

# 'Marco...Polo': Real Time Location

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## Assessment

### Opportunity:

- Implementation of Real-Time Location Systems (RTLS) for senior leadership nursing students. RTLS help locate students and ensure safety.

### Driving Forces:

- Support from key stakeholders (college president, instructors, student body, unit RNs)
- Funding from BRCN
- Telecommunications at Blessing Hospital (BH)

### Restraining Forces:

- COVID-19 pandemic
- Timing of the pilot

## Planning

### Short Term Goal:

- Pilot the use of RTLS with senior leadership nursing students

### Long Term Goal:

- Provide location badges for all nursing students during clinical experiences

### Plan of Evaluation:

- Change agents will monitor satisfaction based on results of surveys

## Evaluation

### Effectiveness of the Change Process:

- Change agent leaders will survey leadership nursing students, instructors, and unit RNs after the pilot

### Strategies to Hardwire the Change:

- College administration/Fall leadership students to continue project

## Summary

### What We Learned:

- Driving forces are fundamental to the success of the change process
- Collaboration is affected by scheduling conflicts

### What We Would Do Differently:

- Implement assessment surveys sooner
- Implement pilot project sooner

## Literature Review

- RTLS has helped healthcare facilities increase productivity, streamline workflows, drive higher patient and staff satisfaction, and reduce cost. <sup>2</sup>
- RTLS locate individuals in the exact location in the building which is convenient and ensures safety. <sup>1</sup>
- RTLS are used to quickly locate healthcare staff in case of a medical emergency. <sup>1</sup>

### Survey Results:

- "Finding a student quicker would allow for more teaching time. This is especially valuable in the hands-on clinical area." – Clinical Faculty

## Implementation

### Strategy for Handling Resistance:

- Share survey results

### Implementation Steps:

- Developed pre-implementation surveys
- Sought approval from college president
- Designated leadership students for pilot group
- Obtained 20 badges from telecommunications
- Developed process for pilot implementation
- Designed survey for use after pilot



Figure 1.

## References

1. Kamel Boulos, M. N., & Berry, G. (2012). Real-time locating systems (RTLS) in healthcare: A condensed primer. *International Journal of Health Geographics*, 11, 25. <https://doi.org/10.1186/1476-072X-11-25>
2. Real Time Location Services. (n.d.). Retrieved April 5, 2020, from <https://centrak.com/>

### Figure List

Figure 1. Real Time Location System [Personal photograph taken in Quincy, IL]. (2020, April 20). Real Time Location System on BRCN scrub top.

### Acknowledgements:

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