

Advanced Practice Summary Report

Project title	Pharmacist assisted electronic prescribing of medications on admission and discharge to reduce medication errors.
Health service	Austin Health.
Project aim	Reducing medication errors and improving patient flow through pharmacist assisted electronic prescribing of medication.
Key outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proportion of patients who had a medication error was reduced from 87.4% to 60% during the intervention period; • The median number of medication errors was reduced from 6 per patient to 1 during the intervention period. • Reduced the percentage of patients who had a delay in administration of their anticoagulants post-operatively from 87.8% to 71.0% and reduced the average delay in receiving dose from 10.4 hours to 5.9 hours during the intervention period. • Reduced the average delay in receiving the first dose of antibiotics from 7.8 hours pre to 3.2 hours post-intervention. However there was no significant change in the percentage of patients who had a delay in administration of their antibiotics (51.7% pre vs 47.6% post). • Reduced the number of prescriptions that contained a prescribing error or that required an amendment from 86.1% pre to 22.0% post intervention. • Reduced the median number of prescribing errors or amendments from 2 per prescription to 0 during the intervention. • The time that patients were discharged from the ward and hospital did not change pre and post intervention, this is likely due to the added role of assisting in the prescribing of medications on admission. • High staff satisfaction from all 6 of the orthopaedic doctors working with the pharmacist who commented that this resulted in a reduction of their workload and acknowledged an improvement in medication safety. Survey resulted in all 6 agreeing that this advanced role should be continued beyond the project;
Total investment	<p>Funding provided: \$74,684</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding costs included: staffing, operational costs. <p>Total FTE to provide service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharmacist
Resources available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None