

Surgery Logistics LLC



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Courtesy photo

Dr. Keley John Booth of Surgery Logistics LLC in Oklahoma City.

The preparation and work process flow of a medical surgery is complicated and rife with potential delays – which means there’s also plenty of room for refinement, Dr. Keley John Booth said.

Booth, an anesthesiologist, likened hospital perioperative care to traffic through an airport, because in both cases no one wants to hang around any longer than absolutely necessary and mistakes can be costly.

“It can be challenging to find out what’s happening in your environment and how to make sure the patient flow is working well, to meet not only the patient’s needs but the surgery staff as well to stay productive,” said Booth, head of Surgery Logistics LLC in Oklahoma City. “When we make a commitment to a patient that surgery is going to occur at a particular time, we do our best to do exactly that ... for multiple patients through the day. A delay early in the day can affect everything that follows.”

Booth started working on Surgery Logistics platform several years ago as a communication and logistical support tool for his own operating room needs at Integris Southwest Medical Center. Operating rooms are the most expensive parts of hospitals on a timed-cost basis, he said. A single operating room with the minimum professional staff for a simple procedure can cost up to \$300 per minute. That’s \$18,000 for one hour lost per day if the team’s work flow falls out of sync, an expense that has to be compensated somehow in the hospital’s budget. According to some industry estimates, surgery accounts for more than 60 percent of a hospital’s total revenue each year, even

though only 20 percent of a hospital’s employees work there.

Booth said that bottom line provides a solid base for Surgery Logistics to grow as a business service that can be outsourced to other hospitals across the country.

“Surgery Logistics is a unique solution developed by surgical and perioperative care delivery professionals to empower operating room departments to fundamentally improve resource utilization in an effort to deliver the most effective means of surgical care,” Booth said. “If we are going to move forward in our efforts to address the growing health care crisis, solutions such as surgery Logistics will be critical to the responsible overhaul of our care delivery institutions.”

The system provides administrative information in real time that doctors and managers need for on-the-spot decisions, as well as data analysis and reporting tools necessary for long-term planning and changes. The system centralizes changes to case schedules and provides a time stamp on patients’ progress from hospital admission through their post-operative care.

“It didn’t take long for us to realize how positive our outcomes were, how we were able to improve from year to year on a number of key metrics,” Booth said. “It had potential to be transformational at an international level.”

In addition to significant improvement in patient, physician and staff satisfaction, the results showed a 20-percent decrease in time between consecutive surgeries, a 40-percent reduction in delay time per surgical case and a 40-percent improvement in surgical first case on-time starts.