

## Indiana University Health

## Relational Coordination: An Imperative Influencing our Capacity to Reach the Core

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## Relationships *shape* the communication through which coordination occurs



Shared goals
Shared knowledge
Mutual respect

Frequent communication

Timely communication

Accurate communication

Problem-solving communication



### Can we measure the coordination?



RC	dimensions	Survey questions
1.	Frequent communication	How frequently do people in each of these groups communicate with you about [focal work process]?
2.	Timely communication	How timely is their communication with you about [focal work process]?
3.	Accurate communication	How accurate is their communication with you about [focal work process]?
4.	Problem solving communication	When there is a problem in [focal work process], do people in these groups blame others or work with you to try to solve the problem?
5.	Shared goals	How much do people in these groups share your goals for [focal work process]?
6.	Shared knowledge	How much do people in these groups know about the work you do with [focal work process]?
7.	Mutual respect	How much do people in these groups respect the work you do with [focal work process]?

# Relational Coordination: 12 Key Practices



- 1. Select for teamwork
- 2. Measure team performance
- 3. Reward team performance
- 4. Resolve conflicts proactively
- 5. Invest in frontline leadership
- 6. Design jobs for focus
- 7. Make job boundaries flexible
- 8. Create boundary spanners
- 9. Connect through pathways
- **10.** Broaden participation in patient rounds
- **11.** Develop shared information systems
- 12. Partner with suppliers

(Gittell, J., 2009)

## Relational Coordination Exemplar: Perioperative Team Key Practices



#### Select for team

- Peer interviewing to ensure engagement, expertise, patient centeredness
- Physician engagement and contribution to "team" through performance accountability i.e. on-time starts or lose your block

#### Measure team performance

 Frequent, timely communication specific to room, service, and department performance via stand up huddles daily, formal weekly and monthly staff meetings

#### Design jobs for focus

Redesigned work flow

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## Relational Coordination Exemplar: Perioperative Team Key Practices



#### Invest in frontline leadership

- Positioned circulator to engage around autonomy, authority and accountability for practice and expected contribution to the patient and interdisciplinary team
- AORN certification 80% with tuition, course materials, study time provided

#### Reward team performance

 Trophy award and recognition for key metrics such as on time starts, room turnover, and most improved service

## IUH Nursing Exemplar: Perioperative Team Performance



- Decreased case cancellations to less than 2%
- Added IR to perioperative team; on-time starts improved from 3% to 58%
- First case (in room) on-time starts improved from 30% to 88%
- FTE utilization (OR staff) 7.13% under budget
- Room turnover 83% in less than 30 minutes
- Plastics with 100% turnover in less than 30 minutes.

## IUH Nursing Exemplar: Perioperative Team Performance



- Case volumes stable even with the neurosurgical move to IU Health Methodist Hospital
- RN vacancy 2 positions open
- Eliminated use of travelers and Resource Center nurses
- RN turnover 10%
- Improved RN satisfaction



### Exemplar: Fall Team Key Practices

#### Select for team

 Peer interviewing to ensure engagement, expertise, patientcenteredness

#### Measure team performance

Days between falls on every unit

#### Invest in frontline leadership

 Direct care nurses reporting performance at facility-based and system practice councils, partnering with peers to identify best strategies for testing



### Exemplar: Fall Team Key Practices

#### **Boundary spanners**

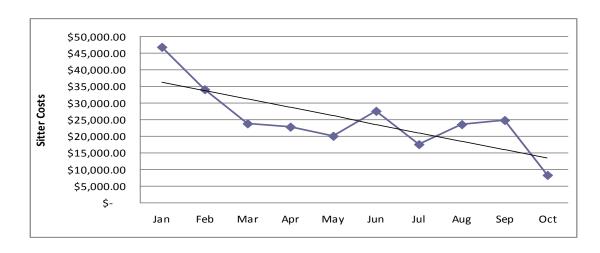
 CNS ensures and facilitates unit-based daily huddles focused on hazard anticipation (who are we concerned about) and hazard containment (% of new nurses staffing this shift – watch one another's patients)

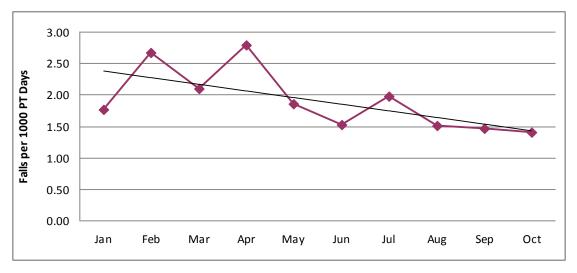
#### Broaden participation in patient rounds

 Shift-to-shift hand-off communication including the patient and calling out risk

# Exemplar: Eliminating Falls <u>and</u> Unnecessary Sitter Utilization

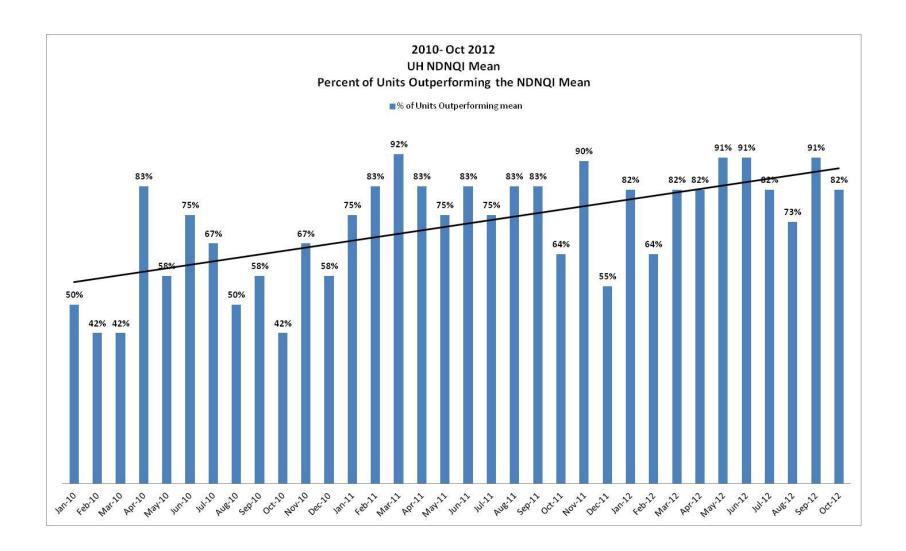






## Relational Coordination Exemplar: Fall Team Performance





# Exemplar: Medical-Surgical Nursing Key Practices



#### Select for team

Medical-Surgical peer interviewing to ensure cultural fit featuring patient centeredness

#### Measure team performance

 Patient satisfaction, readiness for discharge and length of stay process and outcome indicators before the team daily

#### Invest in frontline leadership

 Arm the direct care nurse with autonomy, accountability and authority to own and coordinate and communicate patient care requirements between colleagues and shifts of patient care

# Exemplar: Medical-Surgical Nursing Key Practices



#### **Boundary spanners**

- Medical-surgical CNS provides oversight for patternable patients ensuring EBP guidelines executed
- Medical-surgical CNS serves as a consultant to nursing and the patient care team for patients that are typically patternable with one or two complex conditions
- Medical-surgical CNS coordinates care for the predictably unpredictable ensuring excellence in care coordination between disciplines and sites of care

#### Broaden participation in patient rounds

 Patients participate in rounds coordinated by the medical-surgical CNS. Rounds are intentionally patient-centric and focused on what's meaningful and of particular concern to the patient

## Exemplar: Medical-Surgical Nursing Performance



- Nurse Sensitive Indicators
  - Fall 2010: 2.99/1,000 days
  - Fall 2011: 2.54/1,000 days
  - Fall 2012 YTD: 2.08/1,000 days
  - HAPU 2010: 1.64
  - HAPU 2011: 0.98
  - HAPU 2012 YTD: 0.98
- Med-Surg LOS

- 2010: 9.0 days

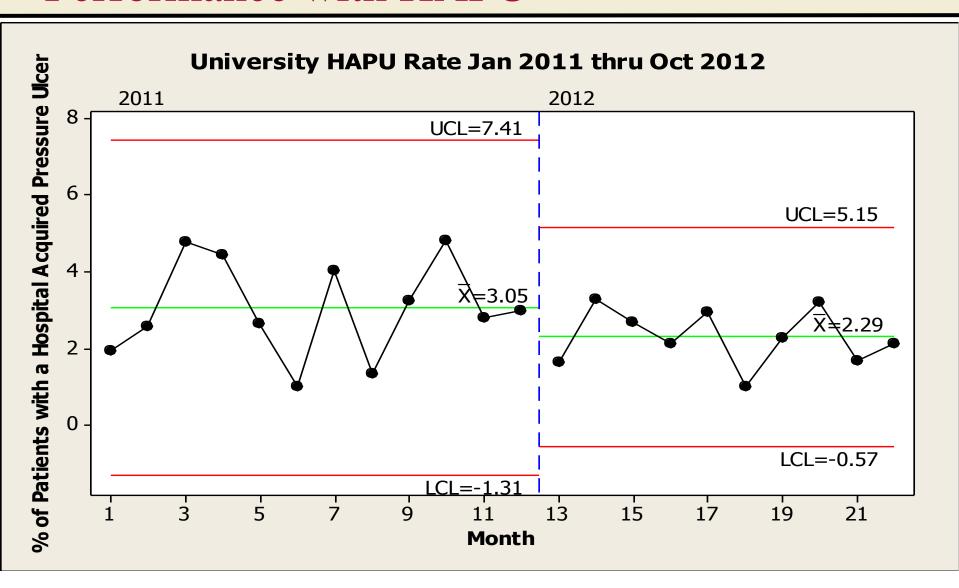
- 2011: 5.3 days

- 2012: 5.4 days

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## Exemplar: Medical-Surgical Nursing Performance with HAPU





## Implications for Nursing Practice



- Explore inter-professional opportunities to adopt relational coordination as a key process indicator influencing team performance for patient care
- Describe the link between evidence-based key practices and relational coordination beyond acute care to long term and ambulatory care practice settings
- Intentional design and implementation of practiceacademic partnerships enabling the nurse researchers from academic settings to mentor direct care nurses and clinical nurse specialists to translate evidence into practice

## Implications for Nursing Practice



- Intentional design integrating the voice of practice into education to transition traditional educational settings from methods primarily reflecting lecture, PowerPoint presentations, and case study to real world, experiential learning from partners at the bedside
- Mutual respect, shared goals and shared knowledge between academics and practice to advance nursing practice, policy and education



The true spirit of conversation consists more in bringing out the cleverness of others than in showing a great deal of it yourself.

--Jean de la Bruyere

Thank you for your attention.

How might we partner to achieve excellence in relational coordination and patient care?

### References



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