Healthcare Organization Commitment

Contact Details

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Commitment Details

Commitment Name
Averting Severe Pediatric Adverse Drug Events Through Increased Utilization of Smart Pump Drug Libraries for Intravenous Medications

Participants
Shannon Bertagnoli

What Patient Safety Challenge does your Commitment address?
Challenge 3D - Pediatric adverse drug events
Commitment Start Date
01/11/2016

How Many Hospitals Will This Commitment Represent
1

Commitment Summary
Infusion smart pumps were implemented in CHOC inpatient units in 2004, and expanded to new tower services in 2013, including the Emergency Department and Perioperative Services. To minimize the potential for medication administration errors and associated adverse drug events, drug libraries have been designed for different patient populations and acuity levels, with standardized concentrations based on weight, and with soft and hard limits depending on the dose or infusion rate programmed. Utilization of the drug library and overrides of warning alerts are analyzed and result in modifications to the drug library in order to facilitate and improve compliance and decrease alert fatigue from nuisance alerts. CHOC’s goal is to maximize drug library utilization in order to decrease the potential for adverse drug events from errors in pump programming, and to decrease nuisance alerts to minimize alert fatigue.

Commitment Description & Detail
Baseline drug library utilization was 19% in 2005 and rose to 79% by 2015. CHOC’s goal is to reach 85% utilization by June 2017 in order to decrease medication errors and adverse events. A secondary goal is to reduce override alerts to 4% or less in order to minimize alert fatigue from nuisance alerts.

CHOC created a multidisciplinary oversight committee, comprised of Nurse Subject Matter Experts (SME’s), Patient Care Informatics Nurse and the Pharmacy Medication Safety & Quality Coordinator, that performs quarterly review of data.

Action Plan
The smart pump oversight committee will continue to meet quarterly, and data obtained will continue to be utilized to adjust the drug libraries to maximize safe use and minimize program errors. Severe adverse drug events averted and potential costs avoided will be monitored along with this data. Good catches and nursing education on common errors or near misses observed will be disseminated quarterly also.

Commitment Timeline

Impact Details

Lives Saved