Healthcare Organization Commitment

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Commitment Details

Commitment Name
Right Sizing Technology for Pediatric Patients

How Many Hospitals Will This Commitment Represent?
1

Commitment Summary
Within the field of pediatrics, we have always had to adapt to newer technologies without evidence-based research on children, and use medications that never received a specific FDA indication for our fragile patients. The Electronic Medical Record (EMR) and
Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE) have been touted as the panacea for decreasing medication errors. But do these actually apply to pediatrics when the default recommendations are for adult patients? Increasingly, and with special reference to the field of neonatology, quality and safety are neither synonymous nor sequentially related. The issues that affect our small babies are as important as those that affect adult patients. Quality must represent a process that produces an outcome that is likely to be viewed as desirable and not an outcome that conforms to a specific metric or idealized result. Percent compliance to order entry via CPOE, systems that are designed to protect consumers but instead produce lengthy delays in the availability of a potentially useful drug or medical device, and Kaldor-Hicks efficiencies that produce systems where pediatric patients are clearly worse off despite improvements overall in adult outcomes do not represent improvements in the quality of care for the most vulnerable and can result in increased morbidities and mortalities. A commitment to improve pediatric medical device design, implementation, and utilization by "right sizing" technologies is essential to ensure the best possible outcomes for those who are most at risk.

Commitment Description & Detail
Action Plan
Commitment Timeline
Impact Details