Quality Improvement Everyday: Uses, Benefits and the Just Do It Mentality!

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Background

As a DNP, Nurse Manager, and Critical Care Nurse, getting involved in problem solving activities comes naturally. Here, I was able to utilize key Quality Improvement tools to engage in problem solving exercises that effected my everyday work. In short, JUST DO IT, engage in QI, use tools and fix everyday problems that exist all around us!

Valuable Tools: FISHBONE

• Improve process of patients (Inpatient and Outpatient in MRI) related to patient flow, quality of care, communication with other teams, and overall length of MRI stay.
• Improve Hospital’s ability to respond to Quality Improvement Efforts through Hospital-Wide Council
• Improve ability to discharge patients on the correct medication and in a timely fashion

Valuable Tools: PROCESS MAP

What it looks like
Example: The process of buying a box of cereal.

Projects

Discussion

As a DNP-prepared RN, it is my responsibility to utilize quality improvement methodology to solve problems and enhance the healthcare world we work in. By using it to solve “everyday” problems, I am able to increase the exposure to staff nurses and truly improve confidence in the QI process. The methods presented were effective in moving issues forward and enhancing the quality of care provided to patients and received by healthcare staff.

Conclusions

DNP=Prepared Nurses need to engage the workforce with the ability to utilize QI to solve everyday problems. These are only a few examples of ways in which a DNP-prepared RN can improve the quality of patient care with the necessary skills. DNP-prepared nurses must be given opportunities to aid in addressing QI in the workplace.

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