

Beating the Hospital Cost Reduction Challenge with Employee Engagement

A cross-functional team of employees in a multi-campus hospital complex garnered more than \$678,000 in immediate supply cost savings after adopting a simple-to-use team engagement process to brainstorm, test and put their best ideas into action over a 60-day timeframe.



SITUATION

When a hospital COO was faced with the need to find immediate cost savings to meet unplanned budget reductions without cutting back on the level or quality of patient services, he turned to frontline employees for solutions.

TEAM ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

The COO invited representatives from all hospital departments (admissions, operating rooms, nursing, facilities, labs, administration, and others) to identify immediate and long-term opportunities to reduce costs in hospital supply chain functions using **Rapid Action**, an “all in one” team engagement toolkit for accelerating results.

RAPID ACTION PROJECT CHARTER

How can we reduce and better control all hospital supply chain costs (service contracts, surgical supplies, shipping and freight, vehicle maintenance, office supplies, energy, and more) in order to meet our current-year budget reduction and long-term financial goals?

SAMPLE SOLUTIONS IMPLEMENTED

1. Installed a scanner to prevent instruments from being discarded erroneously with medical waste.
2. Switched from white to natural-colored towels.
3. Eliminated overnight shipping except in cases of patient care priorities.
4. Reviewed custom surgical pack contract for cost-reduction opportunities.
5. Revised vehicle maintenance schedules and adjusted materials usage to extend life and reduce external vendor expense.



I was surprised by how much we could save on supply costs by just connecting the dots on what's really needed and what's being ordered. The Rapid Action approach helped us get on top of that opportunity very quickly.

– NURSE SUPERVISOR

RAPID ACTION TEAM RESULTS

11

solutions tested and implemented

\$678,000

immediate budget savings locked for three years

\$321,000

additional budget saving opportunities identified for further investigation

64 days

cycle time from team launch to wrap-up

RAPID ACTION FOR LEAN HEALTHCARE

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The “All in One” Team Engagement Toolkit for Accelerating Results



Prelaunch Planner



Action Accelerator



Scripted Meeting Guides



Quick Read Booklets



Idea Sorting, Prioritizing and Tracking Posters



e-Templates & Tools



LEARN MORE ABOUT RAPID ACTION FOR LEAN HEALTHCARE

Are you interested in accelerating results and increasing engagement from your organization's change management and continuous improvement initiatives? Take a look “inside the box” of the most reliable process available for rapid, team-based improvement.



Call 800.254.6805 or email to request@improvefaster.com to schedule a demo of the Rapid Action Toolkit.



For more information including Case Studies and White Papers please visit www.improvefaster.com.

Leap Technologies

Improve faster through better team engagement!

Since 1993, Leap Technologies has helped healthcare organizations get on the path to faster, more-affordable Lean deployment.

Organizations including Carle Foundation Hospital, HealthPartners, Genzyme, Novation and Pfizer have accelerated results from Lean initiatives by deploying Leap Team Engagement Toolkits to productively engage more leaders and employees in “the improvement game” while building the internal capability to achieve lasting gains.

For organizations looking for a faster, better and more-affordable way to leverage the power of Lean Healthcare, Leap Technologies is the resource of choice.