

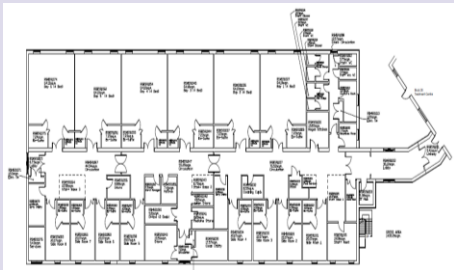
REASON WHY?

A new modular ward has been built which has given an opportunity for Ward 26 to relocate. Ward moves impact a number of teams and failure to engage with the correct stakeholders from the outset can lead to patient safety issues and increased anxiety and disruption to ward colleagues. The team wish to use the 5S principles when rationalising the storage spaces within the ward areas to maximise flows and increase time spent with patients.

PLAN

Ward 37 had initially been occupied by ITU. Prior to moving to the modular ward the team walked round the unit to understand the current layout and storage spaces available with the view of maximising the flows within the department and minimising the waste of motion when providing patient care.

The team then obtained a copy of the floor plan in order to visualise and map out where items may be placed. The aim was to also reduce interruptions, enabling more time for patient care.



DO

When the team were based on Ward 26 they shared a budget and store room with Ward 25. Following the move, the shared store and budget were removed. The patient mix on the ward had also changed with the ward now being responsible for more elective surgery patients. As a result the stock required on the ward changed.

The team reviewed the current stock and levels with the stores EDC team and removed some items from the list. Stock levels were increased to ensure that the ward did not run out of stock for certain items. It was agreed that prior to the stores top up on a Tuesday that the wards would restock all items to ensure that the levels were at their lowest.

The team reviewed the storage spaces on the ward with the aim of increasing flow through the unit, reduce interruptions and free up time for patient care. They then organised the stock and then standardised items across the ward such as the blood trolleys. Personal care trolleys were created to place outside of the bays, reducing the amount of steps and time required when collecting stock items. Visual controls were used throughout.



Ensure all stock items are available, easily accessible and appropriate stock levels are agreed by 31st of July 2023, complying with IPC and Healthy and Safety regulations.

STUDY

The visual controls have reduced the interruptions when trying to find items which has resulted in the ability to carry out an additional drinks round for patients. This has also allowed housekeeping colleagues to spend more time with patients, reducing the need for patients in side rooms having to press the call bell for routine needs.

The use of the 5S principles has resulted in time saved for doctors, nursing staff, HCAs, housekeepers and cleaners. The ability to provide more attentive care has released time for the nurses to do charts and focus on the medication rounds. Trolleys are by the bays, closer to patients and items are on hand. The reduction in steps means that colleagues have fed back that they are not as tired anymore. Feedback from colleagues has been positive with a number of bank and agency colleagues requesting to come back onto the ward. The ward have also seen a reduction in abandoned items. The team have progressed from Level 1 to Level 3 using the 5S achievement grid.



ACT

The team are keen to ADOPT the visual controls and current processes.

Further improvements will seek to develop standard work for the ward and highlight additional training opportunities for new colleagues.

The team will review the overflow area and equipment store as part of the next PDSA cycle.