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Medication Reconciliation “Success Story at a Rural Community Hospital”

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Winchester District Memorial Hospital

- Community Hospital
- 63 beds
- Emergency, Medical/Surgical, Obstetrics, Enhanced Care Unit, Chemotherapy/Medical Day Care, Hemodialysis, Complex Continuing Care, Operating Room/ Recovery Room
- WDMH's patients are older, sicker, poorer and die earlier

Resources

- CNE/PPL
- 3 Clinical Managers
- 100 Registered Nurses & 30 Registered Practical Nurses
- Consultant Pharmacist 2.2 FTE
- Pharmacy Technicians 3.8 FTE
- Paper based – moving into electronic



To Implement a Solution, Sell the Problem

- Increased medication errors
- Increased length of stay
- Increased readmissions
- What was our quality of care and safety?
- What was up with the new lingo “Medication Reconciliation”?



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“A3 Process” Addressed our Quality & Safety Issues

- Identify the problem or need and why is it important?
- Understand the current situation
- Conduct root cause analysis
- Devise countermeasures to address root causes
- Develop a target state
- Create an implementation plan
- Develop a follow up plan with predicted outcomes



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So what did we do?.....

- Developed Team
- Determined resources available and required
- Determined pilot goals and objectives
- Utilized a Registered Nurse on modified work
- Reviewed charts
- Gained support of Senior Administration, Pharmacy & Therapeutic Committee, Quality Committee and Medical Advisory Committee

What did we learn?

- We have always carried out Medication Reconciliation – just not systematically
- There was no process in place to ensure consistency

Baseline Audit

Safer Healthcare Now audit tool highlighted:

1. 89% discrepancies (Type 0 and 1)
2. Areas to improve
 - Undocumented Intentional Discrepancy 7% (Type 2)
 - Unintentional Discrepancy 3.9% (Type 3)

Report Your Timelines

I love deadlines. I like the whooshing sound they make as they fly by (Douglas Adams)

- Collected baseline data
- Developed goals & objectives
- Developed tools
- Established education & implementation schedule



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Tools for Success

- Examine present processes
- Be creative
- Ask your neighbours



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Tools for the Program

A new Discharge Care Plan was developed to follow the patient from admission through to discharge.



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Process

- Ontario Drug Benefit form printed in ER
- Admitting Nurse completes form
- Form faxed to Pharmacy
- Discrepancies flagged using *modified audit tool*
- Pharmacist assesses discrepancies

The Process Continues to Discharge

- Discharge Care Plan serves as a prescription upon discharge
- Local retail Pharmacists were involved from the start



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Use the results to complete the measurement worksheets

Use the results to complete the measurement worksheets

[illegible]

Type 1 = Intentional discrepancy – physician has made an intentional choice to add, change or discontinue a medication and is clearly documented.

Type 2 = Undocumented Intentional discrepancy – physician has made an intentional choice to add, change or discontinue a medication but this choice is not clearly documented.

Type 3 = Unintentional discrepancy – physician unintentionally changed, added or omitted a medication the patient was taking prior to admission.



The Final Step Upon Discharge

- Discharge Care Plan is sent to Pharmacy
- Discrepancies are identified and followed up (physician and patient)



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Outcomes

- Decreased length of stay
- Decreased readmissions within 7 days
- Increased staff satisfaction
- Increased patient engagement/
satisfaction
- Required no additional human
resources



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Enablers & Lessons Learned

- A strong senior leadership voice supporting this initiative is a must
- Involve internal and external stakeholders
- Keep the process simple – user and patient friendly
- Celebrate, celebrate and continue to celebrate successes

Enablers & Lessons Learned

- Physician engagement
- Educate/educate/educate
 - What is medication reconciliation
 - Benefits to patients and staff
- Be creative and utilize existing resources

Overcoming Barriers

- Just Do It – ensure it is part of your strategic plan and a corporate indicator
- Professional Practice Committee and Medical Staff Organization agreed to Just Do It



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Preparing for our Electronic World

- Continue to think broadly
- Medication reconciliation, Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE) and Patient Safety always in same discussion (never discussed in isolation)
- Review our patient safety goals and what is required of the system



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Preparing for Electronic World

- What defines “better care” and how will the system do that?
- Ensure system does not make health care practitioners work harder



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Conclusion

- Sell the problem to initiate the solution
- Assess medication processes
- Be innovative and creative
- Timelines are invaluable



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Making the simple complicated is commonplace; making the complicated simple, awesomely simple, that's creative.

Charles Mingus



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Questions?

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