Tertiary & Quaternary paediatric centre
- 418 beds
- 52 specialties
- 4100 staff members
- Admits over 4000 patients / year
- Treats 240 000 patients per year
Background

• Commenced project in 2012
• Pilot ward – tested over 3 month period
  – Structured 3-5 min scripted huddle
  – Whiteboard – updated
  – ‘Watcher’ status
• Spread 2 wards - Further spread difficult (different teams/ patterns)
• Introduced ePSAG & Nervecentre in 2013
• New Med Dir 2014 – Exec Sponsor
Safety Huddles

- Safety Huddles are defined as a 5 minute daily huddle held at the ePSAG board at a specified time.
  - Attended by all nurses on the ward, lead doctors and any other appropriate staff members
  - EWS & escalation plans,
  - Identify the sickest patient on the ward
  - Identify any ‘Watchers’

Safety Huddle Script

Nurse in charge

Good morning/afternoon/evening, I am... [nurses name]... and I will be leading this Safety Huddle. We have 5 minutes to discuss all of our patients. We will run through all of our patients in bed order. For each patient the bedside nurse will present their CEWS score. If the CEWS is higher than 2 or the patient is a “watcher” the nurse will explain why. We will discuss them as a group so that everyone is aware of the management plan and any escalation that needs to happen.

Run through each patient on the ward and ask...
1. What is their CEWS?
2. If CEWS >2 or patient is a “Watcher”:
   a) Why is the patient a high CEWS / “Watcher”?
   b) What is the management plan?
   c) Who should their care be escalated to?
   [Once the team have run through every patient...]
3. Have parents or child raised any clinical concerns?

Nurse in charge

- Does anybody wish to identify any other concerns which have not been raised, or offer a different perspective on anything we’ve discussed?
- At this time, who do we agree is the sickest patient on the ward?

[If any actions have been identified during the huddle please make sure these are all allocated to individuals and are documented if necessary]

Thanks for attending. The Huddle is now finished.
Safety Huddle

Run through each patient on the ward and ask...

1. What is their CEWS?

2. If CEWS >2 or patient is a “Watcher”:
   a) **Why** is the patient a high CEWS / “Watcher”?
   b) **What** is the management plan?
   c) **Who** will take any outstanding actions?

A **watcher** is any patient you have a gut feeling that something isn’t quite right. “I don’t know why but I’m worried about them...”
ePSAG Boards

- ePSAG - electronic whiteboard system that provide clinical staff, patients and their families with an overview of the patients on a ward.

- Information is pulled from clinical hospital systems and displayed to enable staff to access clear, accurate and real-time patient information.
Watcher status

- The ‘Watcher’ status is a tool used to validate clinical gut feeling and parental concern about a child.

- Used to identify patients who don’t have a high EWS score but who the team may feel are still at risk of getting sicker.
Since January 2017, 100% of inpatient wards conduct daily safety huddles.
Measurement

• Safety climate Surveys
• Huddle Audit Tool
• Safety Dashboard
• Qualitative feedback from staff and patients/parents

71% of inpatient wards currently fulfil all of the ‘gold standard’ huddle criteria

"Being up to date with all patients on the ward has definitely improved the safety culture, as we are now all aware of each other’s concerns about patients.”
Staff Nurse

“I feel the safety huddles have made my ward more organised with better team work and awareness.”
Medical Registrar

“I think that nurses’ confidence in raising their concerns has improved since the introduction of the huddle, especially the more junior nurses.”
Ward Manager

![Deteriorating Patient Dashboard]

The child first and always
To ensure ‘business as usual’ throughout 2017/18, we have:

• Incorporated Safety Huddles into Trust induction (Medical & Nursing)

• Handed over to wards the monitoring of their huddles for frequency and quality, so that they are locally owned and proactively sustained
Thank you!

Example huddle