El Camino Hospital Utilizes Cutting-Edge Leaf Patient Monitor System to Help Reduce Risk of Pressure Ulcers

Pleasanton, Calif. (July 30, 2014) – El Camino Hospital, a leader in the use of technology to improve patient care, is utilizing the Leaf Patient Monitoring system to help prevent hospital-acquired pressure ulcers by monitoring the position and movement of patients susceptible to bed sores.

The decision was made after conducting a six month-long, 138-patient study of the system, which showed dramatic improvement in compliance with the hospital’s patient turn protocols. Turning patients regularly is the one of the most effective ways to prevent pressure sores. Baseline data showed turn compliance was at about 64 percent. When the full system was deployed, turn compliance increased to 98 percent.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reports that pressure ulcers affect more than 2.5 million U.S. patients annually and their treatment typically prolongs a hospital stay by nearly two weeks. Globally, they contribute to 60,000 deaths a year. Hospital-acquired pressure ulcers are a leading threat to quality, modern healthcare. Research shows that pressure ulcers cost the nation’s healthcare system more than $11 billion a year.

“El Camino Hospital takes pride in our application of technology to improve both patient safety and the quality of care we provide by reducing pressure ulcers to those most at risk,” said Chris Tarver, MS, RN, CRN, director of Medical Surgical Services.

The Leaf system is comprised of a small, lightweight, wearable sensor that electronically monitors a patient’s position and movements. Data collected by the sensor is communicated wirelessly to central monitoring stations or mobile devices so that caregivers can check on patient position and movement. The system provides alerts when necessary to ensure that all patients wearing a Leaf Sensor are repositioned according to their prescribed turning schedules to reduce incidence of pressure ulcers. The device has been cleared for sale by FDA 510(k).

“Our goal is to help healthcare providers end the risk of pressure ulcers that threaten patient care,” said Mark Weckwerth, Leaf Healthcare CEO. “We are proud that a recognized healthcare technology leader like El Camino Hospital has tested our system and confirmed its value as a tool to enhance patient safety and improve patient care.”
About El Camino Hospital

El Camino Hospital is an acute-care, 443-bed, nonprofit and locally governed organization with campuses in Mountain View and Los Gatos, Calif. In addition to state-of-the-art emergency departments, key medical specialties include neuroscience, heart and vascular, cancer care, urology, orthopedic and spine, genomic medicine and the only Women’s Hospital in Northern California. The hospital is recognized as a national leader in the use of health information technology and wireless communications, and has been awarded the Gold Seal of Approval from The Joint Commission as a Primary Stroke Center as well as back-to-back ANCC Magnet Recognitions for Nursing Care.

To learn more, visit the hospital’s website, [www.elcaminohospital.org](http://www.elcaminohospital.org).

About Leaf Healthcare, Inc.

Leaf Healthcare creates wireless patient monitoring solutions for health care providers seeking more efficient, cost effective ways to improve patient safety and clinical outcomes. The Leaf Patient Monitoring System wirelessly monitors a patient’s position and movement and uses that data to automate and document the management of prescribed turn protocols for patients at risk for Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcers (HAPUs). The company continually seeks to incorporate more patient monitoring features and capabilities into its technology platform, enabling ever-broader improvements to patient safety, clinical efficiency and patient outcomes. To learn more, visit [www.leafhealthcare.com](http://www.leafhealthcare.com).

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