General Surgery Mobile Procedure Cart: Providing Safe and Efficient Procedure Based Care to the Bedside

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Objective

To create a mobile supply cart with all necessary supplies needed for the most common general surgery bedside procedures in order to decrease the amount of times residents need to "shop" for supplies from other locations and prevent delays in procedures to get supplies that are not available. In turn, this will increase patient safety and quality of procedure-based care delivered.

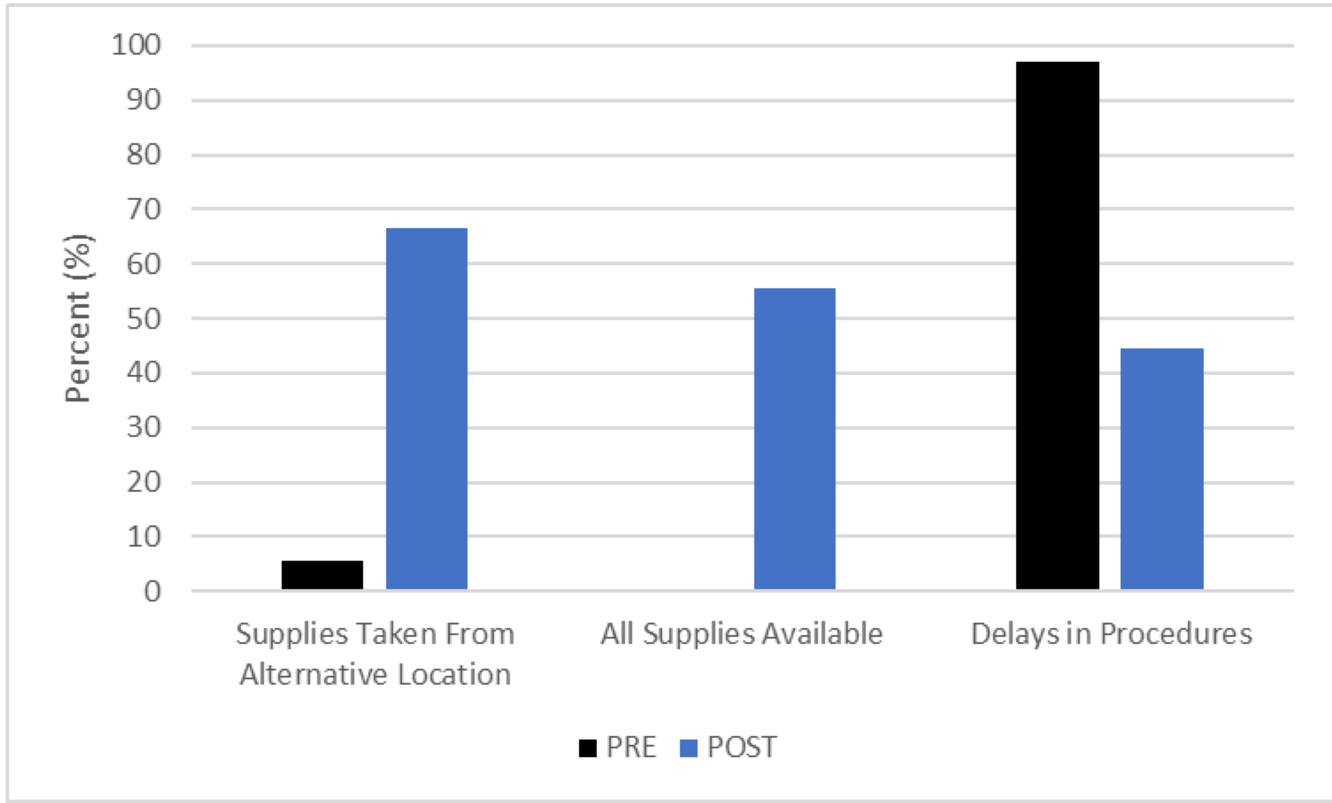
Methods

A five-question survey was distributed to the forty general surgery residents at TJUH polling the number of times residents had all available supplies at the location of the procedure, how many times they needed to take supplies from other locations, how many times they had to delay beginning a procedure to collect the appropriate supplies because they were not available, and finally whether they supported a mobile general surgery procedure cart. A similar survey was distributed after the implementation of the procedure cart which was expedited by the COVID crisis due to increased number of bedside procedures (i.e. central line access, arterial line placement, etc.).

Cause analysis

Comparing survey response rates before and after implementation complete supply availability increased from 5.6% to 66.7%. Procedures completed without removing supplies from alternative locations increase from 0% to 55.5%. Procedures completed with delays decreased from 97.2% to 44.4%.

How Might We: improve efficiency and expediency in general surgery bedside procedures



In conclusion, the implementation of a bedside procedure cart for general surgery procedures increased efficiency, expediency, resource utilization, and patient safety. This implementation needs to be sustained past the COVID crisis because even though the number of bedside procedures may decrease, the utility of this low cost procedure cart is clearly demonstrated.

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