Redesign Bedside Handover to Enhance Patient-centred and Safe Care

KK Women’s and Children’s Hospital (KKH) is the main hospital that provides healthcare services to women and children in Singapore. The tagline “Patients At the heart of all we do.” shows our commitment in providing quality and compassion care. We also strive to deliver the highest standard of care for our patient. This project aims to achieve patient-centred care and positive patient experience through bedside handover in paediatric wards.

**Background**

Nurses’ perspective

A survey study was conducted in May 2018 to identify the perception of Paediatric Registered Nurses (RN) on bedside handover. A total number of 352 RNs (77%) responded to the survey. More than 80% favoured bedside handover as an effective initiative in ensuring continuity of care, patient safety & promoted patient engagement.

**Methodology**

- Applied the Creative Tension Model to identify the existing gaps between the organisation’s vision & current reality
- Flow mapping on the current processes as well as time and motion study were conducted
- Focus group meetings were held to facilitate open discussion and idea generation
- Situation Background Assessment Recommendation (SBAR) was used as the structure for the bedside handover
- In-service trainings were conducted and reference guide was developed
- An instructional video was developed to set standard and posted on the intraweb
- The remarkable step of getting our paediatric nurses handover with engagement of the caregivers and was piloted in 1 paediatric ward in Feb 2017 and rolled out to the entire paediatric wards in March 2017
- Ward Champions and leaders acted as role models, resource persons and conducted regular audits
- Stakeholder’s feedbacks were monitored through nurses’ perception survey and patients’ feedback

**Results**

Impact on Patient Experience & Patient Safety

The objective of this project has been met and the results have shown sustainability for more than 1 year.

**Nurses’ perspective**

- Recommendation rate: increased by 21% from 53% to 74%
- Confidence & trust of nurses: increased by 2% from 75% to 77%
- Call bell activation: decreased from 2.75 to 2.56 (per in-patient day)

**Patients’/caregivers’ perspective**

- Consistent information to caregiver: increased by 14% from 53% to 67%
- Patient verbatim feedback: has clearly demonstrated that bedside handover can help instil confidence and trust of caregivers towards nurses.

**Conclusion**

The redesign of bedside handover has reaped significant benefits to patient care and it has certainly supported our hospital envisions ‘Positive Patient Experience’ and ‘Target Zero Harm’.