Patient Safety Debrief: IR Procedure Verification

Sharing Lessons Learned

The Patient Story

Two recent patient safety events in Interventional Radiology resulted in the need to repeat the initial procedures for both patients.

What We Learned

Ordered labs and cultures were not collected because roles and responsibilities of team members involved in the procedure were unclear:

- Confirming correct procedure and appropriate source of truth
- Assuring specimen are obtained for all ordered labs/cultures/pathology

Our Plan

Leaders collaborated with IT and frontline staff:

- Established workflows that more clearly define and delineate responsibilities during the time out.
- Modified the process to identify ordered labs by incorporating redundancy to minimize risk of a miss.
- Currently performing audits to confirm successful implementation & adoption of the new workflow.

Key Safety Takeaways

- Follow Universal Protocol for your area to confirm correct patient, correct procedure, & correct site for all surgeries and invasive procedures.
- Assure consistent use of the TeamSTEPPS best practice tools:
 - Brief, Huddle, & Debrief to define roles and create a plan
 - Establish a Shared Mental Model with the care team to foster team alignment
- Notice a workflow or process that needs improving? Please SPEAK UP! Your expertise at the frontlines is invaluable in our continuous quality and safety improvement efforts.

