

REASON WHY?

During ward rounds it is necessary to obtain patient medication charts to ensure correct management of treatment. Following a local audit on Ward 25, it was identified that approximately 50% of patient medication charts were difficult to find when required, resulting in wasted time looking for them to enable effective ongoing management. Additionally, this potentially led to ward rounds taking longer than necessary.

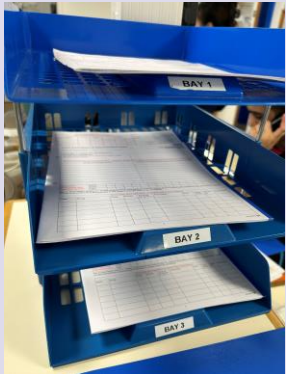


To improve availability of medication charts during ward rounds on Ward 25 by 40% by 1 April 2024

PLAN

Following engagement with the Ward Manager, it was agreed to test out the use of a three-way tray system:

- Three trays stacked on the nursing station
- Each tray allocated to a bay on the ward
- All patient medication charts to be stored in the associated tray
- Image below shows tray system



DO

A test of change took place over two weeks.

At the start of the test phase, engagement with the key stakeholders, including the Ward Manager, Nursing colleagues, Pharmacists/techs & Junior Doctors to explain the process and encourage them all to use the new process

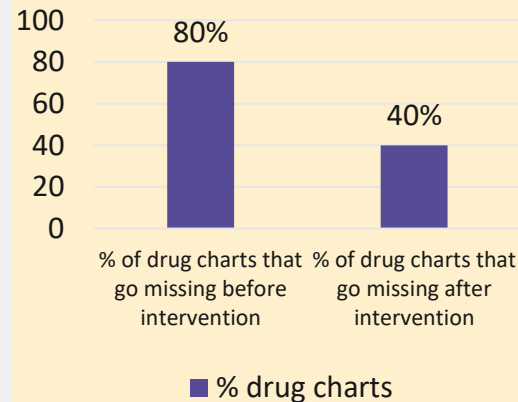
It was quickly identified that it was important to find an appropriate place in the nursing station, which did not get in the way of day-to-day activities, but also ensured all colleagues were aware of the trays.

Good engagement was noted during the testing phase and were being well used.

STUDY

The use of the trays proved highly effective and positive feedback was received by all colleagues. Following a further audit, it was shown to significantly improve by 40% as shown by the bar charts which showed that 80% of drug charts when missing to 40% of drug charts that went missing after intervention of trays in ward 25.

Bar Chart showing % of missing drug charts



Feedback has been very positive with colleagues stating that it is much easier to locate medication charts when required.

In particular, it has resulted in less time looking for charts during ward rounds which is having a positive impact on patient care. The image below shows a doctor receiving drug chart from tray



ACT

The test of change proved highly effective in ensuring medication charts were available when needed by clinicians as part of the management of care for patients. Therefore, this process will remain in place on Ward 25 and be adopted as new Standard Work. Work will continue to ensure no medication charts go missing, or are difficult to find by continuing to promote the use of this system.