



VJHPS Newsletter

March 2017

In this issue: Success Stories

Vernon Jubilee Hospital Physician Society

Facility Engagement Initiative

Success Stories

MRI Task Force..... hits a home run!

On Thursday February 9th, funding was announced for a permanent MRI machine for Vernon Jubilee Hospital as part of a investment of four new MRI scanners for the province. The scanner is planned to be operational in early **2018** and located in a renovated area adjacent to the imaging department at VJH.

VJHPS supported the work of the MRI Task Force both financially, and in principle, and provided a conduit to meet directly with administrators and community members to openly discuss the MRI needs of facility based physicians in Vernon.

In September 2016, the MRI Task Force headed by Dr. Adam Weathermon along with Dr. Chris Cunningham, Dr. Ian Marsh and Dr. Kevin Wiseman, was formed through the VJHPS Facility Engagement Initiative. The work of the MRI Task Force was a broad strategy of engagement with key players to discuss the needs of the VJH for MRI from a clinical perspective, drawing on statistics and data to support our case. Having the issue on the minds of policymakers, senior administrators, politicians, and the VJH Foundation, helped the project move forward when external circumstances aligned. Response to the Task Force discussions were uniformly positive and the project formed strong alliances between clinicians, administrative and community leaders, all working toward a common goal of improving patient care. Much work remains to be done to prepare for MRI coming to VJH, but the MRI Task Force, VJHPS and stakeholders were a key ingredient for success in achieving this initiative's positive outcome.

Optimize OR Booking Slates Initiative

—was brought to VJHPS working group's attention back in the summer of 2016 by Dr. Hamish Hwang.

The challenge identified was operating room time was not being fully utilized due to a mismatch in demand and allocation of OR time between services. VJHPS recognized the importance of having VJH operating rooms utilized at full capacity and the initiative was approved for further investigation.

Meetings between decision makers within VJH were organized to evaluate the cause of the under utilization and the needed steps to be taken to rectify the situation.

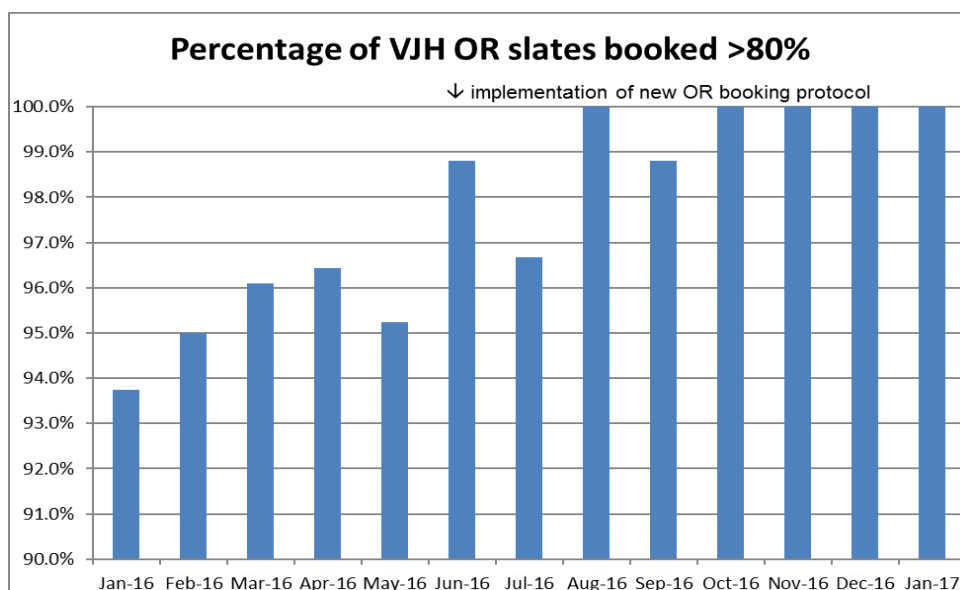
Implementation of new OR booking protocols were developed and utilization in-

creased substantially as a result of the collaborative work that was done.

This is an excellent example of how the VJHPS Facility Engagement Initiative positively impacted the following key areas:

- ◆ Patient Care
- ◆ Physician Work Environment
- ◆ Reduction in Per Capita Cost
- ◆ Capacity & Flow
- ◆ Delivery of Program Services
- ◆ Patient Safety
- ◆ Use of Allied Health Professionals
- ◆ Communication with Physicians

The following chart shows the increase in percentage of OR slates booked from January 2016 to January 2017.



Success Stories continued...

VJHPS WORKING GROUP

Improving Relations Between Hospitalist, Surgeons and Emergency Physicians Initiative

adopted by VJHPS in the fall of 2016.

Planning committee members Dr. Hwang, Dr. Kira McClellan, and Dr. Peter King developed a survey sent out to the VJH Hospitalists, Surgeons and Emergency Physicians. The survey received an excellent response and indicated there was a need to have an event that would assist in improving relations between the groups. The planning committee hosted 29 physicians for an interactive evening of networking, dinner and round table discussion.

Topics included:

- ◆ Role Clarity
- ◆ MRP
- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Documentation
- ◆ Co-management
- ◆ Transfer of care

100% of respondents filling out evaluations agreed (somewhat or strongly) the evening was of benefit and worthwhile. The following are some examples of the feedback received:

- ◆ "Great team building evening."
- ◆ "Well organized and useful event."
- ◆ "Excellent. Great networking. Great idea."
- ◆ "Thank you for organizing this. We are moving forward, together we shall conquer."
- ◆ "Sounds like an event with hospitalist internal medicine + FPs needed. Need more co-management options where roles are defined."
- ◆ "Please do more! Would enjoy working groups coming up with solutions to reported challenges at next session."

The event was not designed to develop "scope of practice documents" and "solve all of the specific challenges between groups" as these are being worked on at a different forum by representatives from each department. However, common feelings, themes and concerns from the event were brought to the discussions at the "interdepartmental meetings" via the department heads who attended the event and representatives: Dr. Foroodi (Hospitalists); Dr. Croft (Emergency); and Drs. Hwang, Ainslie and Wiseman (General Surgery).

Executive

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Dr. Chris Cunningham

Vice Chair

Secretary/Treasurer

Dr. Hamish Hwang

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Dr. Russ Williams

Dr. Kevin Wiseman

Working Group

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Diagnostic Imaging

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Emergency Medicine

Dr. Peter King

Family Medicine

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Dr. Robert Hillis

Hospitalists

Dr. Kira McClellan

Laboratory Medicine

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Internal Medicine

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Psychiatry

Dr. Russ Williams

Surgery

Dr. Scott Ainslie

Dr. Hamish Hwang

Dr. Kevin Wiseman

Women's & Children's Health Services

Dr. Michael Cooke

Dr. Stephen Friesen

SSC

Amanda Harris

VJHPS Project Manager—Anna Flasch



Photo taken by VO Photo

Top left to right: Dr. Scott Ainslie, Dr. Chris Cunningham, Dr. Kevin Wiseman, Dr. Adam Weathermon, Dr. Hamish Hwang, Dr. Jason Doyle, Dr. Michael Cooke, Dr. Glenn Vaz, and Anna Flasch

Bottom left to right: Dr. Kevin Smith, Dr. Kira McClellan, and Dr. Peter King

VJHPS Initiatives

Completed

Optimize OR Bookings Slates
Emergency/Hospitalist/Surgeon Event
MRI Task Force

Underway

Uncompensated Committee Work
Reducing Redundant Lab Testing
Perinatology Paediatrics Multidisciplinary Review
M&M Committee Catering
Neonatal Transport
Intermediate Care Nursery
Surgery Time of Day Research
Psychiatric Pod Area

To get involved or learn more contact:
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