

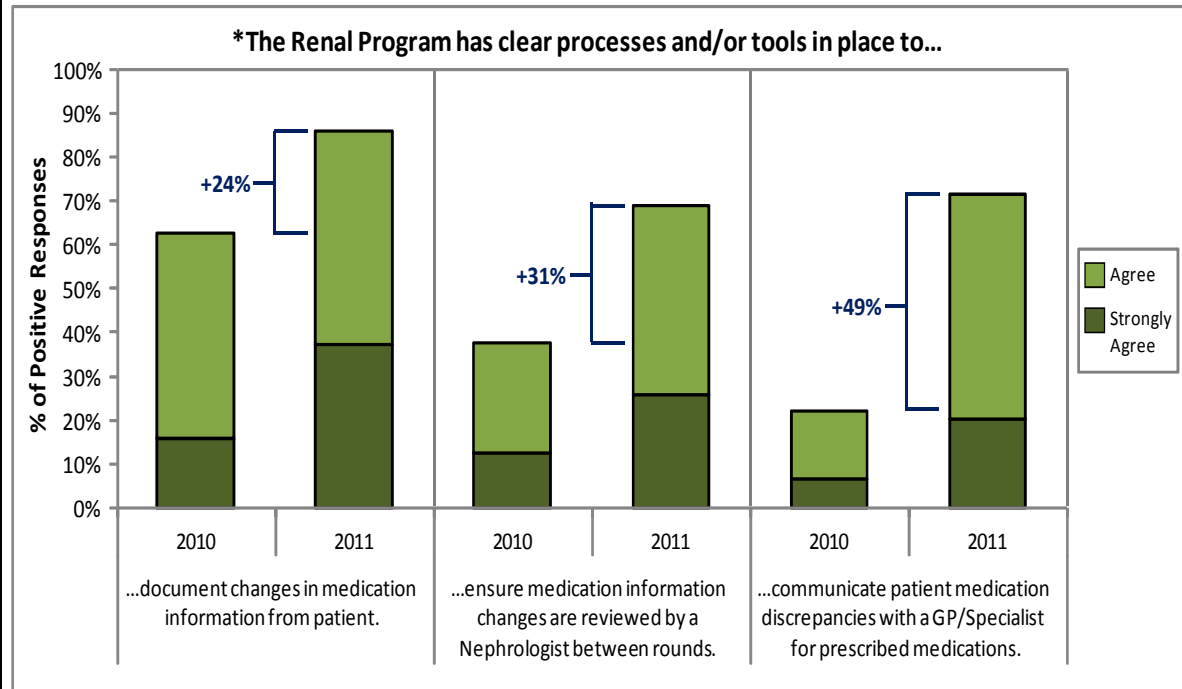
# 1 Year into Renal Medication Reconciliation: Staff Survey Update and Project Next Steps

February 9, 2012

As part of a larger evaluation of the phased Renal Medication Reconciliation (Med Rec) project, Renal Hemodialysis (HD) Nursing staff\* were surveyed in 2010 and 2011 about **processes, tools and time required** for review of renal patient medication practices. This summary outlines key findings from the follow-up survey (1-year into the Renal Med Rec project) and related project next steps.

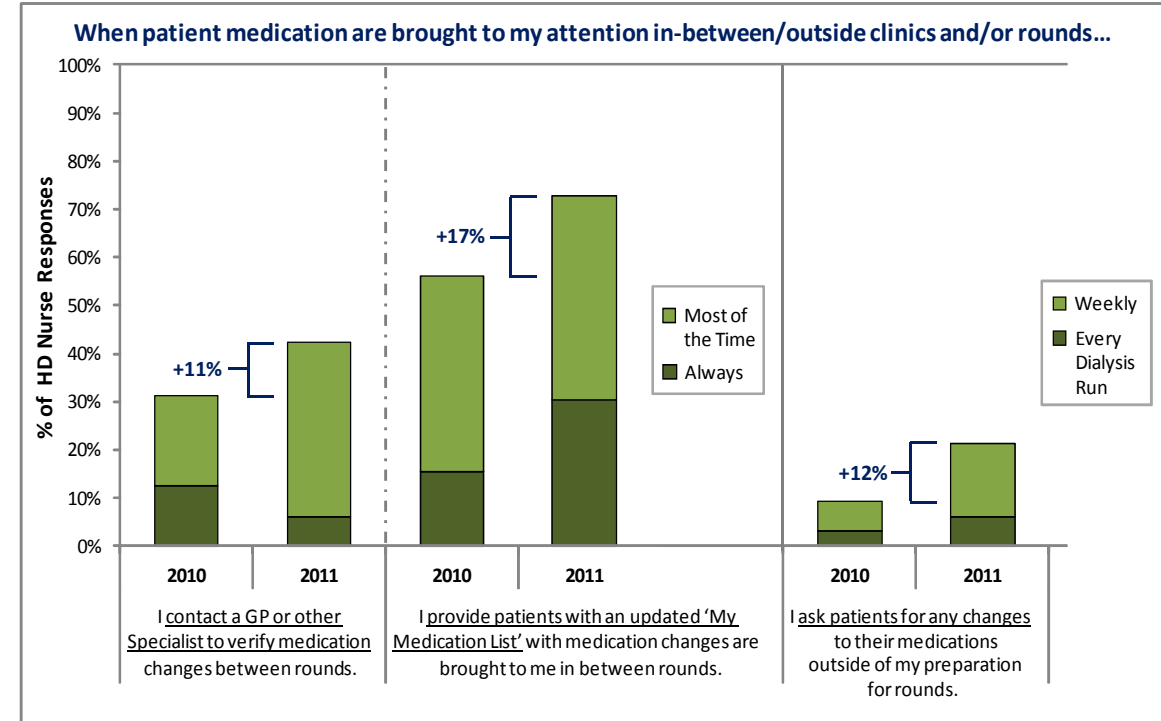
## What's Working Well? Compared to 2010...

**Key Finding #1: More HD Nurses agree that the Renal Program has clear processes/tools in place for Medication Reconciliation.**



*"Patients are more aware of their meds" and find themselves more participants on their meds."*  
-- In-Centre HD Nurse

**Key Finding #2: More HD Nurses are taking steps to address medication changes in between rounds.**



## What Needs Improvement?

**Key Finding #3: HD Nursing staff identified areas that still need improvement in the Renal Med Rec project, in particular:**

- Improved communication of patient medication between Renal Units and GPs; and
- Improved clarity regarding the pharmacists' role in Renal medication reconciliation processes.

*"[What can be improved is] better use of our Pharmacist. Also, it would be beneficial if family physicians could fax medication changes to the dialysis unit when they make them so that we had a copy of the order."* – In-Centre HD Nurse

## What's Next for Renal Medication Reconciliation?

Over then next year (2012/13), the Med Rec Project team aims to 1) build upon strengths and 2) address what still needs improving with Renal medication reconciliation processes, including:

- A greater focus on med rec during **patient transitions**, including tools for Renal patient med reviews within 1 week of discharge from acute care;
- Exploring ways to **work with community pharmacists** for medication reconciliation in the ambulatory/CKD setting; and
- Investigating better ways to **communicate patient medication information** between various points of care (in particular Renal Units and GP offices).