Streamlining The Work Process of Mayo Tray Set-up For Surgery, Singapore General Hospital

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Introduction
Mayo Tray is a rectangular tray used for holding sterile surgical instruments during surgery. It is made of medical-grade stainless steel, which can withstand high heat and pressure during sterilization to achieve sterility. It is used together with a stainless-steel stand known as Mayo Stand.

Reasons for Project

Objective
To reduce the shortfall of Mayo Trays to 0% in GES OTs within 8 months.

Methodology
Strategies for change and improvement include Brainstorming, Decision matrix, Gantt Chart, Flow Chart, Cause & Effect diagram, Pareto Chart, Tree Diagram, Run Chart & SS (Sort, Straighten, Shine, Standardize & Safety) of Lean methodology.

Intervention 1 – Reduce topping up of Mayo Trays to other surgical discipline OTs
Top up according to demand of surgical list rather than to norm. Prioritised topping-up of Mayo Trays to GES OTs before supplying to other surgical discipline OTs.

Intervention 2 – Perform decontamination of used Mayo trays in TSSU during holding period
Re-introduced process of performing decontamination procedures in Theatre Sterile Supplies Unit (TSSU) while Mayo Trays were kept on hold till scheduled transportation time to CSSD.

Intervention 3 – Adopt process of Mayo Tray set-up for Liver Transplant
• To purchase commercially designed stand-alone Mayo Tray with Stand. However, these units are very costly and require budget work plan.
• Adopted idea of the commercially designed Mayo Tray with Stand. Collaborated with Facility Management Engineering (FME) dept to weld Mayo Tray to existing Stand.

Results
We achieved in reducing shortfall of Mayo Trays to 0%. Welded Mayo Tray & Stand is always available in GES OTs.

Tangible Benefits
• Total time savings of: 6 Hours 50 minutes.
• Total cost savings of: $147,056/year (Based on 70 Mayo Trays order per day)

Conclusion
Problem is addressed. Received positive feedback from staff. TSSU staff & OT nurses are less stressed as no need to search for Mayo Trays. CSSD staff has lesser workload as there are less linen for inspection, folding & preparation of Mayo Trays for sterilization. While Housekeeping Dept has operational cost savings as there are less replacement for the wear & tear of linens.

Increase in number of Operating Rooms (ORs) & surgeries – require more Mayo Trays for use.