A set of quality improvement interventions to increase the percentage of STAT IV medicines, meeting the goal of being ready within 30 minutes

**OBJECTIVES**

The aim of the study is to increase the percentage of stat intravenous (IV) medicines to be ready within 30 minutes to assure timely administration for optimal patient care.

**METHODS OF STUDY DESIGN**

Step 1: Brainstorm of solution

Step 2: Utilization of LEAN & FOCUS PDCA Models

Step 3: Implementation of a set of Quality Improvement Interventions

Step 4: Collection of cumulative data on the indicators using Medboard Tracking System

**DATA & OBSERVATIONS**

This is a pre-post study in a governmental hospital in Saudi Arabia between January and September 2018. LEAN and FOCUS-PDCA models were implemented to design the process of improvement. Medication tracking system (MedBoard™) was used to collect the data to measure the number of stat IV medicines ready within 30 minutes. Data was also collected from the number of phone calls and faxes received from day procedure unit (DPU) and home health care unit (HHC).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decreased number of IV stat orders outside 30 minutes goal (Hospital wide)</td>
<td>2.7% versus 8.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decreased number of IV stat orders outside 30 minutes goal (Critical Care areas)</td>
<td>1% versus 10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average number of phone calls per day from DPU &amp; HHC (48 vs 6)</td>
<td>DECREASED BY 87.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of faxes related to STAT IV medications from DPU &amp; HHC</td>
<td>DECREASED BY 100%</td>
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**RESULTS**

Hospital wide comparison between Percentage of IV STAT orders ready within 30 mins & IV STAT orders outside the 30 mins goal before and after implementation of formulated interventions

Critical Care Areas comparison between Percentage of IV STAT orders ready within 30 mins & IV STAT orders outside the 30 mins goal before and after implementation of formulated interventions

Number of phone calls per day from Day Procedure Unit & Home Health Care

- # of phone calls post interventions
- # of phone calls pre interventions

**DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION**

Implementing the set of interventions were associated with an increase in percentage of STAT IV medicines being ready within 30 minutes. Additionally, a significant decrease in number of phone calls and faxes which allows pharmacist to focus more on STAT IV orders.

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