Tips for Implementing New Practices

Hospitals across the region are changing their practices to match the Safe Deliveries Roadmap Labor Management Bundle. They shared the following tips about what has worked well at the Sept. 4, 2014, Safe Table. Let us know if you find these tips useful, or if you have tips of your own to share.

Note: The tips refer to 5 implementation tools, which can be found on our website:

1. Induction of Labor Checklist
2. Induction of Labor Algorithm
3. Active/Spontaneous Labor Checklist
4. Active/Spontaneous Labor Algorithm
5. Partogram (Labor Curve)

- Visual aids for patients/families and RNs:
  - Put a magnetic game board in patient rooms showing a simplified map of delivery (based on the algorithm) with a magnetic baby that moves along the road. (e.g. https://www.pennysimkin.com/shop/doulas-handout-packet)

- Visual aids for caregivers:
  - Laminate algorithms and partogram and provide to every caregiver.
  - Laminate forms with algorithms on one side and checklists on the other side and put in every labor and delivery room.
  - Put a copy of the appropriate checklist and algorithm on every chart on admit. This will help you collect data in real time and keep the care team “on the same page” during real time care of patients.
  - Use colored paper for checklists so they stand out.
  - Take partograms to a print shop and have them made into pads, with the second stage labor checklist on the back side.
  - Put the partogram into EPIC.
  - Make posters for reference showing all the Safe Deliveries Roadmap tools.

- Provider education:
  - Develop a module to educate physicians and nurses about new labor management policies so that information is standardized and available from one source.
  - Use tools during nurse and physician meetings.
- Have provider/nurse teams compare outcomes between labors managed with algorithms and labors not managed with algorithms.

- Initial stakeholder engagement:
  - Be sure to get administrative and provider support from the beginning.
  - Establish a “super leader” (MD) and then hold peer-to-peer educational grand rounds.
  - Use snowball implementation – start with one MD and one RN, and when they are well trained have them train a colleague, and so on and so forth until all have been trained. After training has spread, post results.
  - Hold a kick-off event for physicians, anesthesia, nursing, etc. with food and door prizes. (E.g. a green themed party with drinks, snacks, balloons, and games to review definitions, checklists, and algorithms.)
  - Hold a drawing for prizes with completed induction checklists or consent forms.
  - Before implementing, distribute the checklist and algorithm and allow all team members to become acquainted with them.
  - Involve staff, including providers, in decision making for implementation.
  - Form teams to help communicate changes (shared governance).
  - Offer provider incentives.

Thanks to the following organizations for contributing their ideas:

- CHI Franciscan Health
- Harrison Medical Center
- Highlight Medical Center
- Kittitas Valley Healthcare
- Mason General Hospital
- Multicare
- Othello Community Hospital
- Overlake Hospital and Medical Center
- PeaceHealth
- Providence Centralia
- Providence St. Mary
- Providence St. Peter
- Skagit Valley Hospital
- Swedish Issaquah
- Swedish Medical Center
- UW Medicine
- Valley Medical Center
- Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital