

Friday, February 9th

Safety Huddles: Keeping patients and staff safe by communicating better

Over the past 2 weeks, staff in the ICUs and the Cardiac Care Unit (CCU) have been participating in Safety Huddles as part of the Standard Unit rollout. They are trialing a standard process and tool that will eventually be used for all of the Critical Care units. Using the tool gives the team a standardized means to huddle around safety issues.

The purpose of the huddle is to identify any safety concerns that are important for the team to be aware of.

Led by the RP (Responsible Nurse), the huddles are a maximum of 3-5 minutes long and are completed within the first 2 hours of the shift. A staff member that identifies an issue can call the huddle at any other time during the shift. All staff working the shift attend so they have an understanding of anticipated activity and potential safety issues on the unit and in the hospital.

After the huddle is complete, the RP is responsible to escalate any issues that require escalation to the Operational, Clinical Practice or After Hours Mangers.

Who is peering over my shoulder? – Activity follows provide valuable data for improvements

The Medical and Surgical units are hosting Green and Yellow Belt volunteers on their units as part of the sustainment plan to reassess and measure the direct time to patient care. Staff are being followed and activities are being tracked looking at things such as motion, handovers, patient flow and direct patient care. We are looking at opportunities to decrease wasted activities such as looking and searching for items. The ultimate goal is to reduce wasted motion and increase the amount of time nurses can spend at the bedside.

You will see staff being followed on the units by the Green and Yellow Belt, SOP and other volunteers between the hours of 7am to 7pm over the next couple of weeks.

Thank you to all nursing staff, Belts and other volunteers thus far who have participated.

Have a great weekend!

The SOP Team

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CCU staff attend their first safety huddle, reviewing key patient safety concerns for the shift



Rachel Allchurch follows Josephine, a nurse on 8 East, recording valuable data on the amount of time and types of activities nurses complete during their shift