



CLIENT SUCCESS

LAKELAND REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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**DECREASED
VENTILATOR
LENGTH OF SERVICE BY
8 HOURS**

WHAT WILL YOU
ACCOMPLISH WITH
**MEDILINKS
RESPRE**



"With the help of MediLinks Respre, we were able to significantly reduce our ventilator length of service."

- Rodney Bevis
Respiratory Manager



The Measurable Impact of MediServe

Since the implementation of MediLinks Respre in late October of 2009, Lakeland Regional Medical Center has experienced:

- Increased spontaneous breathing trials (SBT)
- Improved compliance to SBT protocols
- Decreased average ventilator length of service
- Achieved target reintubation rate of 15%



Lakeland Regional Medical Center is a level-two trauma center that has served its community for more than 80 years. With 851 beds, Lakeland treats adult patients in four ICUs, running an average of 40 ventilators. Lakeland demonstrated its commitment to the highest quality of care by instituting protocols for safely qualifying and performing spontaneous breathing trials (SBTs).

THE NEED FOR AUTOMATION

Despite these SBT protocols, the process suffered from the cumbersome imprecision of a paper-based system. According to Lakeland's Dr. Dean Sandifer, one significant shortcoming of the paper system was that they couldn't reliably identify a therapist who didn't regularly and accurately perform SBT screenings and trials.

Lakeland's paper-based system inadequately enforced individual SBTs and failed to provide Lakeland with sufficiently current SBT statistics. Respiratory therapists kept daily records of every ventilator patient. However, the information could only be compiled once a month, by hand, to determine SBT qualifiers and track the facility's overall performance. A further difficulty, says Bevis, is that paper forms can be lost or incomplete, and totals can be miscalculated.

In short, Lakeland needed a solution that could provide greater personal accountability for SBT protocols throughout the facility, as well as an accurate and complete picture of the facility's ongoing SBT performance.

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- Rodney Bevis
Respiratory Manager

THE MEDISERVE SOLUTION

In late October of 2009, Lakeland implemented MediLinks Respre to bring the power of automation and electronic records to their existing SBT protocols. The results have been dramatic. "As we have become more automated with our Spontaneous Breathing Trial protocols, the number of patients who receive SBTs has quadrupled," says Sandifer.

MediLinks Respre enforces staff compliance to the SBT protocols by issuing decision support questions; prompting staff to document the reasons for the procedural choices they make. "This solution gives transparency to the SBT process," says Bevis. "We now have the ability to hold staff accountable." Using the built-in reporting capabilities and the detailed electronic documentation, managers can now identify and coach any clinician needing help with SBT qualifications and trials. Because all recorded data is available at any moment, management will know if a physician or therapist is delaying an SBT for a qualifying patient. "We are able to tell who's responsible for dragging their feet in the SBT process," Bevis says.

Improved accountability brings increased SBT performance. "With MediLinks Respre, patient assessments are more frequent, consistent and thorough," says Sandifer. With daily SBT qualifications, clinicians are weaning patients off ventilators more quickly and safely, reducing average ventilator length of service by seven to eight hours. Bevis says, "With the help of MediLinks Respre, we were able to significantly reduce our Ventilator Length of Service." And with reintubation meeting Lakeland's target rate of 15%, Bevis is confident when he says, "We're moving in a positive direction."