**PDSA template**

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| **Aim (overall goal for this project)** | | | | |
| The aim is to reduce the overall number of falls by 25%, and within that ensure falls with major harm\* are reduced by 20% in Ward 9 at St John’s Hospital by 1st November 2016. | | | | |
| **Change idea** | | | | |
| Non slip socks (posey socks) to used by all patients identified as at risk of falls, particularly where no appropriate footwear is available. | | | | |
| **Aim for this PDSA cycle** | **Cycle no.** 1 | **What questions do you want answered for this cycle?** | | |
| To ensure patients who are identified as at risk of falls are provided with appropriate equipment (posey socks) to minimise risk of falls.  Evidence shows a lack of appropriate footwear being a contributing factor to falls on in-patient wards. | | 1. Does wearing posey socks reduce the number of falls for patients identified as ‘at risk’? | | |
| **Plan** | | | | |
| **List the tasks needed to set up this cycle.** | | **Person responsible** | **When to be done** | **Where to be done** |
| a. Supply of Posey socks to be available on ward | | Janette | Routinely as part of stock orders | Ward 9 |
| **Predict what will happen when the plan carried out.** | | **Measures to determine if prediction succeeds** | | |
| 1. All appropriate patients will be wearing the posey the socks provided | | Staff feedback, visual observation | | |

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| **Do** | **Describe what happened when you carried out your plan.** |
| Ward staff applied posey socks to patients from stock on ward:-   * Staff removed the posey socks from patients prior to going to bed * Some patients asked not to wear them * Patients risk assessed as ‘bed bound’ were seen wearing the posey socks | |
| **Study** | **Describe the measured results and how they compared to the predictions.** |
| 1. Both appropriate and inappropriate patients were found to be wearing the posey socks 2. It was not clear when the patient was not wearing them whether it was because staff had not applied them, or whether the patient had refused them 3. The posey socks acted as a discreet way to alert staff to patients that may require additional assistance for walking/transfers | |
| **Act** | **Describe what modifications in the plan will be made for the next cycle from what you learned.** |
| Charge Nurse to add reminder to safety brief that Posey socks can and should be worn by the appropriate patients 24/7.  Patients have a choice whether to accept the suggested equipment - where a patient requests not to wear the socks; the benefits of their use should be discussed particularly for overnight if patient prone to bathroom visits or general ‘wandering’. If they still wish to have them removed this should be documented within the Falls care plan to ensure good documentation that appropriate equipment was offered to patient. In the case of patients with cognitive impairment this should be discussed with family/carers and documented. | |