IS IT POSSIBLE TO MAKE A HOSPICE MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY?

Authors: Katie Grace, Leonor Pacheco, Emma Rawle

Aim

- Reduce inappropriate landfill and incineration waste on City Ward
- Reduce associated financial waste and disposable costs
- Increase recycling on City Ward by 50%, within three months

Background and Quality Improvement

Why staff were not recycling

- Time constraints on the ward
- Takes time to separate rubbish
- Lack of recycling bins
- Lack of knowledge around recyclability of items
- Would CQC inspectors feel more bins would look messy?

Changes Made

- Measured Recycling output (kg) data on a ward for 10 consecutive days prior to interventions
- Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) methodology used:
  - PDSA 1 - Increase in number of recycling bins
  - PDSA 2 - Create educational posters
  - PDSA 3 - Send daily emails with facts about recycling
  - PDSA 4 - Teaching sessions
- Monitored progress and recycling output (kg) for 10 days after each intervention and three months later

Results & Conclusions

- Recycling improved by 244% after three months
- PDSA 1 most effective intervention, with a 58% increase in recycling following one week
- Financial implications - No discernible additional cost
- Increase in staff satisfaction

Future Steps

- We will implement changes to the other wards and reassess after three months
- Green Task Force to take forward further environmental improvements
- Recycling options under review for non-clinical areas

Challenges

Communication

Initially, housekeeping staff may have removed recycling from ward prior to weighing

Resources

Delay in obtaining bins

Time

Difficulty for staff to attend training

Working Together

All ward staff (clinical and non-clinical), patients and visitors were invited to take part

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