

IMPROVING THE RELIABILITY OF HOURLY OBSERVATIONS ON ASHWELL WARD

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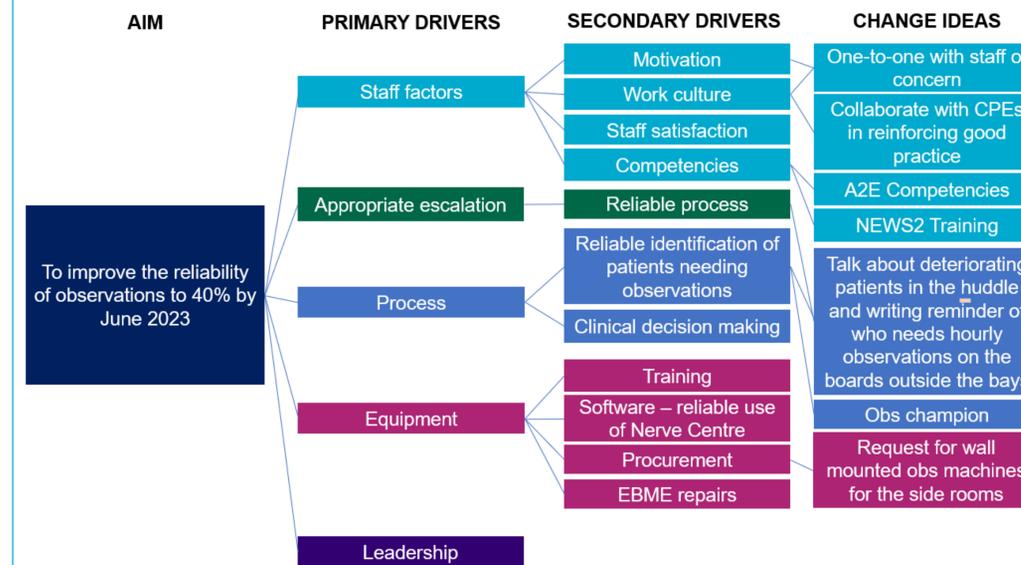
BACKGROUND

Clinical deterioration can happen at any point in a patient's illness or care process. Many patients who suffer cardiopulmonary arrests show signs of deterioration during the 24 hours before the arrest. By closely monitoring changes in physiological observations, deteriorating patients are more likely to be identified before a serious adverse event occurs. Early identification is important to reduce mortality, avoid morbidity, length of stay and associated healthcare costs.¹

AIM

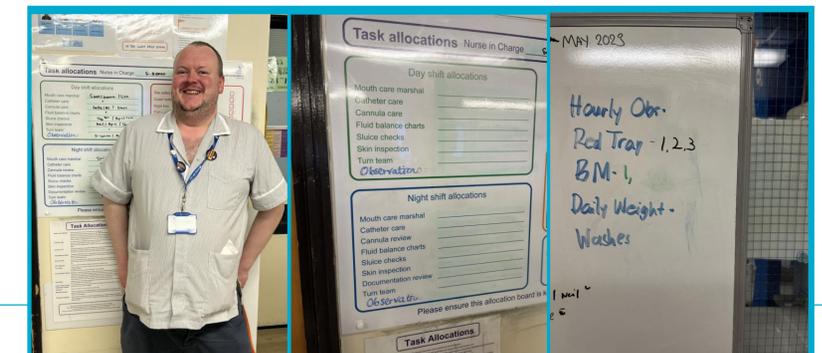
To improve the reliability of observations of Ashwell ward to 40% by June 2023.

DRIVER DIAGRAM



PDSA

1. Assigned observations champion during shifts.
2. 100% of staff completes NEWS2 Training.
3. Included deteriorating patients in safety huddle.
4. Written reminders outside the bay.
5. One-to-one with staff members of concern.
6. Collaborated with Clinical Practice Educator (CPE) in reinforcing good practice.
7. Wall-mounted obs machines for the side rooms.



From left to right, Simon Pacey, Ashwell Ward's Obs Champion. Someone is allocated to make sure that the observations are on time every shift. Patients on hourly obs are written on the board outside the bay to remind the staff.

METHODOLOGY



ENHT 7-step model for improvement

Leadership Learning

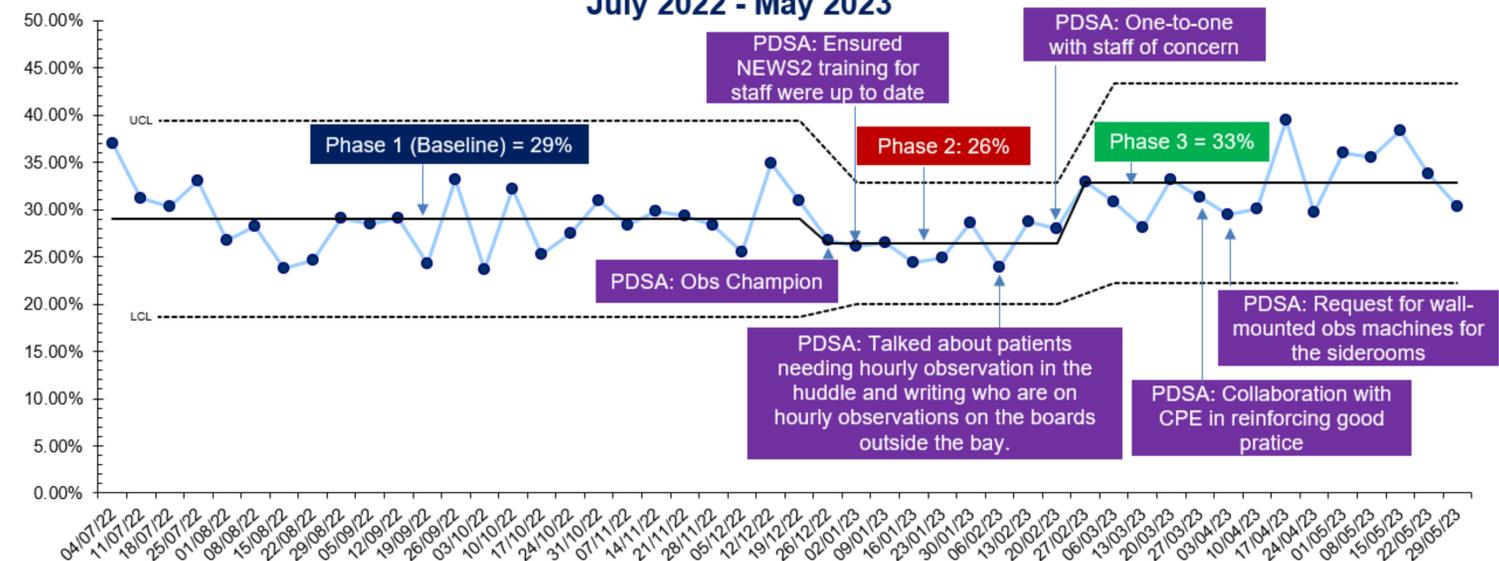
- It is vital to find a strong team to support you in implementing change ideas. I learnt the importance of good communication and ensuring what I have explained is well-understood.

Next steps

- Although we have not met our aim, our team intends to continue with the project.
- I will continue to work with the QI Team on this project and look forward to learning how to grow as a leader.

MEASURE

The reliability of hourly observations on Ashwell July 2022 - May 2023



Reference

¹ Recognising and responding appropriately to early signs of deterioration in hospitalised patients. NHS National Patient Safety Agency. (2007)