

FINDING & OVERCOMING DISCHARGE DELAYS

UNIVERSITY MENTOR - DR. SANJAY GUPTA

BY - FARHAT YASMIN

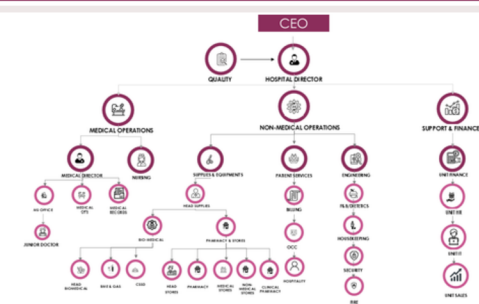
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ORG. MENTOR - ASHISH KUMAR PRAHARAJ

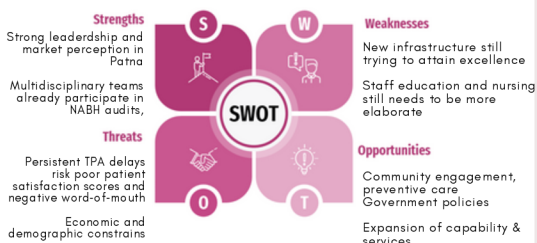
HOSPITAL OVERVIEW

Jay Prabha Medanta Hospital in Patna is a reputable hospital and offers world-class, affordable healthcare with 29 specialities. Spanning an area of 1 million sq. ft., it is equipped with more than 500 beds, over 300 experienced doctors, and 1,600+ trained staff. The hospital has significantly transformed healthcare

ORG. STRUCTURE



SWOT ANALYSIS



THEORY & PRACTICAL

THEORY

- Discharge happens in a fixed step-by-step process and in simple sequence.
- Read in OB module about human and employee behaviour, coordination, and theories.
- Read in various modules about how timeliness can help meet the SOP easily.

PRACTICAL

- It involves efforts from multiple departments; every case is unique, so both the patient and the system introduce variations.
- Behaviour patterns are complex and hard to predict; effective coordination demands deep understanding and collective effort among staff.
- Even when SOPs exist, delays can still occur because of many other factors.

CHALLENGES FACED

- Getting used to a new hospital's culture and work environment within a limited timeframe for onboarding.
- Emergency admissions and sudden physician rounds often disrupted the planned discharge sequence
- Working in a multifaceted organization that is complex and needs extreme multitasking with a strict safety record, highest performance standards, and demands unquestionable integrity.
- grasping specialized medical information systems, sophisticated equipment, and performing research within set deadlines

MISSION & VALUES

Deliver world-class, patient-centric, integrated, and affordable healthcare through focus on people & knowledge

Patient Centric Care
Leadership & Quality
Integrity & Courage
Collaboration, Learning & Innovation

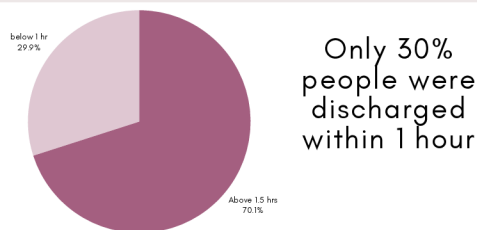
METHODOLOGY

Study type: Observational, descriptive
Sample size: 384 discharges (20 May - 15 Jul 2025)
Tools: Time-stamped checklist, MS Excel, Fishbone analysis
Key metric: TAT = Clearance received → Patient out

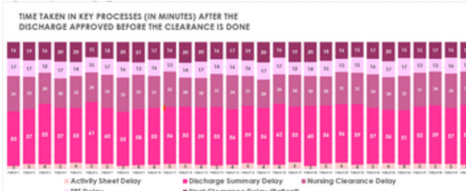
DISCHARGE PROCESS AT MEDANTA



PROBLEM



Discharge-summary prep & nursing clearance lags are clear choke-points



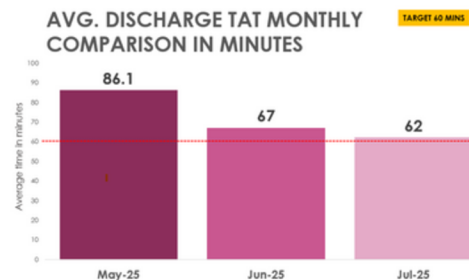
MAJOR LEARNINGS

- Interdepartment coordination is the key to a seamless flow of the discharge process & reduce delay
- Data helps find the root cause of the problem and operational improvements can be made basis it
- Pre-empting hospitality issues and talking to patients help find the key issues from the patients' lens

OBJECTIVE

- To study the patient-discharge process in the hospital.
- To identify the key factors involved in that process.
- To determine the factors that cause discharge delays.
- To examine the roles and responsibilities of staff during discharge.

MONTHLY MEAN TAT COMPARISON



FINDINGS

- Across the full 384-patient sample, the mean Turn-Around-Time (TAT) settled at ≈ 84 minutes - about 1 hour 25 minutes.
- 30 patients with TAT above 1.8 hrs were closely observed
- Discharge-summary preparation alone eats up ~ 55 -60 min - $\approx 50\%$ of total turnaround
- Nursing-initiated clearance adds another 30-35 min
- A 28.3% reduction is recorded in the 3-month performance trend—from May (86.1 min.) to June (66.1 min.) to July (61.8 min.)

SUGGESTIONS

- Planned discharge summary has to be made 1 day prior to the patients discharge day to avoid further gaps and delays after the discharge is approved
- TPT delay can be avoided with better tracking and monitoring to avoid any staff delay
- Patients can be shifted to discharge lounge if waiting for personal reasons
- Collaborative effort is needed to make sure things escalate quickly faster the clearance slip is received
- Assign one dedicated nurse per shift to focus on discharge related task