

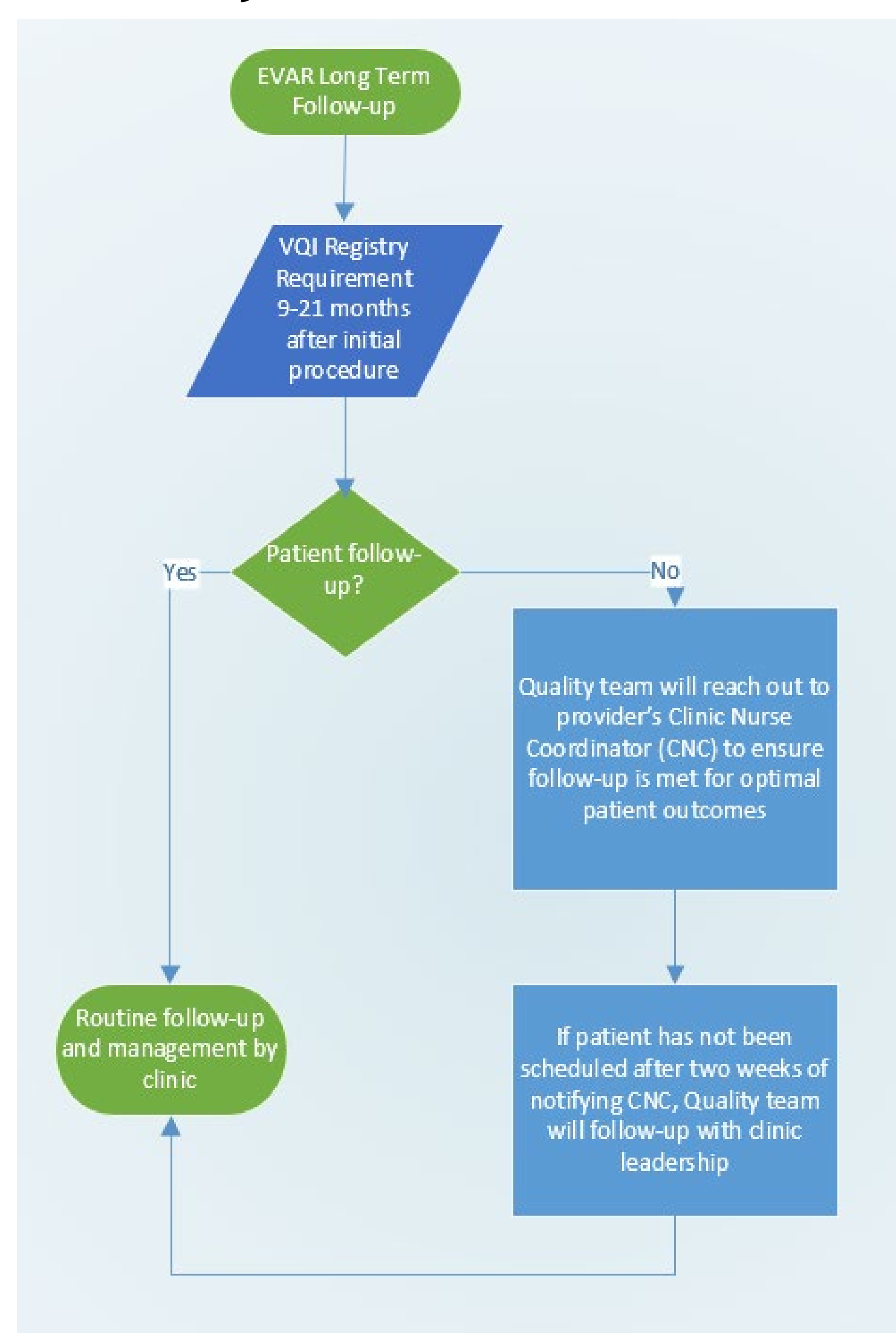
Long-term Patient Management of Post Endovascular Aneurysm Repair

Background

Vascular Quality Initiative (VQI) registry recommends following best practice for post-procedure follow-up for patients who underwent Endovascular Aneurysm Repair (EVAR). Best practice being defined per VQI as follow-up within 9-21 months post-procedure with a medical provider and imaging to evaluate aneurysm. In 2022, our vascular quality committee recognized the EVAR patient population was below regional and national averages for recommended follow-up. Data outcomes reported by the registry are capturing procedures performed two years prior.

Interventions

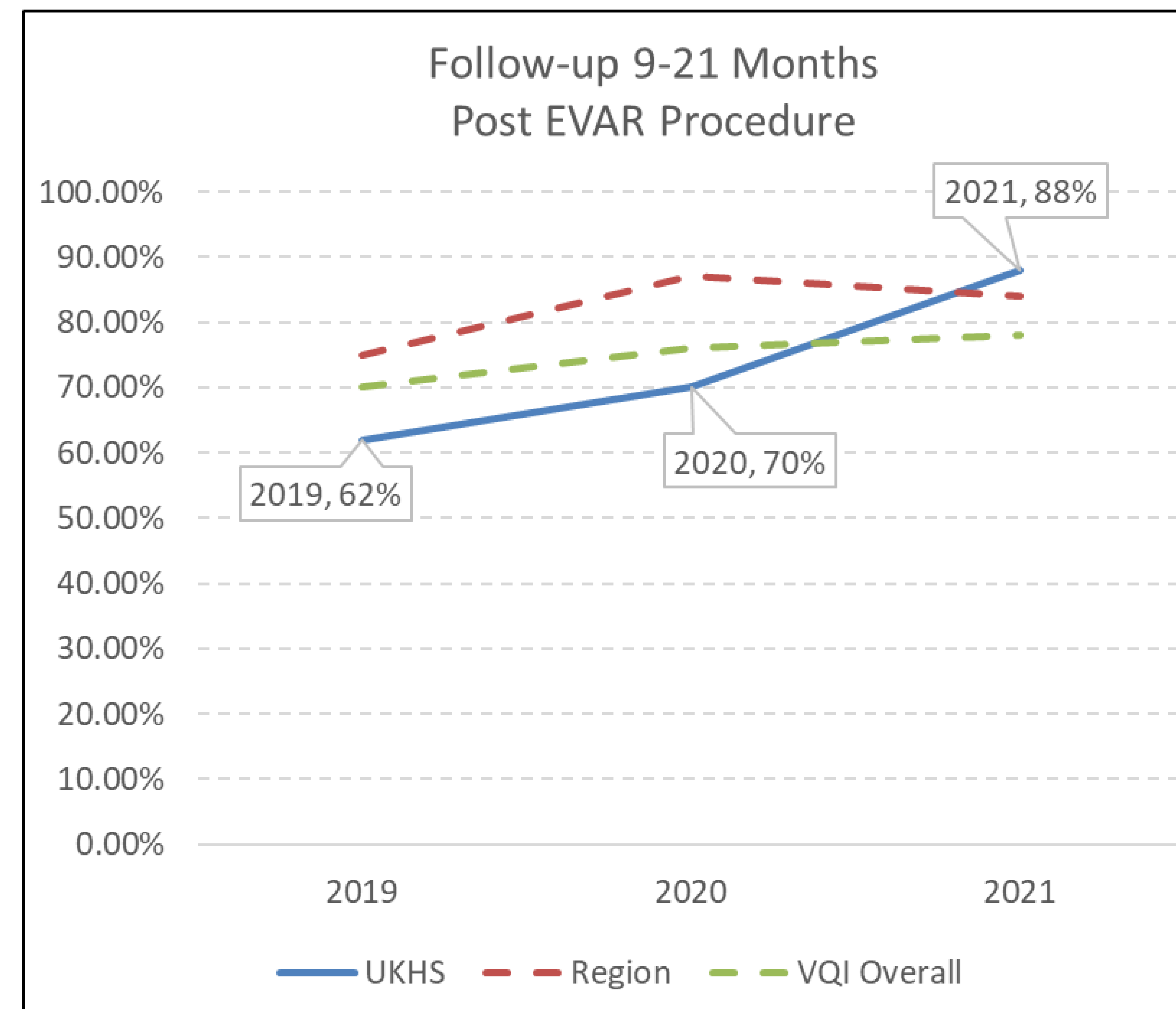
- **Reviewed VQI requirements**
 - Inclusion criteria for EVAR long-term follow up (LTFU) population
 - Best practices
 - Accurate and current data abstraction
- **Evaluated internal processes**
 - Current management of follow-up for patients post EVAR
 - Barriers preventing appropriate follow-up (transportation, financial concerns or education)
- **Implemented new workflow**
 - Identified patients through abstraction who have not had an appointment and/or imaging in 9-12 months following initial procedure
 - Information relayed to ambulatory staff to ensure appointment and/or imaging was scheduled within the time frame defined by best practice for post EVAR patients (see figure below)



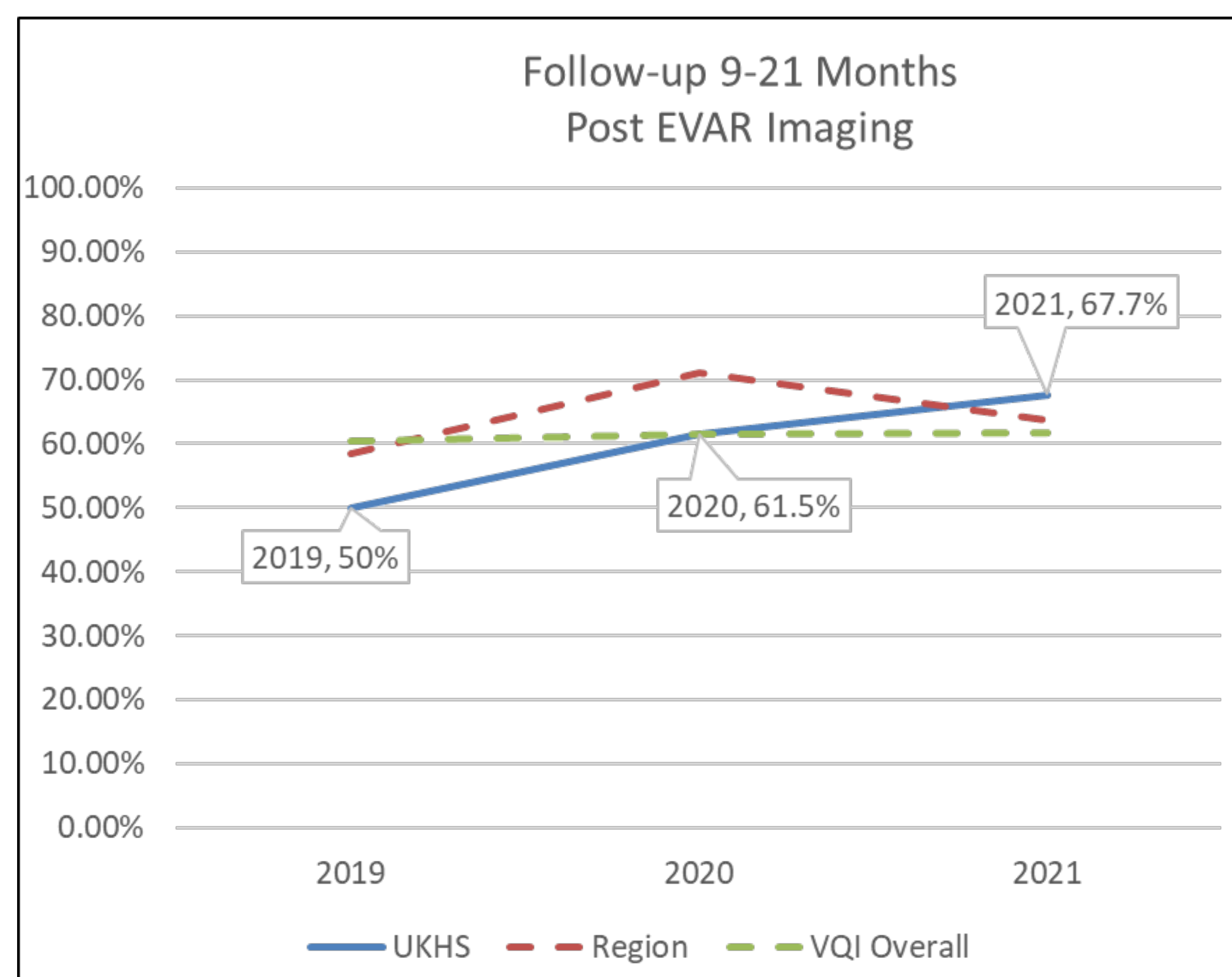
Results

Following implementation of new workflow based on our review and evaluation, the VQI registry reflected positive outcomes for our identified patient population.

Prior to new workflow, follow-up for management of this patient population was 62% in 2019 and is now 88% which is higher than regional and national rates (see below).



Prior to new workflow, imaging follow-up for this patient population was 50% in 2019 and is now 67.7% which is higher than regional and national rates (see below).



UKHS: internal outcomes; Region: VQI regional outcomes; VQI overall: VQI national outcomes

Lessons Learned

- **Continuum of care**
 - System in place to ensure patients receive the continuity of care following initial inpatient procedure to long-term management of disease process in the outpatient setting to achieve optimal patient outcomes
- **Collaboration**
 - Involve all key members including medical, ancillary, and administration staff to identify and implement improvements when creating workflow
 - Shared ownership helps to ensure successful utilization and operation of workflow

Next Steps

- Quarterly review to ensure compliance of workflow
- Annual review of LTFU outcomes for The University of Kansas Health System (TUKHS) compared to VQI regional and national results
- Implement processes for other procedures and patient populations for optimal long-term management

Team Members

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