

Urology group drives shorter patient LOS

Surgeons typically round on their hospital patients once in the morning, leaving patient care monitoring to the nursing staff the remaining 24-hour period. Six urologists based in Norfolk, Virginia, evaluated the benefit of secondary patient rounds for post-surgical inpatients using the InTouch Health Remote Presence Robot. Using the Robot, each physician took turns rounding between 4 and 6 pm from their office or home.



BENEFITS OF REMOTE PRESENCE

- Discharge 29% of surgical patients one day early
- Hospital benefit valued at \$1.4 million

“My colleagues and I performed afternoon Robot rounds on a total of 62 patients. During these rounds we recorded all orders given. Since we do not usually see our patients in the afternoon we can assume that these orders reflect the incremental opportunity to speed patient care and discharge patients earlier. In 65% of the cases, afternoon rounds resulted in new orders. In 29% of the cases these orders clearly advanced the recovery process to the next stage. And in 12 cases (19%) we actually gave a discharge order during the afternoon round.”

(62 total patients seen)	Totals	Percent
Patients receiving orders via robot	40	65%
Discharge orders given via robot	12	19%
Patient discharge time advanced	18	29%

“Our hospital financial department estimated the annual value of discharging 29% of surgical patients one day early at \$1.4 million for a 42-bed patient ward.”

– Michael Fabrizio, MD



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