

Table 2

Medication Error Rate Unfolding Case Study Stages

Stage	Information Provided	Assignment
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the case • Transcript of interview with the nurse manager • Transcript of meeting of the Quality Improvement committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the literature regarding medication errors (common causes and potential solutions) • 3–5 page paper, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ brief overview of the problem ○ initial perceptions of the problem ○ findings from the literature
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spreadsheet displaying raw data regarding medication errors over the previous 12 months • Medication administration policy and procedure • A sample of five patient records to be reviewed for data validity • Transcript of interview with a staff nurse to learn more about procedures and consider workflow redesign issues • Request to consider how clinical decision support systems may be useful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An informal paper including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ discrepancies between medication administration policy and actual practice ○ comparison of medication administration incident report form and information needed for quality improvement reporting ○ comparison of the number of errors in the previous 6-month period to the current 12-month period ○ description of times, locations, and types of errors
3	No new information provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 5–8 minute presentation to the Quality Improvement committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ containing audio and video components (e.g., narrated PowerPoint, Prezi, YouTube video) ○ summarizing findings and highlighting recommendations for changes (if any) to the policies and procedures ○ providing recommendations for workflow redesign ○ indicating the top three recommendations that would immediately have an impact on the medication error rate
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification that the committee supported the student’s recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An informal report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ summarizing comparison of the new data to the previous data

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Updated raw data regarding medication error rates after six months have elapsed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ indicating any readjustments to the plan that need to be made based on the data
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