AT'S HAPPENING

A newsletter for the Maine Medical Center family

Staff Continue to Improve Care With Operational Excellence

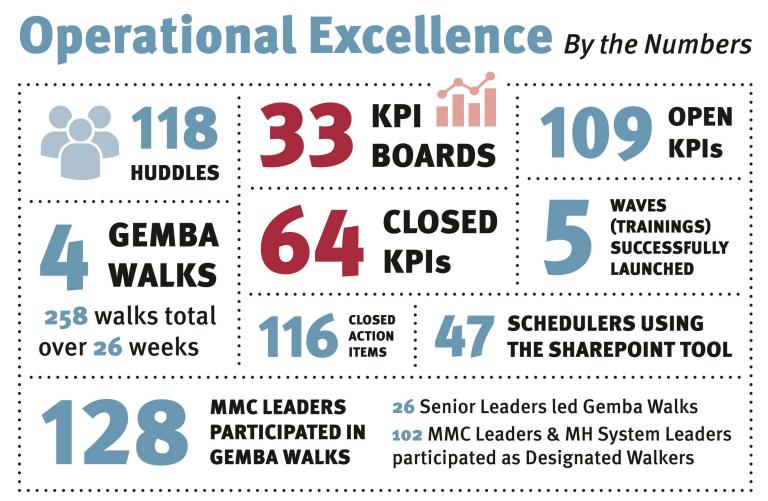
Operational Excellence kicked off at MMC in July, 2015 with an expectation that it would improve safety, quality, and experience for patients, families, and ourselves. Now, six months later, participants have achieved 64 KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) across 33 departments, and are eager to continue setting and achieving more goals. See our 2015 achievements "by the numbers" in the graphic below.

al Excellence reach beyond completing the KPIs," says Suneela Nayak, Director, Operational Excellence, Center for Performance Improvement. "With daily support from MMC's leaders during the Gemba Walk, front line teams are taking ownership of their care environments by choosing what they want to improve and making the changes needed to get there."

"The benefits of Operation- This year, the hospital's aim is to implement Operational Excellence in 80 departments and complete at least 130 KPIs, as laid out in MMC's 2016 Annual Implementation Plan. To help participants plan KPIs and share successes, a new Operational Excellence Share-Point site is now available and fully functional. A redesigned huddle board (which lists daily hospital census and other valuable data) is being launched soon, too.

"Through training and coaching, Operational Excellence is building an army of problem solvers who are making a series of small course corrections to improve our daily work," says Suneela. "This year we look forward to more fully engaging front line teams to push the boundaries of what we can accomplish when we work toward goals in a common framework."

Continued on back



MMC Researchers Receive NIH-Funded "Clinical K Grants"

Two researchers, Alexa Craig, M.D., and Teresa May, D.O., at Maine Medical Center's Research and Neuroscience Institutes were awarded KL2 Career Development Awards through Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute. These are Maine Medical Center's first "clinical K grants" funded through the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The KL2 awards are aimed at supporting newly trained clinicians for activities related to the development of a successful clinical and translational research career. The award is administratively linked to another project or projects. They'll provide the scientists with the opportunity to receive advanced training in research design and statistical methods, gain practical experience with the implementation of new studies, and develop essential mentoring relationships that will lead to becoming independently NIH-funded investigators in the future.

Dr. Craig received a \$325K KL2 grant for a two-year award to continue her research project titled "Delayed Rewarming for Neuroprotection in Infants Following Cardiopulmonary Bypass Surgery: A Safety Study." Each year, 40,000 babies in the United States are born with Congenital Heart Disease, and one or more surgeries are typically required during the first year of life to correct their heart defects. The project involves slowing down the rate of rewarming tion and neurologic recovin babies with congenital heart disease following surgery. The idea is that slower rewarming will prevent fever and help improve developmental outcomes.

"I believe there are extraordinary opportunities to investigate and foster innovative approaches to the care for our most vulnerable populations of patients namely, newborns requiring interventions secondary to

neurological and/or cardiovascular disorders," says Dr. Craig.

Teresa May, D.O., received a \$325K KL2 grant to support her study, "Variation in Sedation and Neuromuscular Blockade Practices on Outcomes After Cardiac Arrest." The study aims to explore the effect of different sedation regimens on functional and cognitive outcomes during temperature management in survivors of cardiac arrest and to help understand the mechanism between sedaery. Dr. May has ongoing work focused on the mechanism of shivering management on energy expenditure and cognitive and quality of life outcomes in the neurologic Intensive Care Unit. She is on a national guideline writing committee for Targeted Temperature Management and is the current director for the Neurocognitive Outcomes Project at Maine Medical Center.

Coming Up at MMC

Scrub Sale at Bramhall Tuesday, January 19, 7 a.m. through Thursday, January 21, 3 p.m. Open all day and night Dana Lobby

Scrub Sale at Scarborough Friday, January 22 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Scarborough Surgery Center

Research Seminar Friday, January 22 11 a.m. - Noon MMCRI 81 Research Dr., Scarborough

Maine Children's Cancer Program Moonlight Challenge Ski Race Friday, January 22 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. Shawnee Peak

OpEx Presentation By Paul Plsek Thursday, February 4 11 a.m. - Noon Dana Auditorium

For details on these and all upcoming events, check out the Calendar on the MMC Intranet.

"Operational Excellence" from front

Look for more Operational KPIs. Excellence updates each month in What's Happening,

sharing the extraordinary work and the dedicated people who are behind the

Tell us your Operational

Excellence story. Send details, photos, and contact information to mmcnews@mmc.org.

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