Hospitals try quality program

Employee groups tackle problems

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More than 1,000 employees at local hospitals have joined in a quality management program that is supposed to improve the quality of care provided to patients. The program, called "Making Health Care Safer," has been in place for about 18 months and is part of a national campaign sponsored by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

The program is designed to help hospitals identify areas where they can improve the quality of care they provide. The hospitals participating in the program have been divided into groups of about 100 employees each, and each group has been assigned a project to work on. The projects can include anything from improving the way patients are discharged from the hospital to developing new ways to prevent hospital-acquired infections.

One of the projects at the University of Rochester Medical Center is to improve the way patients are discharged from the hospital. The project is being led by a team of nurses, doctors, and administrators, and it is working to develop a checklist of tasks that should be completed before a patient is discharged. The checklist is designed to ensure that all necessary steps are taken to prevent hospital-acquired infections and other complications.

Another project at the Medical Center is to improve the way patients are informed about their care. The project is being led by a team of doctors, nurses, and administrators, and it is working to develop a system for providing patients with clear and concise information about their treatment. The system is designed to help patients make informed decisions about their care and to reduce the risk of medical errors.

The hospitals participating in the program are being monitored by the Joint Commission, which is providing feedback and guidance to help them improve their quality of care. The program is part of a larger effort to improve the quality of care nationwide, and the hospitals participating in the program are expected to be able to demonstrate improvements in their care within the next few years.

"The Joint Commission is working to improve the quality of care throughout the country, and the hospitals participating in this program are leading the way," said Dr. Joel T. Litvack, president and CEO of the Medical Center. "We are proud to be part of this important effort, and we are confident that we will be able to make significant improvements in the quality of care we provide to our patients."