

# LEADing Pediatric Surgical Nursing Care



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## Purpose

The LEAD (Liaison for Extra Admissions and Discharges) initiative was created to facilitate care of the pediatric surgical/trauma patient across all nursing units at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

## Significance

During high volume, surgical/trauma inpatients often exceed capacity resulting in overflow to non-surgical units. During Nov '07 – May '08, approximately 52 patients were diverted to six different non-surgical units. This high number of diverted patients could lead to a gap in specialized care. Therefore, the LEAD initiative was created to facilitate that an experienced surgical RN serve as a liaison to optimize care for the surgical patient admitted to a non-surgical unit. Due to the initial success, the initiative was continued for the 2009 and 2010 high volume periods.

## Strategy & Implementation

Initial Time Line = 6 months in development and 3 months of implementation

Development process included: Collection of data, meetings with bed management and medical unit managers, education of staff on new role & responsibilities, data collection tools, and scheduling of LEAD RN

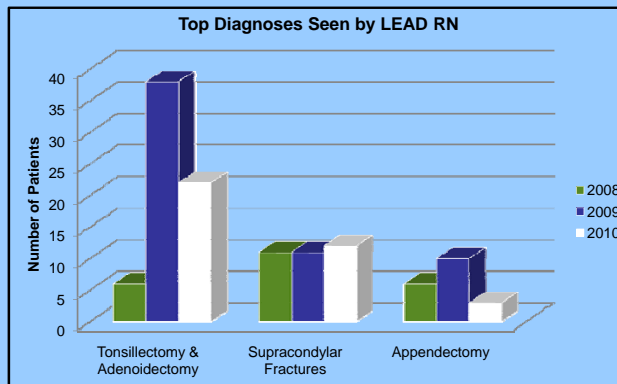
### Daily LEAD RN Responsibilities

- ❖ Attend bed meeting and obtain list of overflow patients
- ❖ Round on non-surgical units
  - Review surgical dx & nsg care
  - Review MD/NP orders
  - Review pain mgmt plan
  - Review discharge process
  - Patient & Family Education
  - Assist with direct surgical care
- ❖ Available by pager for status changes and RN questions/concerns
- ❖ Data collection

### Non-Surgical RN Education

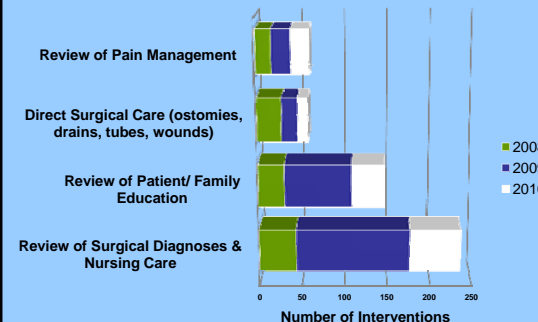
- ❖ Shared Governance Council developed educational presentations
  - Post Operative Care – highlighting frequent diagnoses
  - Orthopedic Care
  - Tonsillectomy and Adenoidectomy
- ❖ Presented to 4 non-surgical units
- ❖ Available throughout the year as requested

## Results



	2008	2009	2010
<b>Total LEAD/RN Interactions</b>	140	221	101
<b>Total # Overflow Patients</b>	71	158	83
<b>Total # Surgical Services</b>	6	6	6

### Top Interventions Performed by LEAD RN



## Evaluation

- ❖ Regardless of patient location, the LEAD initiative enhanced surgical patient/family care by assisting and resourcing the non-surgical RN
- ❖ As a result of the initiative, the LEAD RN became viewed as an expert and was consulted to assist with non-surgical patients requiring surgical nursing care
- ❖ 100% of non-surgical unit RNs reported that the LEAD initiative was beneficial to patients, families, and staff and that educational presentations provided useful information

## Implications for Nursing Practice

- ❖ During all surgical high volume periods, the LEAD RN will be available to resource and assist with surgical nursing care on non-surgical units
- ❖ The LEAD initiative now also incorporates year-round clinical resourcing for new surgical RNs on the surgical unit
- ❖ As part of the evolving LEAD initiative we plan to:
  - Continue to collaborate with bed management department to cohort surgical overflow patients
  - Develop a Surgical Nursing conference for non-surgical nurses
  - Evaluate safety events, length of stay, and patient/family satisfaction for diverted surgical patients

