The purpose of the Kaizen Committee is to provide amazing service by enhancing patient care and safety through improvement of the medication management system. Kaizen Committee currently has 40 interdisciplinary active members, many with over 5 years of service. Membership consists of inpatient and ambulatory nurses, pharmacists and respiratory therapists. Care areas represented include Med-Surg, ICU, Operative Services, Ambulatory, Pharmacy, Pyxis, Medication Safety, Nursing Informatics, Educator Council and Nurse Manager Council.

Kaizen Committee

The purpose of the Kaizen Committee is to provide amazing service by enhancing patient care and safety through improvement of the medication management system. Kaizen Committee currently has 40 interdisciplinary active members, many with over 5 years of service. Membership consists of inpatient and ambulatory nurses, pharmacists and respiratory therapists. Care areas represented include Med-Surg, ICU, Operative Services, Ambulatory, Pharmacy, Pyxis, Medication Safety, Nursing Informatics, Educator Council and Nurse Manager Council.

Kaizen Committee Responsibilities

Kaizen Committee’s annual activities and responsibility to the hospital include:

- Review and approval of medication-related policies
- Review and approval of Automated Dispensing System (Pyxis®) Medication Override List
- Review, approval and implementation of physician order sets
- Other medication-related initiatives
  - Do Not Tube List
  - MINI-BAG Plus Diluent Chart
  - Multi-dose Vial Labeling Guidelines

Kaizen Committee Actions

Kaizen Committee co-chairs create a “Monthly Tip Sheet” following each committee meeting to ensure that members accurately share meeting actions with staff. Formal minutes and other handouts are posted on the Committee website.

Kaizen Bulletins

Kaizen Committee is guided by the hospital’s shared leadership model. One method used to communicate practice changes affecting staff is through Kaizen Bulletins.

Medication Safety Initiatives

Initiatives to decrease incidence of heparin-related medication errors

Kaizen Committee provided input on the following actions:

- New “Independent Double Check” policy approved
- Implementation of the internal “6 Rights in 6 Months” campaign highlighting one medication administration “right” per month
- PTT results displayed on the Medication Administration Record (MAR) to decrease PTT-related errors (see below)

Since implementation of PTT results displaying on the MAR, there have been ZERO PTT-related medication errors reported.

Medication Safety Initiatives

Alaris® SmartPump Technology: Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIG) pump administration changes and outcomes

Kaizen Committee provided input and staff education regarding a change to how IVIG was built in the Alaris® SmartPump. This change resulted in a decrease of pump alerts and improper pump programming.

The authors would like to acknowledge Sondra May, PharmD and Sylvia Park, RN, BSN for their contributions to this poster.