Overview

Background

The success of our IHI UBC Shadowing program has shown that undergraduate and graduate students are passionate about improving the current quality of care.

Many participants have requested the creation of long-term, practical projects to both complement their learning and open up career opportunities.

Mission

To provide both short-term and long-term practical opportunities for UBC students to learn from and contribute to the work of QI healthcare professionals in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Recruitment

Stakeholders

- VCH’s Quality and Patient Safety’s Releasing Time to Care Initiative, and “The Productive Operating Theatre” (PTOT) team.
- Dr. Malcolm Maclure & Dr. James McCormack
- B.Sc. Candidate 40% M.D. 10% B.Sc. Pharmacy 14% MBA 24% Other 12%

Student Applicant Demographics

Lessons Learned

Challenges

- Integrating student-centered objectives and institutional outcomes
- Breaking down initial barriers between students and staff
- Structured vs. flexible projects
- Dissemination of results and experiences

Student Feedback

“Our interdisciplinary background lent itself to new perspectives.”

Staff Feedback

“I liked having the opportunity to share our... challenges with the students and to hear their perspectives of our challenges.”

Future Plans

Currently 4 projects ongoing with more coming in Jan. 2016!

Introduce the practicum as an option for UBC MD students to participate for school credit as part of the "FLEX" program.

Acknowledgements

"Vancouver Coastal Health, Providence Health Care, PBCA Provincial Health Services Authority, Pink. Fraser Health Authority"

January 2015 Pilot Projects

Students were self-guided with support from staff, the IHI Open School Quality Improvement Practicum Course (QI 201), and UBC co-directors.

↓ OR Turnover Times

- Created protocol to improve communication between healthcare professionals, cleaners, and other staff
- With use of protocol, decreased turnover time by an average of 4 min.

Summary

Student Team

- MHA, RN
- MBA, BASc
- BSc Pharmacy
- BA Psychology

↓ OR Case Cart Discrepancies

- Modified an existing highlighting communication system to improve interdepartmental communication
- Updated surgical case cart sheets

MedStopper

- Evaluated effectiveness of the MedStopper tool in reducing polypharmacy in a senior care home
- Changes to user interface made
- Tool is now available for online use

MHA, BSc Pharmacy
- BSc Pharmacology
- BSc Computer Science

MHA, BSc Biology
- BSc Pharmacology
- BSc Integrated Science

BSc Kinesiology
- BMLSc
- BSc Pharmacology
- BSc Integrated Science