

## REDUCTION IN PATIENT FALLS

The Orthopedic floor of a hospital was able to reduce the number of patient falls thus saving lives and resultant costs

### Business Problem

A hospital was experiencing an average of 1 patient fall per day (nearly 365 per year).

80% of falls occurred when patients were moving around the room.

Similar hospitals had to pay over \$1 million in damages in resulting lawsuits. Each individual fall costs the hospital \$5,000.

### CGN Approach

- CGN assisted the hospital in understanding the problem, forming a multi disciplinary team
- Used lean engineering principles to reduce patient falls.

### CGN Solution

#### Diagnose

- Used 3 years of data to analyze the orthopedic floor in a pilot program.
- Assessed the patients' risk of falling based on various parameters
- Analysis included factors like History of falling, Ambulatory aids, Intravenous Therapy, Weak Gait, etc.

#### Operate

- Created a checklist for nurses which included:
  - bed alarm
  - bed rails
  - restroom routine
  - patient's other needs

#### Control

- Metrics added to the hospital wide quality improvement charts
- Created training material for nurses to roll out the program across floors

### Customer Benefit

- The number of patient falls reduced from an average of 72 falls per year to less than 12 falls per year.
- Based on the fact that 60 falls were reduced for a year and each fall would have potential cost of \$ 5000, the hospital saved an average of \$300,000 per annum for that single orthopedic floor.

### SCOPE

*Identify the factors leading to patient falls*

### BUSINESS DRIVERS

*Patient falls, Cost of the falls, Nurse Training, Quality of care*



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