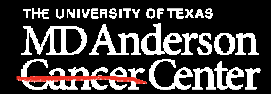




# Teamwork & Technology: Utilizing Core Informatics Resource Nurses Prior to an Electronic Health Record Implementation

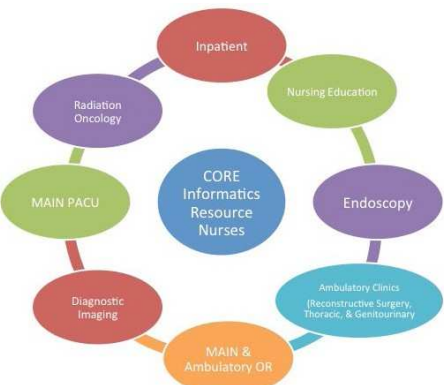
Team Leader: Cori Kopecky, MSN, RN, OCN • Team Members: Julieta Fajardo, MSN, RN, CHPN, Joaquin Buitrago, MS, RN, OCN, & Crystal Fuller, BSN, RN, CPSN  
The University of Texas at MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas



Making Cancer History™

## Background Information

The implementation of an electronic health record (EHR) can be quite a challenge in a large healthcare facility with more than 4,000 nurses. In nursing informatics, individuals review data, assess workflow, and track trends. During our institution's EHR implementation (OneConnect), an informatics resource nurse (IRN) program was launched. A core group of IRNs was established as a frontline team to assist their peers through the EHR adoption by disseminating EHR updates, providing feedback to EHR project developers, and serving as an additional resource to staff.



## Objectives of the Project

The core group of IRNs was identified, EHR objectives were shared, and project goals were defined. To meet all institutional expectations, EHR project objectives were evaluated weekly by the core IRNs. With active involvement, representation, and previous EHR experience across the nursing community in the institution, the core IRN group met weekly to discuss staff feedback, identify barriers to the implementation process, and evaluate staff progress prior to the EHR go-live date.

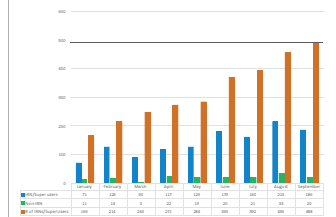
## Process of Implementation

To engage stakeholders in the implementation of our OneConnect EHR, toolkits show using one EHR topic and process at a time were created every month and presented to the nursing community by the core IRNs.

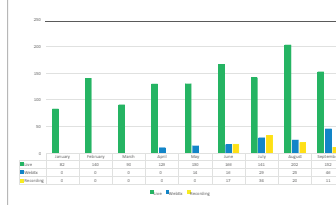
Multiple avenues of communication were used by the Core IRNs to disseminate the information, which included EHR Nursing Leadership meetings, monthly IRN meetings, Nurses' week activities, and a toolkit-on-wheels. The toolkit-on-wheels is a strategy of presenting the monthly toolkit topic to the end users in the play environment of the EHR using a workstation on wheels. The OneConnect play environment allows staff to practice in the

Nursing leadership allowed the Core IRNs to attend the monthly meetings where they learned about our OneConnect updates and monthly topics and interacted with other IRNs and nursing leaders across the community.

IRN Meeting Attendance by Role



IRN Meeting Attendance



## Results

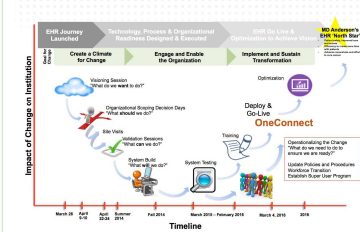
Since May 2015, the core IRNs facilitated the monthly IRN meetings and activities. Feedback from nurses was taken into consideration to improve schedules, meeting location, equipment, and teaching strategies. The monthly attendance increased by 50% from May to September 2015.

### Project Scope

EHR OneConnect will impact the entire organization:



### EHR OneConnect Overview



## Implications for Advancing the Practice

The core group of IRNs attempts to continuously provide up-to-date information and resources to nursing staff so they are ready for the institutional EHR implementation. As technology and evidence-based nursing advance, the Core IRNs must promote effective communication and best practice via EHR implementation and optimization phases.

## Statement of Successful Practice

Since May 2015, the core IRNs have facilitated the monthly IRN meetings and activities. Feedback from nurses was taken into consideration to improve meeting schedules, meeting location, equipment, and teaching strategies. The monthly attendance increased by 50% from May to September of 2015.

