

Reducing Overhead and Minimizing Waste

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Abstract Background Information: The current Pyxis supply station is stocked with hundreds of items. The current process is disorganized and the labels currently in place do not accurately describe the items in clinical language. This current process delays clinical staff access to items due to difficulty in finding the items and delays patient care. Due to this delay, staff are not charging items to individual patients and are charging to unit floor which limits hospital reimbursement. Overstocking of less used items means that individual items are expiring before use.

Objectives of Project: Organize items to streamline access during clinical need. Minimize waste by stocking in proportion to clinical use. Charge items to individual patients so the hospital can properly be reimbursed. Reprogram system so that it prompts to restock in a timely fashion to minimize disruption to patient care.

Process of Implementation: Itemized current inventory in Pyxis supply station. Reviewed 120 day trends on most used items to stock each item appropriately. Surveyed clinical staff for their input in renaming and relabeling each item to easily identifiable clinical language. Accounting for item size, categorized each item into sections by clinical function (Respiratory, Renal, Ortho, etc.). Grouped "like" sections together depending on acuity and clinical need. Printed out outline for clinical staff to review and modify. Selected low census clinical week to remodel entire system while minimizing disruptions to patient care. Coordinated with materials management team to reprogram Pyxis supply station. Added colored labels to group "like" items for quick identification by clinical staff. Reviewed new process with clinical staff to familiarize staff with newly organized system.

Statement of Successful Practice: After months of planning, interdepartmental (Nursing, Materials management, IT, and EVS), and team collaboration, we were able to successfully implement the changes to the system. Team feedback has been positive to the new changes.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: Minimize time wasted to look for items that are hard to find. Fast access to critical care supplies during emergency situations. Accurately charging items to individual patients instead of unit floor. Proportionately stock items to minimize items that go unused and expire. Optimize restocking by materials management team. Implementation in other departments in the organization to minimize waste.