

TRANSFORMING CARE AT THE BEDSIDE

How Gettysburg Hospital is taking the next step in TCAB initiatives

TimeStudy RN



LAUBRASS

BECAUSE TIME IS IMPORTANT

OPTIMIZE
RESOURCES

INCREASE
PRODUCTIVITY

IDENTIFY
WASTE

TimeStudy-RN

was intuitively developed on the **UMT Plus** software platform by **Rapid Modeling** to standardize and improve nurse and hospitalist time studies.

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Taking the next step in TCAB initiatives



The Gettysburg hospital is a comprehensive health-care provider in Pennsylvania that is taking conscious steps to continuously improve patient care. In 2009, the hospital participated in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) national Transforming Care At the Bedside(TCAB) project. TCAB is a national initiative to improve the environment for front-line nurses working on medical-surgical units in order to make inpatient care safer, more reliable and more focused on the patient.

Following their participation in TCAB, Cheryl Hale, Director of Nursing Inpatient Operations, says that “the hospital was able to implement valuable changes to start the process of decreasing non value adding activities for nurses.” Now they are taking the next step to validate and analyse daily schedules to continually improve the care they provide to their patients.

THE CHALLENGE

The Gettysburg Hospital needed a system that would allow them to measure TCAB initiatives and provide comprehensive analytical information to establish Non Value Adding Activities (NVA) that need improvement. “In the past we have used observers to capture data on nurse activities, but we found this to be very labour intensive,” explains Aimee Taylor, Assistant to Director of Nursing Operations. They needed a reliable and proven digital solution that would allow the nurses to accurately log their own data thus streamlining the data collection process.

THE SOLUTION

With the help of Nelson Lee, CEO, Rapid

Modeling Corporation, the Gettysburg Hospital started using TimeStudy RN on two of their medical –surgical units. They used two Palm Centro PDAs that were shared between 15-20 nurses. The data was collected on scheduled intervals for a period of seven days each time the collection process was initiated. Each nurse was able to easily log their own data to provide a detailed account of where nurses on each unit are spending their time.

“The software has the ability to create & print out graphs to quickly identify NVA areas for improvement, and then we can chip away at each area of concern,”

THE RESULTS

The team found that TimeStudy RN was really easy and fast to initiate.

“We had the nurses up and running in less than 15 minutes. Using TimeStudy RN proved to be much more reliable than when we had observers involved, it just made more sense” says Cheryl Hale.

Aimee Taylor adds that “Using the handheld was easy to learn and provided little to no disruption in the nurse’s day. If the nurse is prompted to log an entry while actively providing patient care, they can easily pause the PDA and enter the

data later, so it doesn’t interrupt their service.”

With the help of training provided by Nelson Lee the team was able to generate relevant charts that they needed to quickly and accurately see where they could make improvements.

“The software has the ability to create & print out graphs to quickly identify NVA areas for improvement, and then we can chip away at each area of concern,” says Cheryl Hale.

With the first round of measurement they found that the nurses actually were spending more time at the bedside than they had anticipated, thanks to the TCAB initiatives they had already put in place.

One of the main areas of concern that they were able to quantify was the amount of NVA time being spent on documentation. A plan is being put in place to streamline documentation for the nurses.

With TimeStudy RN the Gettysburg hospital is now able to take their TCAB initiative to the next step by being able to measure and analyze how time is being spent.

“We would definitely recommend TimeStudy RN to other facilities. We have actually just begun the process of implementing the TimeStudy RN software on the York Hospital campus as well,” says Aimee Taylor.

More case studies available at www.laubrass.com

Laubrass Inc facilitates and optimizes the process of conducting audits, inspections and work measurement studies for improvement initiatives, by leveraging handheld computing tools and Tablet PC.



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