Decrease Inpatient Fall with Injury Rate by 40% from 2011 baseline by December 31, 2013:

- Reduce Rate from 0.72 to 0.43 Falls per 1000 Patient Days.

CMS Injury Benchmark: 0.50

Why is this project important?
The Partnership for Patients estimates that 25% of fall injuries are preventable. Preventing injuries will improve patient safety and satisfaction. Falls are the leading cause in inpatient injuries, increasing length of stay and health care costs.

Run Charts

Rate = Total Inpatient Falls or Restraints/Total Patient Days x 1000

Inpatient Falls with Injury Rate/1000 Patient Days

Total Inpatient Fall & Restraint Rates/1000 Patient Days

Changes Being Tested, Implemented or Spread

A) - Initiated blue & yellow star system to Med/Surg, Telemetry, ICU/CCU (I)
B) - Education rolled out to 4M on using Fall Risk Tool (T)
C) - Fall Risk Stop Sign Tests begin
D) - Updated Morse Fall Scale
E) - Patient Safety Contract/Transitioning Home Handouts begin, along with Fall Risk Stop Sign to use as visual cue for pts and hospital staff

Lessons Learned

- Written instructions needed for patient education.
- Additions to shift change checklist for stop sign was helpful.
- Staff education reinforcement needed.

Recommendations and Next Steps

- Educate & involve patient & family on fall risk assessment and their responsibility, using handouts & education.
- Enforce Hourly Rounding.
- Initiate Chair or Leg Alarms.
- Consider Enclosure Beds.
- Complete s/p fall huddle teaching to all part-time & per diem pharmacists and their role in huddle.
- Spread handouts and Stop Sign to Critical Care, Med/Surg/Telemetry units.
- Initiate teaching of the process for appropriately assessing patients at risk for falls with Versant students and new hires.

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