The Meaningful Visual Data intervention was comprised of group sessions with unit staff on understanding the data and setting meaningful measurements. Initial sessions occurred over a 4-week period during weekly team meetings.

Meaningful data was then displayed, utilizing the “3-second rule”, at the main work station and updated daily. Data was discussed at weekly staff meetings with the goal of understanding the cause of and reducing variance. Staff reported an increased understanding of the performance data and its relation to their daily work, which in turn enabled prompt correction of non-value added time for patients on the day of treatment.

Meaningful Visual Data demonstrates the benefit of providing staff quick, easy to understand, and current performance data when doing improvement work. Understanding what constituted meaningful data and a simple visual method to understanding the data was key to the success of the improvement project. The use of Meaningful Visual Data is now being used in other projects and units throughout Ballarat Health Services.