

Improved efficiency and safety Drugs Trolley-Ward 28

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Abstract: Colleagues are currently covering multiple staffing gaps and each drugs trolley has a variety of drugs and a different layout which could result in delays to patients receiving their medication or receiving the wrong medication in error along with poor staff satisfaction. Following a meeting with the Deputy Director of Nursing- Medicine, it was requested that all wards within the division are planned in to have a review of the drugs trolleys on the ward area and encouraged to utilise 5S principles.

SMART Aim

To improve the drugs round process to facilitate improved patient care. Standardisation of ward 28 drugs trolley to focus on improving patient and staff experience by the end of September 2022.

Plan

Using the 5S principles, the team reviewed the agreed standard medication list to understand what items were **necessary** and which were **unnecessary** for their speciality and adapted the list accordingly. The plan was to test the format agreed within the division.

Do

The team used the standard drugs trolley format that had been agreed in the Medical Division and applied this to the drugs trolleys on the ward. Drugs were segregated, stored by drug type (tablets/ liquids) and alphabetised so that they followed the pharmacy regulations and were easy to find. A drug trolley etiquette and a photo was also added as a visual guide for the correct layout.

Study

Initial feedback from the team shows a 100% improvement in colleague satisfaction. The team have noted that the standardised format enables easier cleaning of the trolley and the colour coding helps speed up finding the required drugs. The team will continue to test the drugs trolleys. The Ward Manager will agree with her team roles and responsibilities for maintaining the standard of the trolleys to ensure they are ready to use.

Act

Further work will be carried out to understand whether there is a reduction in drug errors and to maintain the standard set, ensuring the top of up the trolley is maintained. A review of the standard work will be carried out by the Ward Manager to ensure **sustainability**.

