

Reduce delays in getting medication on the Surgical Assessment Unit (SAU).

The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust

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REASON WHY?

SAU has two separate areas, the ward and the assessment area. Both areas have their own clean utility area and drugs cupboards, but only the ward area has a 'traka' box. Because there are two areas on SAU there is a significant amount of time spent a day of looking for and collecting and returning keys from one area to the other.



To reduce the time taken to get the keys to the drugs cupboard in SAU assessment area by one hour a day by January 2024.

PLAN

When the project first started the plan was to time how much time was taken by staff looking for keys and request a new 'traka' box for the clean utility area in the non-ward area.

This was done, however the 'traka' box in the main ward area then broke and staff were left without any way of adhering to the medicine's codes in reference to the storage of keys.

A business plan had to be written to secure funding for the two new boxes and these were delivered in January 2024.

DO

The initial timing were taken and showed that the lack of 'traka' box in the second utility room led to the nursing staff taking an average of 1Hour and 53 mins a day and 8128 steps. It was predicated that an introduction of a second box would save on average over 13 hours of staff time and over 56,000 steps resulting in a cost saving of approximately **£15,000** a year (based on a band 5 hourly rate (with on costs) of £22).

When the original box also became out of action, more timings were completed. This would result in a further 6 hours a week spent looking for keys, (equating to **£7000** a year). The risks of staff leaving their shift with the keys in their pocket also increased.

A business case was submitted that stated the savings in time and money from having the 'traka' box as well as increasing our compliance with the medicines code.

STUDY

the team saved a total of 639 hours a year (the equivalent of \pm 14,053) by having the two traka boxes in place, they have also saved the staff over 3 million steps which is the equivalent of walking from John O'Groats to Lands' End , every year .



Mark Moon

ACT

To **ADOPT** the use of the 'traka' box on SAU.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & REFERENCES | Microsoft Word - Medicines Code version 5 Jul 2022 - final (sath.nhs.uk) With thanks to Andy Harris (medication safety officer) the Team on SAU and the Improvement Team

