New technology for the New Year at Gympie Hospital

The Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (SCHHS) welcomed the New Year at Gympie Hospital with some significant new technology to assist with smooth and efficient patient management.

The Patient Flow Manager (PFM) system was rolled out to all Gympie inpatient wards in the lead up to Christmas, providing staff with a convenient digital view of patient status from admission through to discharge.

Gympie Hospital Director of Nursing Nicole White said the state-of-the-art technology replaced manual whiteboard views of patient status and current admission care details.

“The PFM system enables staff to access a view of a patient’s journey and clinical treatment on a single screen, and it can be securely accessed on any of the hospital’s electronic devices such as computers, laptops and i-pads,” Ms White said.

“For our clinical handover sessions, staff view the information electronically on large screens instead of updating whiteboards.

“They can quickly see important patient information such as fall and infection risks, special dietary or other medical requirements, and referral requests.

“Staff can also get a one-screen view of a ward, its current and incoming patients, and bed availability, providing a convenient portal for patient flow and bed management.”

SCHHS Chief Information Officer Barry Mather said innovation is an important part of health care.

“The implementation of new technology such as Patient Flow Manager enables efficiencies, supports a clinical focus on patient care and aligns with the Health Service strategy for ‘Digital Health’ solutions,” Mr Mather said.

“At the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service, we feel it’s important for all our sites, and not just the new Sunshine Coast University Hospital, to be provided with new and innovative technology.”

Ms White said that the introduction of new technologies to the hospital required careful planning and cooperation across the health service.

“Our priority is of course the care of our patients, so there is a lot of planning that goes into introducing a new system where staff need to be trained and then adapt to new processes,” Ms White said.
“This particular system required the involvement of a large proportion of the hospital staff.

“It was a great effort from our staff and the PFM project team to facilitate a smooth transition across to the new system.”

The PFM system is being implemented at all Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service sites prior to the opening of the new Sunshine Coast University Hospital in April 2017.

Additional information

Gympie Hospital’s Director of Nursing, Nicole White, is the recent winner of the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service’s most prestigious recognition award, the Dr H H (Barny) Moy Memorial Medal. Ms White received the honour in November 2016 for her consistent leadership, flexibility through change, and her passion for making a different in patient care and the health service community.

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