### P415 – A Centralized Throughput Office Drives Bed Turnover and Reduces ED Boarder Hours

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#### Who is Stony Brook Medicine?

- 624 bed hospital
- Regional Trauma Center on Long Island, NY
- Heart Institute
- Cancer Center
- Children's Hospital
- Neurosciences Institute

#### **Project Scope:**

Understanding and managing throughput is fundamental to providing effective and expeditious patient care. Stony Brook Medicine's mission is to provide a safe, compassionate and efficient experience by creating a pull system of flow, wherein, patients are discharged in a timely manner resulting in increased bed turnover and shorter emergency room holds for admitted patients.

Due to high demand for services, increasing patient complexity and capacity challenges, a Centralized Throughput Office (CTO) structure was initiated in **November 2019** to provide oversight over patient flow by improving coordination of care and accelerating patient disposition for new admits, discharges and bidirectional transfers within our health system.

#### Who is the Centralized Throughput Office (CTO)?

The CTO occupies physical space within the hospital and is staffed 24 hours a day with employees from nursing, bed control, housekeeping and transport departments. They regularly interface with:

Social Work
EMS
Hospitalist Service
Transport Services
Environmental Services
Nursing Office

Nursing Leadership
Radiology
Physical Therapy
Occupational Therapy
Care Management
Hospital Epidemiology

#### **Learning Objectives**

- 1. Identify key drivers of patient flow and hospital throughput.
- 2. Describe how a centralized throughput office operates in a hospital environment.
- 3. Outline modalities to standardize workflows that improve throughput.

References: IHI Hospital Flow Professional Development Program, Spring 2023

No one in a position to control the content of this educational activity has relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies.



#### **Changes implemented:**

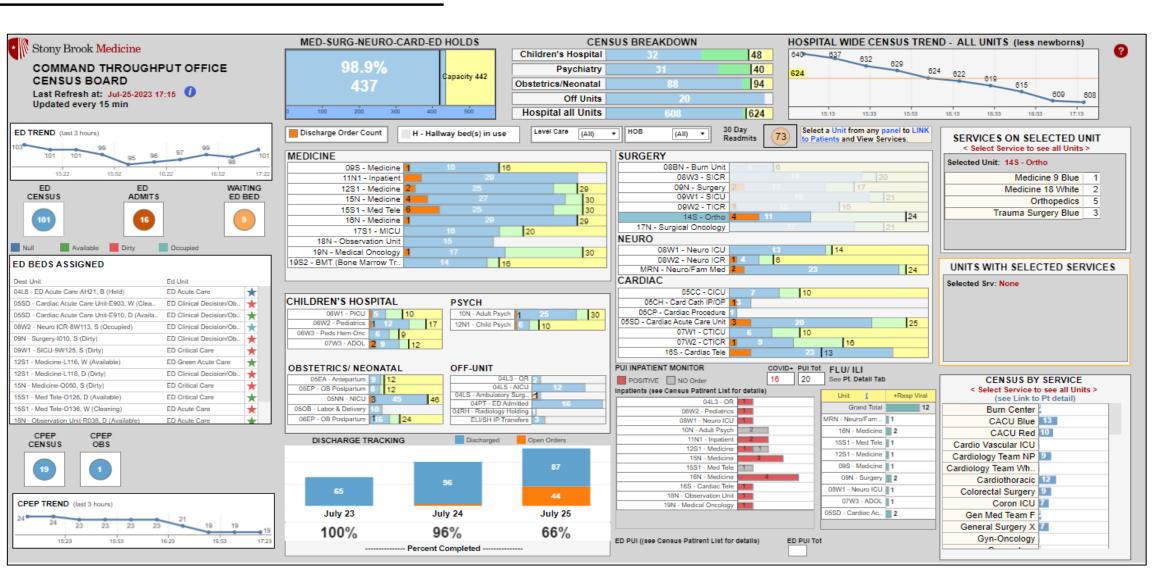
The CTO introduced a structure for interprofessional communication supported by EPR and Tableau tools

- The CTO strategically engages stakeholders from all disciplines, departments and services in twice daily huddles Monday through Friday at 10:30am (since 11/2019) and 3:30pm (since 12/2022). Weekend huddles were introduced January of 2023.
- Hospital performance is communicated on an on-going basis at a regularly occurring quality committee, CTO POD (Program of Distinction), established in September 2022. This multidisciplinary forum drives progress for targeted PI projects aimed at impacting hospital-wide, service specific and departmental throughput metrics.

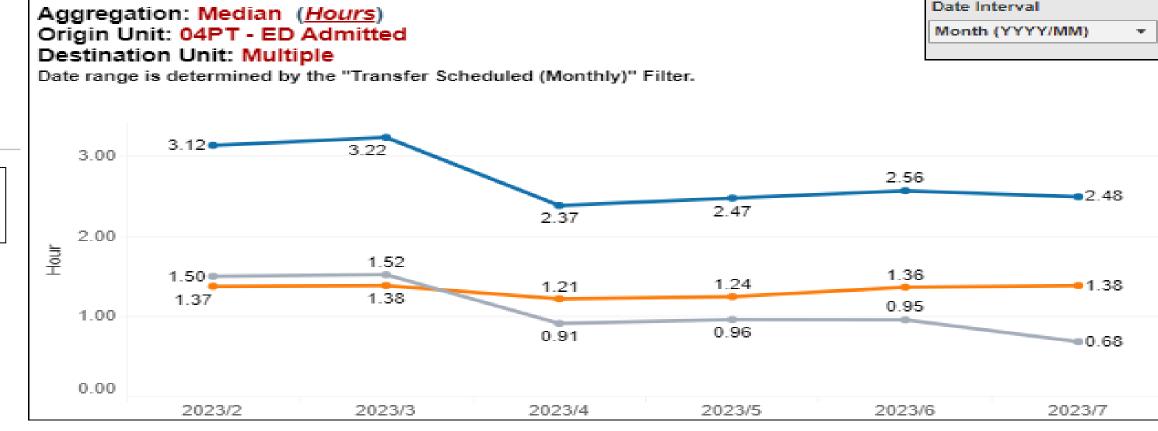
The command center leverages use of IT in daily operations. IT innovations include

- Dedicated m-page for coordination of needed services pending discharge by patient
- Real-time tableau dashboards to monitor patient flow and capacity allowing for around the clock coordination
- Retrospective Throughput Dashboards track improvement over time by team & unit
- MS Teams groups/chats to improve throughput for specific populations: HED,
   Psychiatry, etc.

#### **Command Center Dashboard**



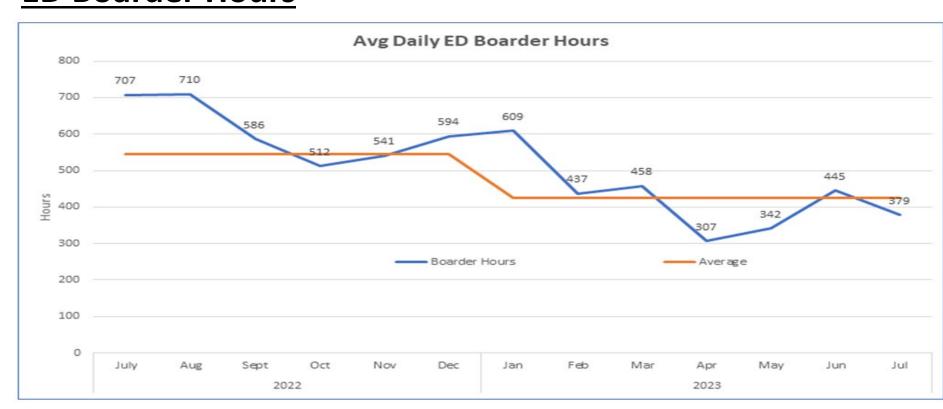
#### **Transfer Movements Throughput Dashboard**



#### **Key Performance Indicators:**

The goal of the CTO is to reduce patient LOS and ensure each patient is in the right bed as soon as possible. Bottlenecks in the process can prolong a patient's LOS as a boarder in the ED or PACU, thus negatively influencing safety outcomes and pt/provider satisfaction.

#### **ED Boarder Hours**



## Outcomes: Avg. Daily ED Boarder Hours have been decreasing gradually from highs in July &

August of 2022.

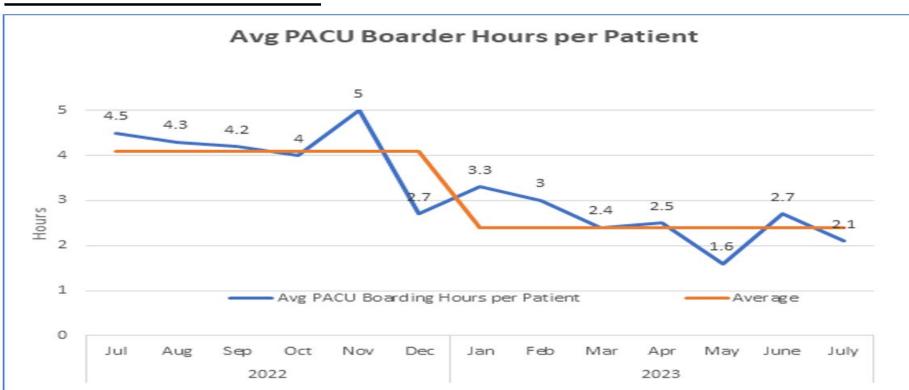
**PACU Boarder** 

#### **PACU Boarder Hours**

% Discharge by Day of Week

January 2023 February 2023 March 2023

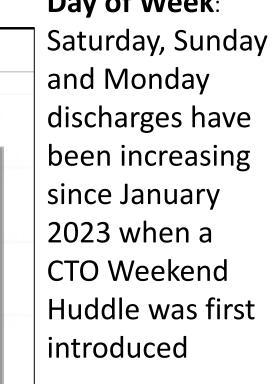
accountability in real-time



# This metric goal is to is to sustain an average per patient of **3**hours or less. This has been achieved since

February 2023

## % Discharge by Day of Week:



\$ 20.41% \$ 20.41% \$ 20.41% \$ 20.41% \$ 20.41% \$ 20.41%

Sat

Tues-Fri

Lessons Learned: Standardized workflows across disciplines help to reduce boarder hours and improve communication. A dedicated and 24/7 throughput staff prioritizes patients needing urgent resources and barriers to safe discharge.

Key Takeaways: Readily accessible dashboards allow for transparency and

May 2023

June 2023

