

Patient Safety Overview

- *Healthcare Safety*
- *How we address Patient Safety challenges*
- *Your role in improving Patient Safety*

Point #1 - healthcare is not as safe as it should be

Up to 98,000 people die in U.S. hospitals each year as a result of medical errors. That's more than 268 people a day, or 11 people an hour.



This error rate is ***“roughly equivalent to a jumbo jet crashing every day.”***

- Lucian Leape, MD, Harvard School of Public Health



**Point #2 – how do we address challenges
with patient safety?
...don't fix the blame, fix the problem!**

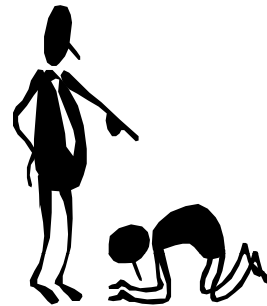


- 80% of our problems are caused by process/system design issues
 - Only 20% of the time is it because a person “messed up”
- Most medical errors are committed by hardworking, trained individuals***

Fix the problem by focusing on the Process:

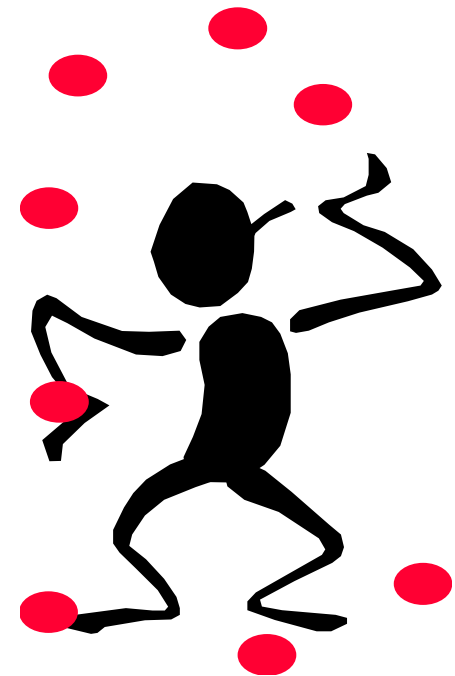
- **Not on Person**

- Do not shame and blame
- It isolates unsafe acts from their process/system context



- **Instead on Process!**

- Expect human fallibility and so build defenses
- Concentrate on improving conditions under which people work!



One example of focusing on the process: National Patient Safety Goals (NPSG)

- Developed to focus on most critical processes and preventable medical errors
- Selected by analyzing data related to unexpected/bad outcomes
- Every employee's responsibility to help keep patient's safe...regardless of job!



NPS Goal 2 - Improve the effectiveness of communication among caregivers

- *This SBAR form (Situation-Background-Assessment-Recommendation) is one example of how we improved communication when patient's are transported between various departments*

Transport Team SBAR Handoff (This form is *Not* part of Medical Record)

St. Peter Hospital

Date: _____
Diagnosis: _____
Code Status: Full No Blue Team
 Other: _____

Situation: *Patient is to be transferred*
For: _____
Nurse: _____ Phone: _____

Background:
Last Vital Signs: _____ Taken at: _____
 Room Air Oxygen: _____
 No Pain Last Pain Med (name/amt/time): _____

Assessment:
Mental Status: Alert/Oriented Other: _____
Barriers: None Language Hearing Vision
 Other: _____
Infection Precautions: Standard Contact Droplet Airborne
Patient wear mask: Yes No
Staff to wear: Gloves Gown Goggles Mask
Alerts: None Fall Risk Seizure 1:1 NPO
Diabetes Stroke Swallow / Aspiration Risk
Stability Risk: No Yes, restrictions: _____
Skin Integrity Risk: No Yes, precautions: _____

Recommendation:
Post-procedure patient status changes: _____
Contact phone: _____ No Changes
 Be alert to: _____
 Yes, (check orders / progress notes)
 Yes, significant changes called to (name): _____

Return this form to the Patient's Primary Nurse

Form Number: 8612-41-NH-01 Date: 12/18/07

NPS Goal 7 - Reduce the risk of health care associated infections



- *It is every person's job to follow **hand hygiene guidelines** and to wear proper **barrier equipment***



Point #3 – your role is to notice Unusual Occurrences

Definition of Unusual Occurrence:

any happening which is not consistent with the routine care of a patient

Your responsibility:

Notify your preceptor/supervisor immediately if you witness an Unusual Occurrence, then we can start process improvements

