“Copy Forward” – A Success Story of the Nurse Informatics Council
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Background
Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital (LPCH) Stanford located in Palo Alto, CA is a 302-bed hospital caring for pediatrics and obstetrics patients. The hospital is nationally ranked and provides “comprehensive services and extensive expertise in key obstetric and pediatric fields: brain and behavior, cancer, heart, pregnancy and newborn, pulmonary, and transplant.” LPCH strives to provide extraordinary care to their patients by offering evidence-based, family-centered care and groundbreaking research and innovations in patient care.

Introduction
Best Practice Approach
A taskforce consist of three Nurse Informaticists (NIs) and a Clinical Informatics Manager collaborated on the Copy Forward Project.

Initial assessment:
1. Benchmarking by interviewing LPCH nurses and traveler RNs who have worked at other hospitals using the same EHR
2. Review hospital policies and procedures related to frequency of nursing assessment and documentation

Guidelines:
Formulated the inclusion and exclusion criteria and presented to the NIC for approval before reviewing individual flowsheet rows for recommendation.

Inclusion criteria:
• Documentation based on orders details (e.g., set temp for a thermoregulating device, basal rate for a PCA)
• Consistent assessment (e.g., lines, wounds, and drains dressing status)
• Basic head to toe assessment

Exclusion criteria:
• Volume or measure related information
• Biomedical device integration data
• Signs and symptoms that require intervention
• Events and provider notification details
• All free text rows

Deep dives:
The three NIs from the taskforce evaluated 3992 flowsheet rows from 9 flowsheet templates

Proposal: 181 flowsheet rows for copy forward; recommending only Copy Forward own documentation and validate information before signing.

Evaluation and Next Steps
NIs reached out to frontline nurses and received nothing but positive feedbacks. Below are some of the individual nursing accounts which have proven that the copy forward project has been beneficial and successful.

“It’s a time-saver. I love it!”
“This is especially helpful when I’m trying to catch up with charting!”
“When will you activate copy forward for ventricular assist device and ECMO flowsheet templates?”

The next step is to evaluate other specialty flowsheet templates for copy forward. These templates are dialysis, mechanical support, and OB.

Reference

Acknowledgement