Background

- Most hospital patients are discharged after 2pm, affecting throughput for the hospital.
- During January to July of 2018, 36.1% of patients were discharged by 2pm with 22.9% of patients discharged within 2 hours of order being placed (hospital-wide).
- During the same period on Main 3 Trauma, 33% of the patients were discharged prior to 2pm with 19.1% of patients discharged within 2 hours of orders being placed.

Methods

- Patient barriers for discharge to home were identified.
- “Discharge to Home Checklist” was then developed and utilized.
- A “Talk at 2” between CTMs and CNLs was initiated to discuss the barriers to the next day’s discharges.
- Nursing staff, physicians, and hospital administration were notified daily of potential discharges.

Conclusion

- In August of 2018, 42.3% of patients were discharged prior to 2pm with 25.3% discharged in less than 2 hours of order being placed (hospital-wide).
- On Main 3 Trauma 53.1% of patients were discharged prior to 2pm with 31.9% of patients discharged in less than 2 hours of orders being placed.
- “Talk at Two” identifies potential barriers in anticipation for discharge the next day.
- “Discharge to Home Checklist” allows CTMs to focus time on barriers to patient discharge.
- Communication with Care Transition, Physicians, and Hospital Administration 1 day prior to discharge, facilitates throughput.

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