Clinical Nurse Leader Role Demonstrates Positive Impact on Patient Outcomes
What is a Clinical Nurse Leader?

- Developed after IOM’s report, *To Err Is Human: Building a Safer Health System*
- 1st new nursing role in over 40 years
- Master’s-prepared RN Advanced Generalist
  - Leadership
  - Teamwork
  - Quality
  - Informatics
  - Metrics
Functions of a Clinical Nurse Leader

Clinician

Frontline leader

• Clinical care coordination
• Mentor/Educator
• EBP/Outcomes
• Quality Improvement
• Information Technology

Triple Aim
The CNL role at ACH
How it began

• 2012—The business case and pilot position for a Neuroscience CNL
• 2013—4 CNL positions approved
  – Neuroscience
  – Pulmonary
  – Cardiac
  – Bone Marrow Transplant
  • Current position available
The CNL role at ACH
How it began

Framing our first year and developing our roles

• Initial needs assessment in each department
• Strategies to decrease patient care days
• Medications in hand at discharge
• Follow up appointments made prior to discharge
• Track decrease missed school and work days
Unit assessments revealed fragmented education and discharge processes and ineffective communication among service lines leading to an increase in patient care days.
CNL Goal and Tactics

Decrease patient care days

- Standardized discharge process and education
- Improve communication across all service lines
- Bridging gaps between inpatient and ambulatory care
Cardiac CNL
Results/Methods

Methods

- Meet with families prior to admission
- Daily educational and discharge assessment with multidisciplinary team
- One-on-one education with families
- A defined discharge medication process
- Staff mentorship for discharge teaching
- Detailed discharge checklist in EMR
- Follow up phone calls
Methods

- CNL participation in rounds
- BRAIN education series
- Ketogenic Diet Notification
- EEG Pressure Ulcer prevention
- Order set adjustments based on surgical procedure
- Discharge instruction template based on surgical procedure or diagnosis
- Ventricular shunt protocol
- Follow-up phone calls
Methods

- Multidisciplinary team approach used to refine asthma care path
- Began monitoring patient care days for asthma patients in the PICU
- Providers educated on Pediatric Asthma Score and how it is used to drive the asthma care path
- Respiratory Therapist communicates change in patient status to providers
- Respiratory Therapist progresses patient through care path
All Children’s Hospital CNL’s
References

