

The Interdisciplinary Communication and Collaboration Initiative

Background: Sentara RMH Medical Center has strived to improve communication within the interdisciplinary team. Recently implemented was “Flash Rounds” in which every day interdisciplinary team members (except the bedside nurse) gather to discuss their patients’ plan for the day. Charge nurses do not feel this is helpful because sometimes they don’t have time to check in before or after rounds with the bedside nurses. However, those physicians who take the time to call the nurses after rounds to update them are well received and appreciated.

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to determine if nurse-physician bedside rounding can improve length of stay primarily, along with patient satisfaction and nurse-physician relationships.

Methods: This project will use a PDSA cycle framework. Physicians will initiate bedside rounding after attending “flash rounds”. Feedback will be obtained from the nurses and physicians to assess the rounding process and make changes as necessary.

Results: Results are pending as project is ongoing. Data points for this project include patient satisfaction score specific to nurse and physician satisfaction, length of stay, paging frequency, rounding compliance and nurse/physician perception.

Conclusion: The end goal for this project is to not only improve communication and collaboration between nurses and physician but to improve the care and satisfaction for the patients.