

Case Study

SYSTEM-WIDE HERCULES IMPLEMENTATION RESULTS IN SIGNIFICANT PATIENT AND CAREGIVER BENEFITS

Background

Reid Health, located in Richmond, IN, is a not-for profit 223-bed regional referral medical center serving east central Indiana and west central Ohio. Reid is a nationally recognized leader in Quality of Care, including being named one of Thomson Reuter 100 Top Hospitals.

In October of 2014, Reid became one of the first hospitals in the country to offer a new and innovative technology that makes the lives of its patients and its caregivers safer and more comfortable when it decided to standardize its beds with The Hercules Patient Repositioner™ (Hercules). Hercules allows a single caregiver to quickly and safely boost a patient, who has slid down in bed, back up in bed with the simple push of a button. Now, Reid patients do not need to go through the pain, discomfort and sometimes embarrassment that has traditionally been associated with pulling a patient back up in bed.

To track the effectiveness of this initiative, Reid nursing administration completed an annual comparison of several key metrics to see if Hercules had actually impacted the patient and caregiver experience. Important metric data was collected for the year before Hercules was introduced and compared with the same data in the subsequent full calendar year after Hercules was installed. These key metrics included caregiver injuries, hospital acquired pressure injury rates and patient satisfaction. Summary results and conclusions from this research are provided below.

Results

PATIENT SATISFACTION SCORES INCREASE

“The feedback from patients and from staff has been tremendous,” said Kay Cartwright, Reid Vice President Continuum Care/Chief Nursing Officer. Greg Shock, Reid Nursing Finance and Special Projects Manager commented that while he cannot attribute this solely to Hercules, “I do believe that it has been a strong contributor in the increase we have seen in our Press Ganey overall patient satisfaction ratings.”

“Our patients love the fact that two or three people don’t have to help move them up in their beds, and it also reduces staff time and reduces risk of injury,” said LuAnne Christofaro, Director of Quality Assurance at Reid. “One caregiver can often boost a patient safely in just a few seconds,” Christofaro said, adding “that before Hercules was on all of our beds, boosting was often uncomfortable for the patient and sometimes even embarrassing.”

Michelle McClurg, Director of Patient Experience, said Reid is always seeking technologies that improve the experience for its patients and improve efficiency for their staff. “We know that a hospital stay in itself often involves discomfort because of illness. Anything that we can do to help reduce that discomfort and preserve the patient’s dignity is something we always want to do.”

“This is a product which meets multiple needs—caregiver efficiency, patient and staff safety—and allows great improvement in the patient experience when someone has to be in a hospital bed.”

Kay Cartwright
Vice President,
Continuum of Care, CNO
Reid Health

Reid Health Case Study

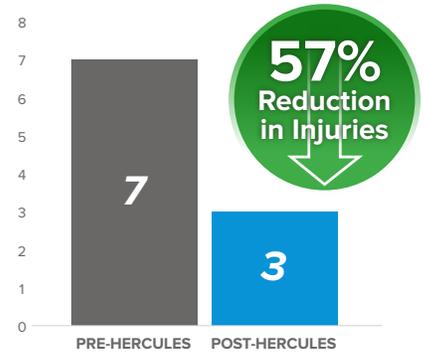
CAREGIVER INJURIES DROP 57% RESTRICTED ACTIVITY DAYS REDUCED 72%

Since Reid has been using The Hercules Patient Repositioner, the number of reported caregiver injuries has dropped significantly. The number of reported injuries related to patient repositioning for the 1st year after the Hercules installation dropped 57% when compared to the base year. The number of restricted activity days for caregivers as a result of injuries went from 94 to 26, or a 72% reduction. Of particular note is that no injuries, lost work days or restricted activity days have been associated with boosting on the beds outfitted with Hercules.

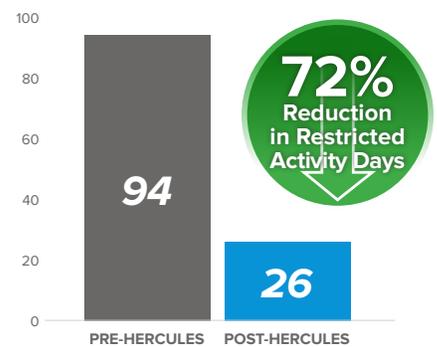
HAPI INCIDENCE RATES DECREASE 79%

From a clinical standpoint, Reid has seen a dramatic reduction in their incidence of hospital acquired pressure injuries (HAPIs) since introducing Hercules. Before Hercules, the HAPI incidence rate was 6.1% compared to the year following Hercules' installation, where the rate dropped to 1.3%, representing a 79% decrease. Cartwright added "Not only does the system reduce the friction and shear often associated with traditional repositioning, but I strongly believe that we have impacted our patients' care and well-being by keeping them up in bed where they are both more comfortable and at less risk for skin breakdown. Additionally, by using Hercules, we have seen a significant reduction in our specialty bed rental expenditures."

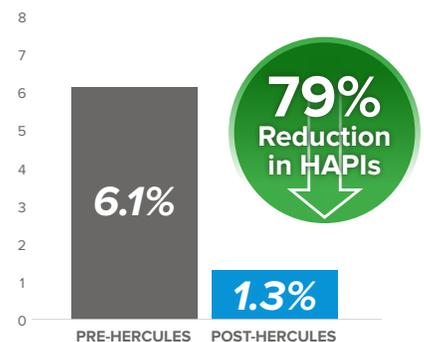
Reported Caregiver Injuries



Restricted Activity Days



HAPI Incidence Rates



“Making the decision to standardize on Hercules was a win-win for everyone involved.”

Kay Cartwright

Conclusion

“We are really happy that we found The Hercules Patient Repositioner™. This is a product which meets multiple needs — caregiver efficiency, patient and staff safety — and allows great improvement in the patient experience when someone has to be in a hospital bed. Making the decision to standardize on Hercules was a win-win for everyone involved,” said Cartwright.