PHARMACY & THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE

Meeting 06/26/2008

Present: Tom Simpatico, Brenda Wetmore, Tommie Murray, Mary Beth Bizzari, Wendy Magee, Robert Duncan, Fran Levine, Anne Jerman,

Absent: Richard Munson, Debbie Bard, Steve Barden, Sarah Merrill, Terry Rowe, Patrick Kinner

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Approval of previous P&T Meeting minutes.

Topic 1: Night Closet:

Discussion: Based on the data provided at the May meeting of the P&T Committee, the Pharmacy, Nursing and Quality departments initiated and completed a performance improvement project.

Project Goal:

- Ensure prompt access to critical medications when the Pharmacy is closed
- Ensure a mechanism is in place to obtain medications from local pharmacy
- Have an ongoing review system to identify any new medications which might be required

Outcome:

- The Night Closet inventory has been updated
- Systems for obtaining medication from a local pharmacy are in place

The committee discussed how there needs to be clear guidelines for off-shift and weekend staff re: access to medications when the VSH pharmacy is closed and the local pharmacy is closed. The committee discussed potential options to include:

- Use of Vincent's pharmacy (closes at 7pm). The committee discussed simplifying the process to only using Vincent's when the VHS pharmacy is closed.
- PYXIS machine (very expensive and not a full pharmacy either)
- Virtual pharmacy services (VSH pharmacist was unable to locate a company that had coverage available in Vermont)
- Use of FAHC's pharmacy (unclear if VSH has a memorandum of understanding with FAHC for pharmacy services)
- Consideration of adding a refrigerator to the Night Closet for refrigerated medications (not possible due to size of space and required ventilation)
- Access to Pharmacy limited to a physician and nurse together to obtain required medication. The MD is able to dispense medications, and the nurse can accept the medications, and sign-out the drugs.

Action plan:

- Recommend the practice be changed to have access to the Pharmacy with MD and RN together for drugs required when all alternatives have been attempted.
- T. Simpatico and A. Jerman to notify all MDs and RN Supervisors
- *Emergency Access to the Pharmacy Protocol*. Doc on call contacts nurse, together they go to the pharmacy, log in log book
- Pharmacy to monitor and report status

Topic 2: Status on Pharmacy System – Performance Improvement

Data: Medication event reports and analysis provided to Committee by Quality Dept
Discussion:
Phase 1 work continues on the system, Wendy and Mary Beth collaborating on inventory information and needs.
Go live date set for 8/7. Mary Beth & Jenny logging inventory.
Phase 2 will provide the infrastructure required for the Electronic Medication Administration (MAR) and will create systems for MD direct order entry to the Pharmacy System.
In order to implement Phase 2 actions, the workflow for both Nursing and MDs will need to be evaluated and modified. Target is to begin workflow analysis in the Fall, 2008.

Action:

- P&T Committee to view new Pharmacy System to see operational possibilities
- System Demo – Pending (will inform asap).

Topic 3: Approve 2008 Formulary
Pharmacy has updated the Formulary for P&T Committee approval:
Action:

- Formulary approved by P&T Committee
- Formulary to be brought to the full Med Staff to endorse.

Topic 4: ROSIE/QUANTROS Medication Event Reports: Data Analysis

Discussion: Committee reviewed reports/ analysis generated from the new event reporting system ROSIE/QUANTROS.
Medication events- For medication events, the most frequent event are related to documentation on the MAR. Investigation demonstrated this to be a documentation issue rather than a clinical issue (i.e. patients did receive medications, but the Medication Nurse did not sign off the MAR)
Action:

- Nurse Managers are investigating each report and providing guidance to staff

- The new Pharmacy System has the capability to use scanning technology which would automatically document the medication administration. The use of this technology will be considered as Phase 2 work is performed.

Medication Events with score of Category F or higher:
Only occurrences within last quarter were real or potential ADRs

Notification of Medication Events: The Committee discussed the current and new mechanisms for reporting serious / potentially serious events.

- Serious or potentially serious medication events are immediately reported to the MD and Nursing Supervisor per the *Event Reporting Policy*
- The Medical Director, Chief Nursing Officer and CEO are notified per the *Event Reporting Policy*
- Electronic notification for investigation, analysis and opportunities for systems improvement is possible via the ROSIE System. Notification can occur for any level of real or potential harm including Category A (no harm)

Action Plan:

- Immediate reporting as per policy
- Electronic notification to Medical Director, Chief Nursing Officer and CEO of all Category F or higher events
- Quality Department review of all events to look for patterns or trends

Next meeting: July 24, 2008 @ 3pm