

# **ADVOCATE HEALTH CARE**

- Oak Brook, IL
- 8 hospital project
- www.advocatehealth.com

# S.T.E.E.E.P.



### SAFE

Patients are assigned a medical record number and wristband before they are treated, to ensure that previous medical history is carried forward.



# **EQUITABLE**

All outpatients are now wrist-banded, in addition to all inpatients and patients presenting in the ED.



# PATIENT-CENTERED

Patients are asked to show photo identification and verify their identity to protect against identity theft.

# THE RIGHT PATIENT ALL THE TIME

#### The Problem

Incorrect patient identification through the registration process increases the potential for patient harm in the short term, with long-term downstream effects that include increased financial liability, diminished reputation, and decreased physician loyalty and associate satisfaction.

- » 7 million entries currently in system
- » 10 to 15 percent of those entries are incorrect, resulting in increased potential to create duplicate medical record numbers
- » Currently, system-wide 80 to 640 duplicate medical records are created per month
- » Duplicate medical records can result directly in patient harm

#### The Solution

Advocate decided on a system-wide initiative at: Christ Medical Center, Condell Medical Center, Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Lutheran General Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital, Good Shepherd Hospital, South Suburban Hospital and Trinity Hospital

The goal was to create a consistent, standardized, system-wide process for patient identification during registration and intake that accurately identifies patient at point of registration with accurate subsequent verification to provide the right care to the right patient in all settings 100 percent of the time.

Frontline staff was actively involved in a series of facilitated events to create solutions to root cause issues in the patient identification process. After multiple events, standard work was created and a four-hour, instructor lead course was developed. The course covers standardized naming conventions, search guidelines, wrist-banding and verification procedures, as well as the FTC Red Flag Rules. Best practices were incorporated to address process issues, such as the implementation of stat registration in the ED.

#### Results

Since implementation began in January 2009, Good Samaritan Hospital has seen a 64 percent reduction in the percentage of duplicate medical records created per total registrations. The hospital has sustained a defect rate below the baseline for 7 consecutive months.

Ilinois Masonic Medical Center has had a 36 percent reduction in the percentage of duplicate medical records created per total registrations. The hospital has sustained a defect rate below the baseline for 5 consecutive months.

Good Shepherd Hospital has had a 43 percent reduction in the percentage of duplicate medical records created per total registrations. The hospital has sustained a defect rate below the baseline for 4 consecutive months.



# TEAM MEMBERS

# **Nancy Caldario**

Director Patient Access, Christ Medical Center Process Owner

#### Susan Clarke

Director Patient Access, Good Shepherd Hospital, Process Owner

#### **Rozanne Hickok**

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#### **Nichia McDowald**

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#### **Dominic Nakis**

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Other Team Members by Hospital

#### **Christ Medical Center**

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OP Registration Manager

#### Mary Jo Cavanaugh

**ED Clinical Manager** 

#### **Beth Griffin**

ED Registration Manager

#### Mary Mottl

Patient Access Supervisor

#### Mary Smith

Business Associate ED

Registration

#### Mary Swanson

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#### Laticia West

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#### **Condell Medical Center**

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**ED Patient Access Manager** 

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## Kimberly Mescha

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#### Illinois Masonic

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#### Representative

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#### Carmen Martinez

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Patient Access Manager/Educator

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Central Scheduling Represer

#### Marshalla Chandler

Patient Intake Manager

#### **Matthew Laitala**

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#### Pamela Lang

**ED Patient Access Manager** 

#### Mary Jane Mangan

**ED Patient Access Staff** 

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Patient Intake Supervisor and

#### Educator

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Patient Accounts Specialist

#### Beth Halperin

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#### Kathy Smallwood

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#### Karl Storch

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# Coordinator

# Susan Tavrides

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#### Karen Tabola

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