

Lean West CPD & OR Decontamination – Safety 1st!

The Problem

Safe and efficient sterile surgical instrument processing is directly related to patient safety in the operating rooms (ORs). The current workflow between West CPD and the ORs is complicated with many dependencies, from case breakdown in the OR through decontamination in CPD. Poor communication, lack of prioritization of kits in queue, and strained flow of equipment, instruments and information leads to production constraints for West CPD. The repercussions of these constraints are in turn felt in both the CPD and ORs.

Aim/Goal

- Improve visual management in the CPD & OR areas
- Set operating standards in CPD & OR
- Improve communication between departments
- Improve safety in the work area
- Design improvements with capacity to expand to all CPD areas
- Introduce CPD staff to lean principles

The Team

- Ray Clarke, WCPD
- Kelly Cormier, West OR
- Marti Cunningham, CPD
- John Dzialo, PeriOp
- Jack Field, WCPD
- Anderson Gray, WCPD
- Deborah Kravitz, ECPD
- Cheryl Wiggins, West OR
- Heideman Zavas, WCPD
- Alice Lee, Lean
- Bonnie Baker, Lean
- Jenine Davignon, Lean
- Kim Eng, Lean
- Brandan Holbrook, Lean
- Samantha Ruokis, Lean

The Interventions

- Direct observations: flow of instruments from OR to CPD
- Collected data to gain understanding of current state process
- Identified and eliminated wastes through 5S methods
- Created a priority system for cleaning soiled instruments
- Instituted a rotating bin system for OR dirty and clean bins
- Removed unneeded items to create more usable space
- Visually directed flow by clearly marking clean and dirty areas
- Resolved safety issues found in the workplace

The Results

- Identified & categorized over 200 wastes & opportunities for improvement
- Obtained infection control consult in WCPD
- Implemented cellular flow in OR core tech room
- Found \$3,000 in parts
- Met fire safety codes
- Improved staff satisfaction
- Safety needs acknowledged & addressed

The 5S's + 1

- *Sort
- *Set location
- *Scrub, Shine
- *Standardize
- *Sustain

+ Safety

West CPD Decontam



West OR Decontam



Lessons Learned:

- Many little changes = Big gains
- Learned to identify waste eliminates work-arounds to problems
- The first step to sustaining improvements is building communication and teamwork across departments

Next Steps/What Should Happen Next:

- Continue implementation of safety improvements identified by the team
- Initiate 5S mini-events, focusing on problems identified by the team
- Roll-out 5S methodology to East CPD areas



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