Healthcare Organization Commitment

Contact Details

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Commitment Details

Commitment Name
Nasogastric Feeding and Drainage Tube Placement and Verification

What Patient Safety Challenge does your Commitment address?
Challenge 15 - Nasogastric tube (NGT) placement and verification

Commitment Start Date
01/09/2018

How Many Hospitals Will This Commitment Represent
Commitment Summary
Nasogastric/Orogastric (NG/OG) tube placement is commonly used as an intervention in clinical practice for decompression of the stomach or for administration of enteral nutrition, fluid and medications. Misplacement of NG/OGs can lead to significant morbidity and even death.

Commitment Description & Detail
NG/OG placement is confirmed by testing the pH of gastric aspirate which should be in the desired range of 1.0 to 5.0. Fluid retrieved from the NG tube is the only acceptable specimen. In order to meet the National Patient Safety Goal of zero harm, gastric pH testing for the confirmation of NG/OG tube placement must be implemented.

Action Plan
Patients that have an NG/OG tube placed at Parrish Medical Center will be included. Fluid retrieved from the NG/OG tube will have the pH checked prior to use of tube. Nasogastric tube placement is confirmed by testing the pH of Gastric aspirate which should be in the desired range of 1.0 to 5.0. Prevent the harm caused by the misplacement of nasogastric feeding tubes.

Commitment Timeline
PMC has been working on this commitment since May 2018 and expects to have fully implemented by September 2018 to include all documentation, orders, testing, training and education.