

BACKGROUND

Expired medical supplies left ignored can lead to financial deficit, regulatory violations, and safety risk for patients. Best practices point to using a method that ensures supplies are used prior to their expiration dated. UMC has implemented the First In First Out Method to ensure these goods are monitored to avoid mishaps. The ambulatory division is an extension of the hospital but many staff were unaware of the method used and it's benefits.

PURPOSE

Using evidence- based clinical practice and nurse initiated protocols, the Ambulatory Division is bringing awareness to staff regarding the use of First In First (FIFO) Out as a method to safeguard against use of expired, obsolete, or damaged goods. This will re-educate and highlight the process and routine of ensuring items used in the Ambulatory care setting are safe. The use of FIFO has been a method used in the ambulatory care settings. Upon mock surveys and leadership rounding many staff are not familiar with the acronym, the policy, and process of when and how to dispose of unwanted goods.

METHODS

The aim is to lead in the development of best practice and validate through use of the John Hopkins Nursing Evidence-Based Practice (JHNEBP) Model.



RESULTS

Mock rounding shows staff more aware of the method as well as using the policy Expired, Obsolete and Damaged Goods and its spread sheet to remove expired items as well as evaluating to omit items or lower par levels.

CONCLUSIONS

Utilization and re-education of use of FIFO is a best practice to ensure expired, obsolete, or damaged goods are not used and disposed of correctly in the ambulatory care clinics.

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