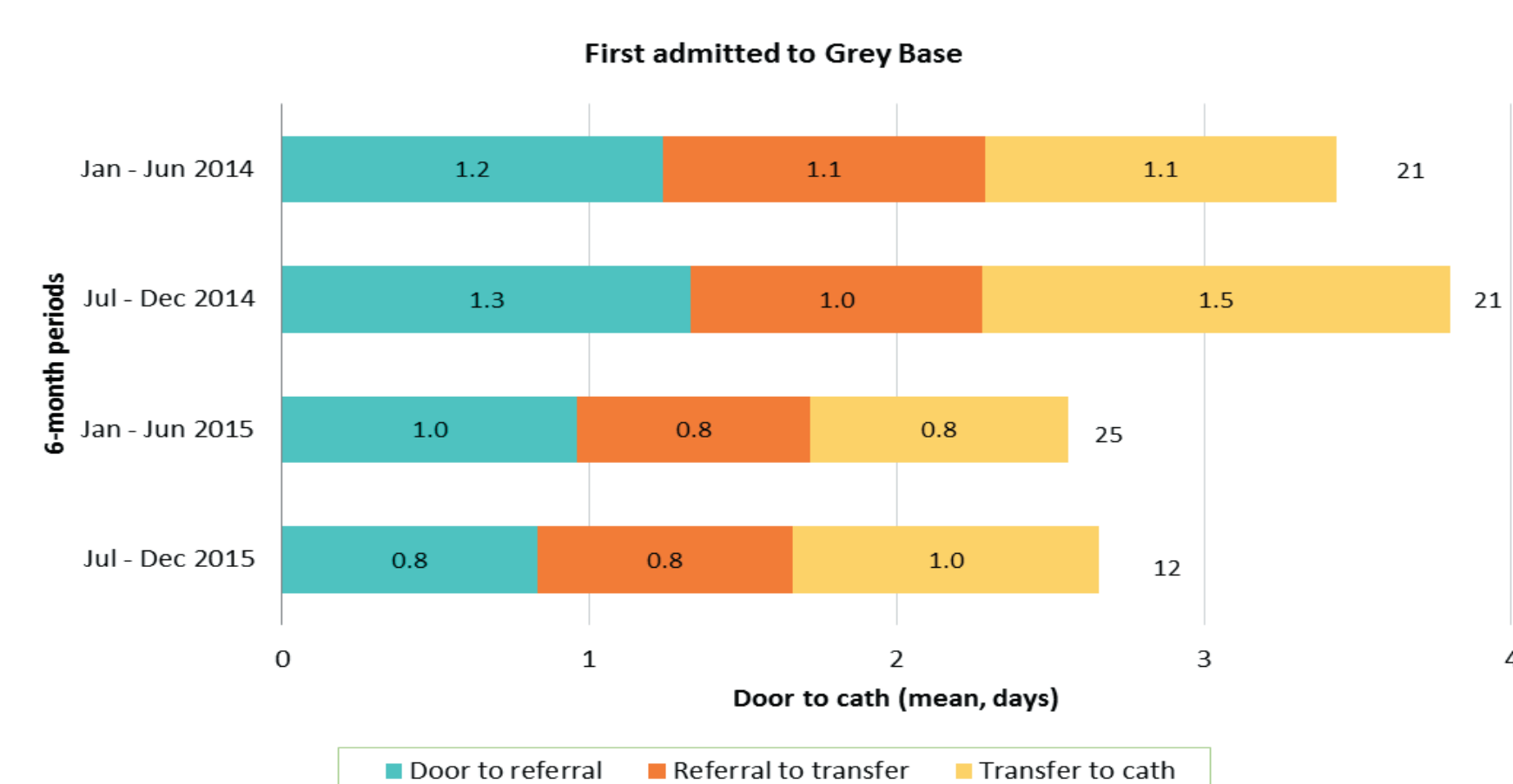
Quality improvement at a local level

Information from ANZACS QI is now used to drive quality improvement at local levels to:

- change practice
- raise awareness of the service to all patients with acute coronary syndrome
- provide evidence-based information and education to clinicians and patients throughout the journey of care.



Improved service for rural areas - West Coast example



“ Since the ANZACS QI registry has been in place there has been a noticeable improvement in West Coast patients receiving tertiary cardiac care. The West Coast is geographically isolated from major urban centres of care and cath lab facilities. With the visibility now provided by ANZACS QI, we have been able to ensure most patients are transported and receive an angiogram within the 72 hour target. The registry and its associated reporting mean there is heightened awareness at all levels of the DHB. For patients, in particular, it means shorter hospital stays and improved outcomes. ”

Lisa Smith - Cardiac Clinical Nurse Specialist, West Coast District Health Board



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