Establishing a Multidisciplinary Quality Improvement Forum in a tertiary Children’s Hospital

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Background
The Leeds Children’s Hospital is the second largest Children’s Hospital in the UK with a large multidisciplinary workforce. It is still a relatively new hospital, established in April 2010 and is in the exciting position of still shaping the structures by which to deliver its mission statement of “aiming high, delivering the best care.”

Quality Improvement (QI) projects were being undertaken, although numbers were small and there was no framework or accessible resources for planning, registering or supporting them. This had led to replication of work and missed opportunities to share lessons learnt. Several projects had been abandoned due to lack of support and mentoring when challenges had arisen. It was proposed that a multidisciplinary (MDT) QI forum could act as a framework for education and support of QI.

Aims & Objective of the Children’s QI Forum

Aim: To be a MDT forum to encourage and support QI work in the hospital

Objectives:
• To offer advice and support in setting & running QI projects
• Share good practice, lessons learnt & ideas across the Children’s Hospital
• To act as an educational hub for learning about QI methodology
• To establish resources for QI work including a database of projects.

Forum Formula
Monthly meeting (last week of month)
12.30-14.00 (last ½ hr QI Project surgery)
Open to everyone, drop in and out
Alternate focus between an educational and sharing forum.

Educational
Mr Potato head and PDSA cycles
A Sepsis “Pantomime” - process mapping
The Airplane factory – process mapping

Sharing
Tales from theatre- Parent Pagers
SAFE - safety huddles
Little P.A.L.S

Steering Committee
A multidisciplinary steering committee is responsible for the for organisation and planning of the forum

The Story so far...
The forum started in January 2016 and has met every month since

Attendance:
20-30 staff at each forum
Wide range of members of the workforce; on average:
37 % medical
37 % Allied Healthcare Professionals
26 % Nursing

Feedback:
Self-rated increase in QI knowledge from 3-4 (scale 1-5)
100% would recommend to a colleague

Next Steps:
Build on basis of QI education
To pilot a course of “rolling” 30-60min teaching sessions
1. The Plan, Do, Study, Act PDSA cycle
2. Tools to define a problem
3. Measurements
4. Run charts – construction & understanding

QI Project database
A baseline database of projects was established at the beginning of the forum. To review the database 6 months after the forum and impact on projects

QI Resources
To develop resources accessible on the trust intranet for all staff to access to aid with QI Project design e.g. Fish bone, PDSA cycle templates

Forum Attendance
To work on increasing attendance to forum and improving access to staff ward nurses