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Summary

Where do we lose time? A nurse-led analysis of workflow

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Nurses

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A time-motion study of 108 endoscopy cases identified that 39% of room occupancy time was periprocedural, with physician availability and scope readiness being key delay factors in turnovers.

KEY POINTS

- The speaker reported median waiting time after patient arrival was 18 minutes, median time from patient on table to procedure start was 12 minutes, and median room occupancy was 49 minutes with 61% being procedure time.
- The physician was the last missing condition in most cases delaying start, while the scope was unavailable in 15% of cases; when all conditions were ready, median wait to start was only 3 minutes.
- Among long turnover delays, the speaker stated four cases were due to physician availability, two to scope readiness, and one to patient transfer.
- The speaker proposed workflow changes including preparing patients in separate rooms, dedicated porters and reprocessing staff, and parallel work during turnovers to reduce delays.
- The speaker suggested saved time could improve patient care through better communication and documentation, and benefit staff through more predictable schedules and reduced overtime.
- The study used nurse-led observation over 18 days in two rooms; the team plans to implement changes and re-measure to close the audit cycle.

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