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Optimizing Care Through RD Checks

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Published In/Presented At

Ickes, S., Faura, M., Flickinger, A., Titus, K. (2015, May 1). *Optimizing Care Through RD Checks*. Poster presented at: Pennsylvania Dietetic Asssoication, State College, PA.

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Optimizing Care Through RD Checks

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BACKGROUND:

Within our facility an intervention called RD check is utilized. RD checks are completed based on the dietitian's discretion with a brief note in the hospital computer system. This allows for more frequent monitoring and adjustment to the patient's plan of care to achieve nutritional goals. Required documentation occurs in the medical record at established timeframes per policy. Due to staffing constraints, required documentation is prioritized over RD checks which led to decreased monitoring of the plan of care. This delay in the monitoring and evaluation of nutritional interventions can negatively affect the timeframe patient's achieve their individualized nutrition goals.

OBJECTIVE:

Streamline documentation to reduce charting in multiple areas to ensure all required patient encounters are completed.

METHOD:

A Kaizen (root cause analysis) was completed. It was identified that duplicate documentation of information occurred in the plan of care and on the RD work list. Additionally there was no established way to identify highest priority RD checks. The team collaborated on developing a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to assist clinicians to streamline documentation of RD checks utilizing the nutrition flow sheet and the nursing care plan. The SOP included a method to identify high priority checks.


RESULTS:

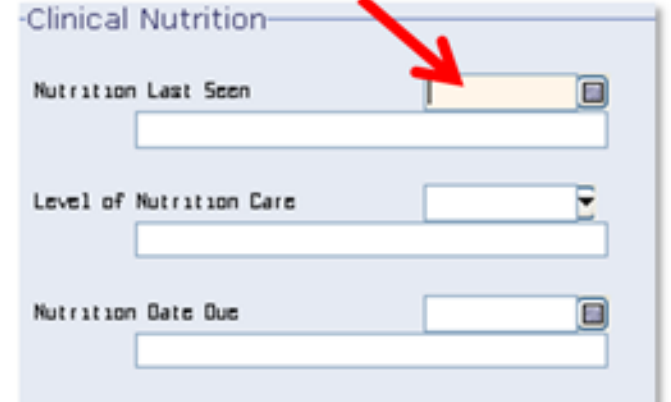
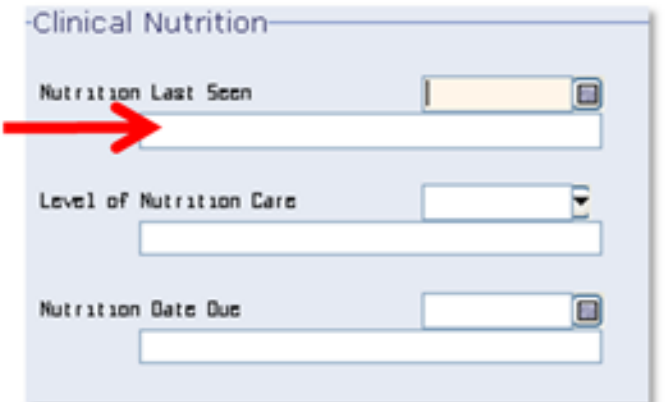
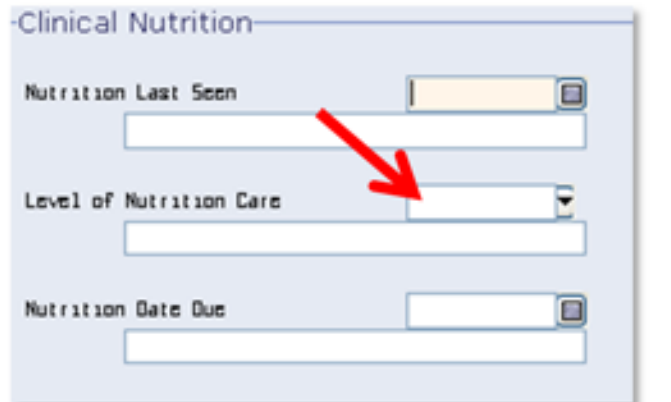
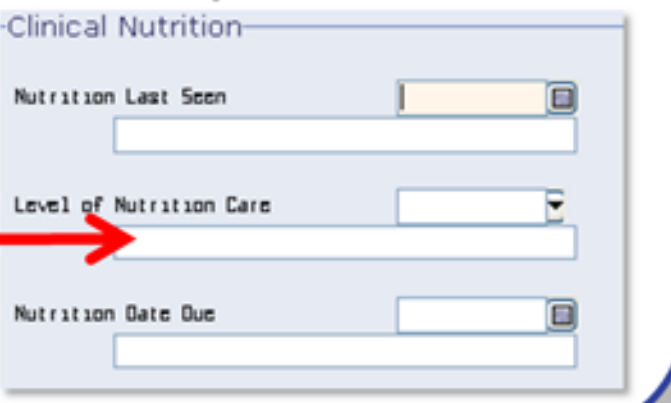
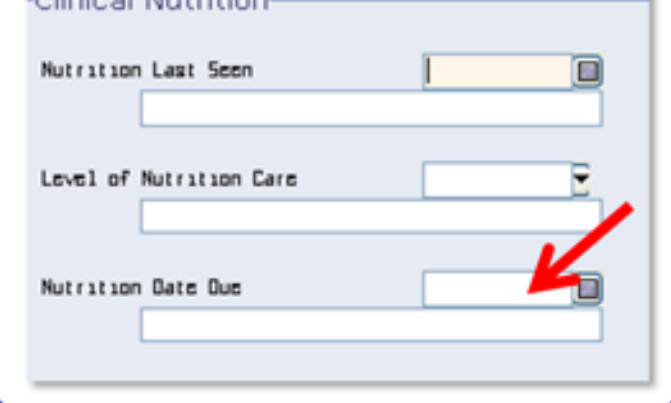
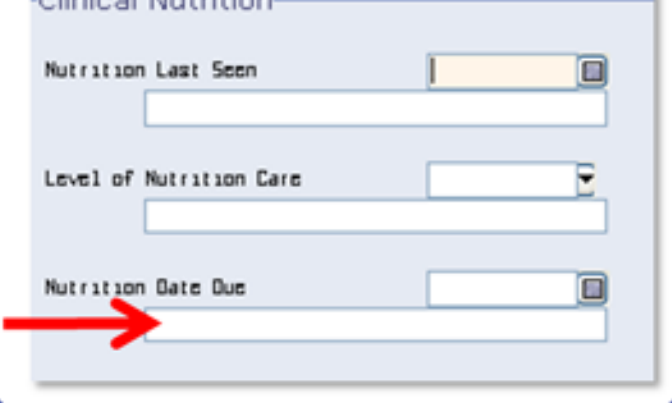
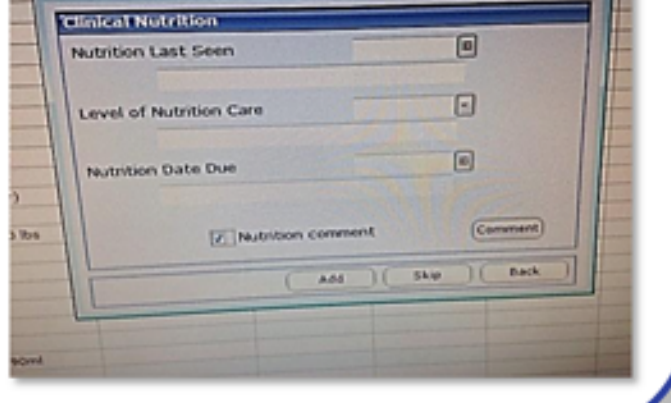

Results of countermeasures implemented revealed a 35% improvement for a typical RD check average time and a 28% improvement in complex RD checks.

CONCLUSION:

A Standard Operating Procedure and streamlined documentation promotes an efficient process for RD checks.

RD Checks SOP



- 1** When doing a check, enter check into flow nutrition. SOP for flow nutrition.
- 2** Enter date last seen in flow nutrition.

- 3** In the "nutrition last seen" box diet/TPN order, tolerance, supplement.

- 4** Identify level of nutrition care and whether or not its "chk" or "doc".

- 5** In the middle LONC box identify what needs to be checked on (PO, DAP, supplements, Calorie Count, Labs, TF/TPN). See box 8 if need additional space for RD comment.

- 6** Enter date the patient should be checked on or when a follow up note is due if no check is needed.

- 7** In the last line of flow nutrition use asterisk for high priority checks with a due date following the asterisk.

- 8** Click the nutrition comment box and then click comment to open the comment box.

- 9** Utilize the nutrition comment box for pertinent information for RD check.

- 10** While in view nutrition, type "Y", which would indicate comment with updated flow nutrition.

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