

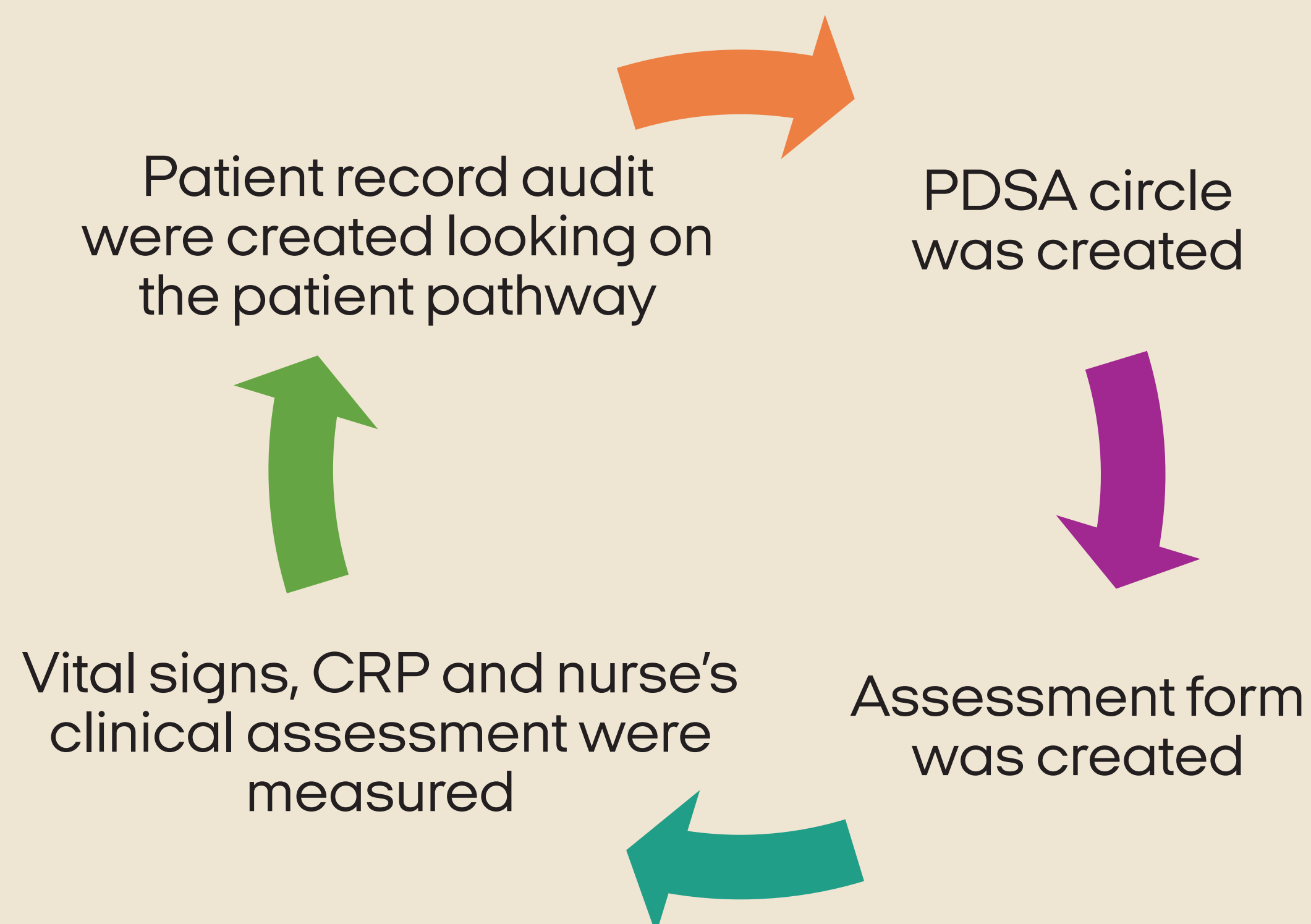


Structured Follow-up visits after starting treatment with antibiotics

Results & Conclusion

- The project found that **the overall clinical assessment and CRP measurement were good indicators** for determining the patient's further course of treatment.
- Measuring vital signs were, **by itself, unable to indicate** whether patients were on the proper track for treatment.
- For treatment changes **to prevent unnecessary hospitalizations** and deterioration of critical illness, the follow-up visit should primarily be performed on Day 2 after starting the antibiotics course.
- Patients and involved parties all indicated that **the follow-up visits were greatly reassuring**.
- Follow-up visits **can prevent a deterioration** of critical illness.
- The nurse's clinical assessment and the determination of CRP levels can be attributed **greater value than measuring only vital signs** when performing an at-home assessment of patients' antibiotics treatment.

The Project Method

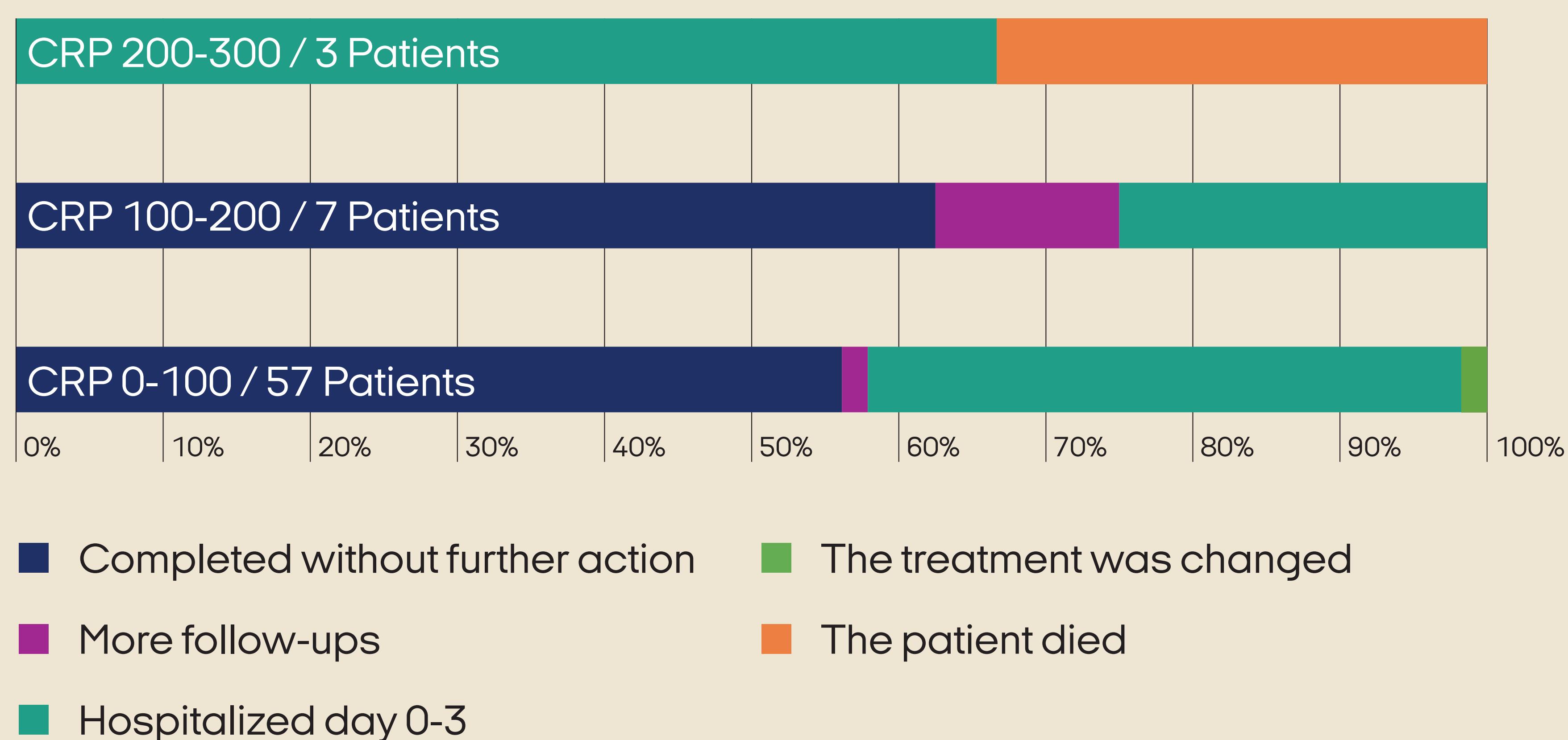


Facts from the project

Data collection and registration occurred from September 2022 to January 2023

- 70 patients were included
- 43 came from their own home
- 27 came from a kind of nursing home
- 27 were treated for pneumonia
- 34 were treated for urinary tract infection
- 9 were treated for multiple infections or unknown infections

This is what happened to patients during treatment



Vital signs on the first visits compared to C-Reactive Protein (CRP) when starting antibiotics

Vital signs	CRP 0-100	CRP 100-200	CRP 200-300	Not measured	Total
Green	24	5	2	2	33
Yellow	11	1	0	0	12
Orange	16	1	0	1	17
Red	1	0	1	0	2
Not measured	5	0	0	1	6
Total patients	57	7	3	3	70



Why this project?

The present project was prompted by curiosity as to whether **the number of hospitalizations might be reduced** if the emergency function offered structured, follow-up visits after starting treatment with antibiotics.

The project was designed to determine both **when follow-up visits should occur** and if the emergency nurse's clinical assessment in the context of measuring the patient's vital signs and C-Reactive Protein (CRP) levels might provide indicators related to the course of treatment.