

Determining Effectiveness Of Rounding With A Purpose

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Background: The goal of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of the “Rounding With A Purpose” (RWAP) program on 5C, a medical-surgical unit at San Francisco General Hospital.

Objectives: Research supports that frequent patient rounding increases patient satisfaction and safety. When consistent patient rounding is practiced, patients feel more secure that a nurse will be available to assist them with their immediate needs (toileting, pain, positioning or other issues). RWAP is a program designed to reduce adverse outcomes (falls, hospital-acquired pressure ulcers), increase patient and staff satisfaction and reduce spending on adverse outcomes and resource utilization. The objective of this study will be to evaluate the effectiveness of the program in the reduction of falls, reduction of call-light usage and the increase in patient and staff satisfaction.

Methods: Design of the study will have three measures: 1) patient satisfaction will be measured by a survey delivered to patients, 2) call-light frequency will be measured by counting the frequency of call-light usage, and 3) fall frequency data as measured by internal incident reporting. The population will be inpatients on 5C who are willing and able to participate in the survey. The time period examined will be the first quarter of 2010 (January – March). Pre/post data would be compiled and compared. Evaluation and recommendations follow.

Results: Preliminary data on falls supports that increased rounding is associated with a decrease in falls. Other measures are pending completion of the study.

Conclusions: Data suggest RWAP program may have decreased incidence of inpatient falls. Conclusions cannot be made regarding other outcome measures at this time. Next steps include completion of original study, and the identification opportunities to refine and improve the RWAP program.