



SHN PAST/PRESENT/FUTURE

Mike Cass RN, ACNP

Rapid Response Team leader and project manager, Trillium Health Centre 2005-2009

Looking back, going forward

2005

- Safety as concept was not something that was thought about or discussed.
- Clinicians were shocked to hear that health care wasn't safe!
- "Improvement science" was not regarded as rigorous.

Adverse events data

- Patients who experience cardiac arrest at home do worse than those in hospital already
- "Those" hospitals are really poor, good thing we aren't like that!





SHN! campaign

- This looks important, we had better sign up
- How hard can it be to:
 - **❖**Implement six interventions,
 - Change culture and practice,
 - **❖**Improve patient safety,
 - ❖While being cost neutral?





- It will never work,
- We don't need it here,
- Our care is fine.





- "We are here to help"
- Go away, we don't need you
- "Ok, call us if you need us"
- On second thought, what about....





The results:

- Slowly accepted as standard of practice
- Disappointing impact on mortality
- Available data does not show substantial improvement in currently measured outcomes

The staff view:

- I sure am glad the team was here,
- I wouldn't want to work in a hospital without a Rapid Response team.





The patient/family view:

- It is very reassuring to have care come to you when you are in distress.
- The RRT enabled us to make informed decisions and ask questions.





2015 Current state:

RRT as an intervention is "old."

At least three major Ontario hospitals are implementing RRTs this fall.





Lessons learned:

We can dramatically change how we do business without influencing the final number.





Lessons learned:

To really see a difference in patient outcomes will require a different philosophy of care.

(I.E. Patient drives the process, as opposed to being shuttled through the system).





Lessons learned:

For change to be sustainable it must improve the day to day lives of the staff.





Lessons learned:

A better process of care (I.E. one that improves culture, communication, teamwork) is still a better process.





Lessons learned:

Measurement is important but measurement does not tell the whole story.





Thank you!



