Daily Safety Briefs (DSB) focus on improving safety at Hasbro Children’s Hospital

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Daily Safety Briefings (DSB) are reports from front-line units and ancillary departments to enhance awareness of immediate or potential problems affecting patient safety and care. They also enhance communication across all disciplines. Patient safety briefs improve outcomes by increasing the timeliness and quality of information teams share with each other, and by producing greater accountability. Staff members are encouraged to bring forth concerns and propose solutions.¹

Hasbro Children’s Hospital started DSB in November 2013 after reviewing DSB methods at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital and providing education on DSB for all participants. Briefings start every weekday at 11:45 a.m. sharp and last 10–15 minutes. We begin with reporting the number of days since our last serious harm event. Representatives from 31 units and departments report on any safety issues that have occurred in the past 24 hours, and they look ahead to identify any predictable issues in the next 24 hours. One hundred percent attendance is rewarded monthly by Real Inspiring Hero Certificates and notification is sent to departments with low-attendance rates. Each department follows a customized reporting template. For example, inpatient nursing reports on census, discharges, scheduled admissions, acuity, number of rapid response calls and children who are monitored for risks of deterioration, as well as staffing issues, and any safety issues in the last 24 hours. Good catches and near misses also are reported. Safety measures are enacted to prevent near misses from reaching patients in the future.

Between November 2013 and November 2017, we identified 961 safety concerns. The average time to resolution was 7.5 days, but many issues were resolved the same day. Complex system issues may take a few weeks to months to complete. For example, we identified an unintended system issue where changes targeting adult units at Lifespan resulted in consequences adversely affecting monitoring on pediatric units. We track reports in a database to allow timely review by designated hospital leaders across departments. The date the issue is resolved is reported back at the subsequent briefings.

DSB has become an important part of daily operations at Hasbro Children’s Hospital. Department leaders encourage concerns to be brought up by all staff in a timely manner, and report back on resolution. Full participation and feedback improves transparency and creates situational awareness, improves collaboration between departments, and demonstrates that every single person in the hospital, no matter his/her position or direct patient contact, is essential to our mission: “Delivering Health with Care.”

Reference

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