Improving the Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Tyrone Hospital Inventory Management through Automation

Overview
The costs associated with supplies at Tyrone Hospital are the second highest of its operations. Currently, the inventory process is entirely manual, labor intensive, and difficult to monitor material levels. PAR (Periodic Automatic Replenishment) leveling is dire not only to patient care but to the financial capability of the hospital. Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of materials management can be performed through automation with use of the existing Meditech information system software and barcodes.

Objectives
The goal was to keep Tyrone Hospital's inventory at a minimum. Throughout the project, all key stakeholders were involved to ensure every aspect of a good system design was considered.

Approach
- Observed current inventory management
- Outlined a process value stream map
- Talked with key stakeholders
- Reviewed Meditech software manuals
- Engaged in site visits and conference calls for hospital staff engagement and explanation
- Visited J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital for a consulting session with materials management staff
- Outlined steps for key Meditech processes performed
- Demonstrated steps to stakeholders
- Surveyed stakeholders for opinions regarding Meditech

Outcomes
Tyrone Hospital is poised and empowered to accomplish their goal of automation for their materials management with:
- Specific steps to reach automation
- Support relationships with qualified systems technicians
- Equipment to capture patient charges
- Knowledge of their software’s capabilities
- Confidence that system can support their goal
- Reduced manual inventory tasks for nurses
- Expedited the development of test module in Meditech software