



Stop Light Report: A Performance Improvement Tool

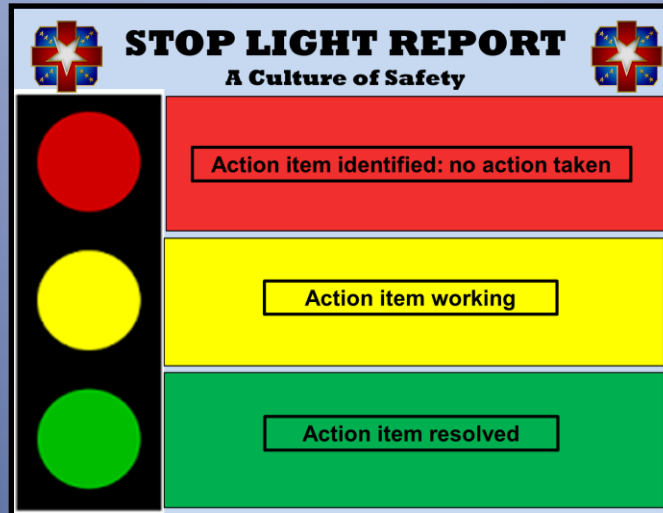


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Purpose: To provide information on a standardized tool for improving staff communication, patient safety, and performance improvement.

Elements of action item:

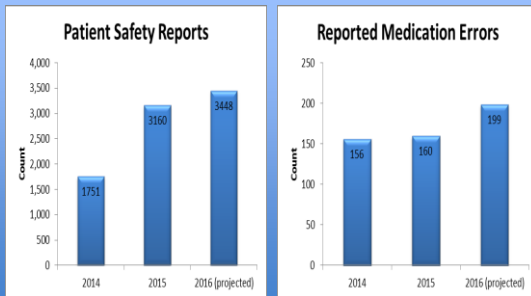
- Date initiated
- Point of contact for action
- Summary of status
- Date resolved or last updated



Background:

- According to the Joint Commission, problems related to communication contribute to 60% of reported sentinel events.
- Effective communication is critical at all levels of an organization, from unit-level performance improvement to multidisciplinary care line committees.

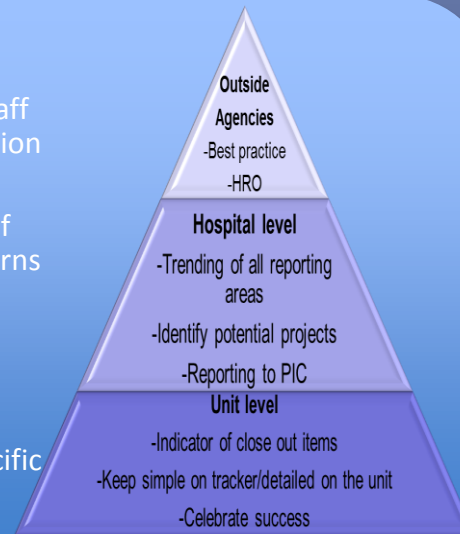
Statistics:



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Outcomes:

- Increased staff communication
- Increased awareness of safety concerns
- Increased safety event reporting
- Increased nursing-specific outcome reports



Conclusion:

- The Stop Light Report tool has equal application in clinical and non-clinical settings.
- Providing continued education and training on methods is critical for sustainment.
- Leadership engagement (visibility and accountability) at all levels is vital.
- Feasibility and sustainability must be considered prior to implementation.

Significant Resources

1. IC Root Causes and Percentages for Sentinel Events (All Categories) January 1995–December 2005)
2. Studer Group. (2010). The Nurse Leader Handbook.