

Improved efficiency and safety Drugs Trolley- Ward 35

Getting to Good: Fundamentals in Care

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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 35 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.

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 was produced to ensure Nurses maintained the standard.

Study

The team were able to build on the good standard they had previously had by the addition of colour coding the areas, acting as a visual aid. Using the 5s achievement grid the team were able to progress from level 1 to level 3. The Ward Manager has agreed with her team roles and responsibilities for maintaining the standard of the trolleys to ensure they are ready to use.

Act

A review of the standard work will continue by the Ward Manager to ensure **sustainability**. Further work will be carried out to future proof the trolley for next use, depending on patient mix on the ward, adjusting par levels daily to meet the patients needs.

