Non-legal hold sitter reduction – a lean six sigma project at a university hospital

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Affordable Care Act (ACA), Accountable Care Organization (ACO) and Triple Aim (Experience of care, Health of populations and Cost) have been creating much more pressure on health care organizations, especially University Hospitals. The Non-Legal Hold Sitter Reduction initiative, focused on empowering bedside nursing staff to make appropriate decision regarding the placement of a 1:1 sitter for a patient that is not on legal hold (5150) or suicidal watch. The team comprised of staff, charge, IT nurses and managers; using Lean Six Sigma DMAIC (Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, Control) methodology, created a new algorithm and electronic records to initiate and monitor 1:1 non-legal hold sitter use. Last year, hospital saved more than 600K in 1:1 sitter usage. The project illustrated that transformational leadership can successfully empower frontline nurses to get involved and collaborate to identify opportunities for improvement and achieve excellence patient care and effective organizational operation.

Biography
Van Le has completed her MSN in Leadership and Management in 2008 from Walden University and her Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Certification in November 2016 from UC Irvine Health. She is currently the Nurse Manager of the 28-beds Medical Telemetry unit at UC Irvine Medical Center in Orange, California, USA.

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