



# Contrast Media-tors

Singapore Healthcare Management 2024

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## Introduction

Contrast media, also referred as contrast agents or dye are utilized to improve the quality of images during an imaging exam such as X-rays, Computed Tomography(CT), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), and ultrasound. These investigations are vital for diagnosing diseases, trauma or any abnormalities as well as monitor efficacy of therapy e.g cancer treatment and needs to be timely. Patients who are suspected to be allergic to contrast media will be referred to an allergy consultation and contrast skin testing at Immunology Hub to rule out allergy or find an alternative agent to be used.

### Problem

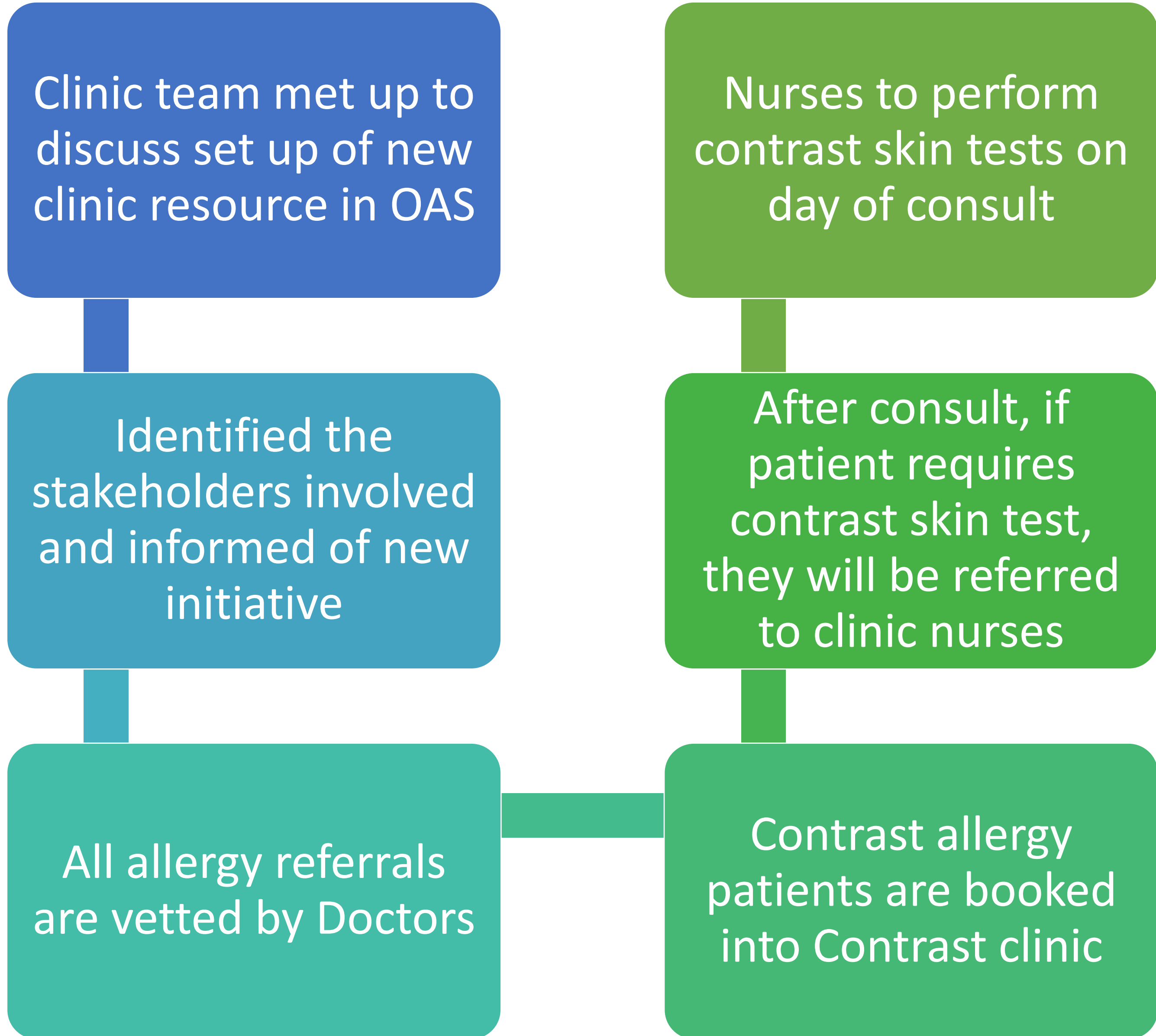
The waiting time from time of consult to the point of testing takes an average of 87 days. Prolonged waiting time affects patient's treatment plans and clinical outcomes

### Goal

To reduce waiting time for contrast skin testing for SGH Immunology Hub patients from **87 days to 0 days**.

### Methodology

After a thorough team discussion and multi voting process, the team concluded to cohort all contrast allergy patients to a special arranged clinic once a month and to do contrast skin test on the same day as the consult.

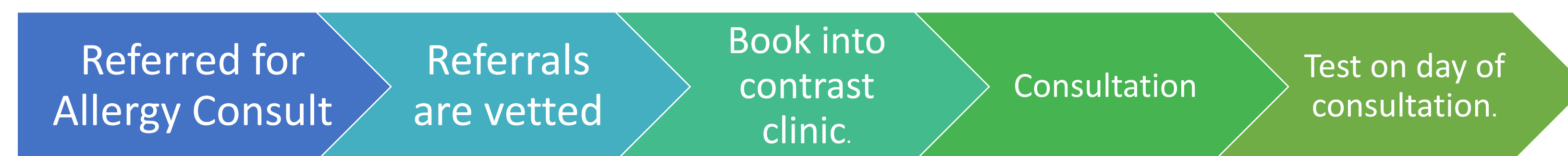


### Before Initiative



Waiting Time of average **87 days**

### After Initiative

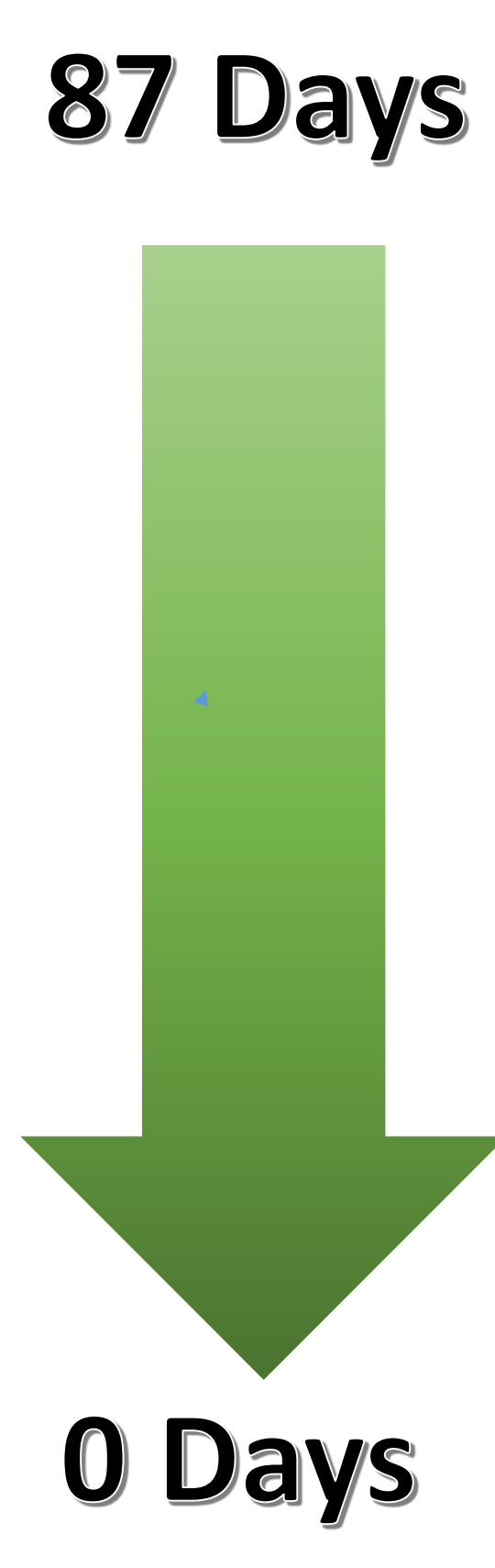
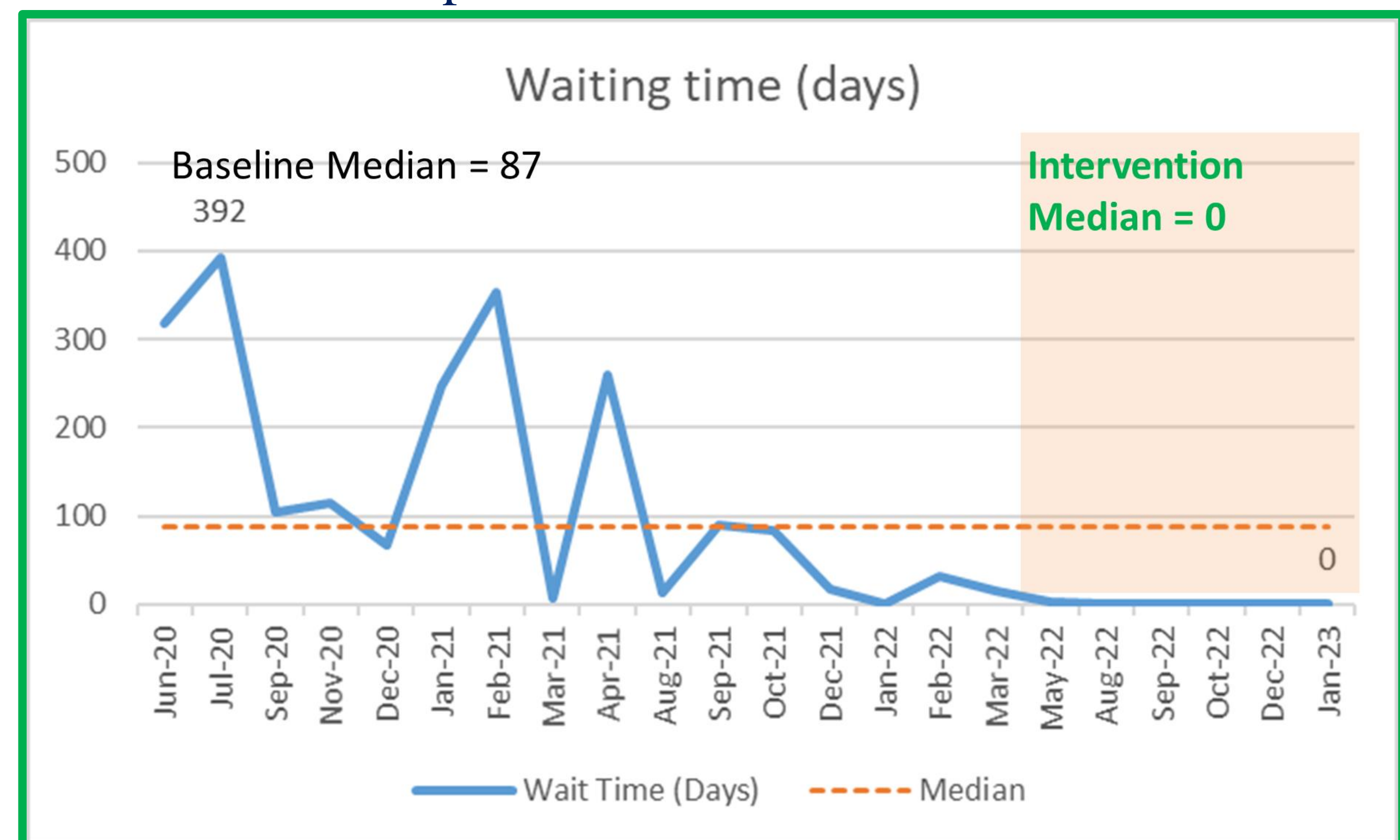


Waiting Time **0 days**

### Results

After implementation of the final solutions, there is a significant drop in the patient's waiting time from a baseline median of **87 days to 0 days**

- Waiting time to do contrast allergy testing decreased
- Manpower saved-Money
- Space well-utilized
- Increased patient satisfaction



### Sustainability plan

The team will work with stakeholders to:

1. Ring-fence availability of slots for contrast testing each month.
2. Vet referrals from other departments and schedule patients to the correct contrast clinic
3. Send reminder messages (consisting of appointment details and pre-test instructions) one week prior to patient appointments, to minimize no-show rate as well as to ensure appointment readiness.

### Conclusion

The initiation of Contrast clinic and implementing same day Contrast skin testing has not only reduced patient's waiting time significantly, but also improved patient satisfaction by making the process more efficient and patient centered. This aligns with SGH's Quality commitment for creating best outcome and experience for our patients.