California Hospital Engagement Network

Working to reduce patient harm by 40 percent and readmissions by 20 percent by the end of 2013.

Falls with Injury Rate Reduction
Dameron Hospital – Stockton, CA

Aim Statement

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 injury will improve patient safety and satisfaction. Falls are the leading cause in inpatient injuries, increasing length of stay and health care costs.

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)

-Post fall huddle to gather ~ 15 minutes after a fall on 4 Main (T)

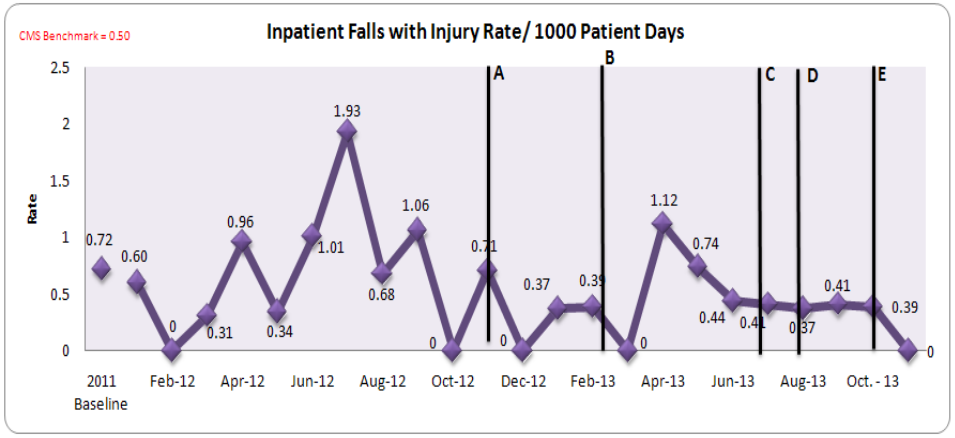
C) -Fall Risk Stop Sign Tests begin

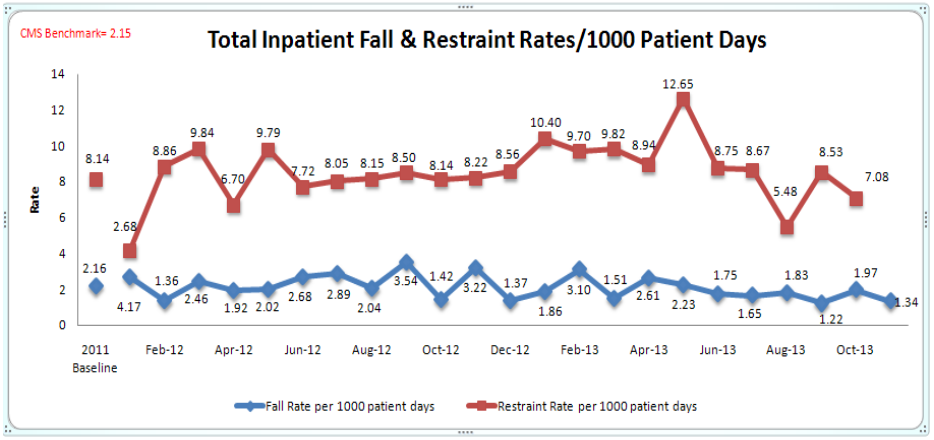
D) -Updated Morse Fall Scale

E) -Patient Safety Contract/Transitioning Home Handouts begin, along with Fall Risk Stop Sign to use as visual cue for pts and hospital staff

Run Charts

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





•Continuous audits for correct risk assessment and compliance with required High risk interventions and tests.

•Continuous audits of safety handouts, stop sign & patient understanding (teach-back).

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.

Team Members

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