

**Project Title:** Creation of an integrated Anesthesia Preoperative Optimization Clinic (APOC)

**Name:** Stacey Watt, MD, MBA, MHPE, FASA

**Institution:** Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

**Collaborators:**

Allison Brashear, MD, MBA	Dean, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
Cheryl Klass, RN	COO, CNE Kaleida Health
Stephen Turkovich, MD	President and CMO, John R. Oishei Children's Hospital
Jessica Mabie	Vice President of Hospital Operations

**Topic Category:** Clinical

**Background/Significance:** The importance of preoperative optimization is paramount to the safety of patients undergoing surgical procedures, but the impact reaches far outside the operating room suites. A department focused upon the optimization of patients scheduled for surgery improves the quality of care, but also decreases overall costs to the health care system.

An Anesthesia Preoperative Optimization Clinic (APOC) across the Kaleida Health system would utilize the existing resources of the health care system to create a department focused on ensuring patients scheduled for surgery receive the necessary testing, consultations and resources necessary to have an optimal outcome. In addition, the department would work to reduce the redundancy of testing and eliminating unnecessary costs to the patient and health care system. The overall impact being a safer, more efficient and cost-effective preoperative experience.

**Purpose/Objective:** The purpose of APOC is to develop a department through the unification of the three current preoperative anesthesia clinics within Kaleida Health, to utilize best practices to standardize preoperative assessment, eliminate redundancy of testing, integrate telemedicine platforms and improve the global quality of care.

**Methods/Approach:**

- Process map current preoperative assessment pathway
- Summarize current resource allocation of preoperative anesthesia clinics
- Collaborate with stakeholders to determine a needs assessment
- Draft an APOC process map, departmental structure and budget for presentation

**Results/Outcomes:** The APOC presentation to our executive team was successful and the project has been assigned an executive sponsor for next phase project planning. The long-term outcomes of this project will be demonstrated through reduced case cancellations, improved on-time starts, reduced OR turn around times, increased surgical volume and improved satisfaction scores from family and patients on survey reports.

**Discussion/Statement of Impact:** The creation of a system-wide APOC Department will centralize, standardize and improve the overall quality and efficiency of care we provide to our patients awaiting surgery.

**Next Steps:**

- Work with billing department/revenue cycle team to determine how APOC can be compensated.
- Collaboration with nutrition services, physical/occupational therapy and pharmacy to determine how to best incorporate these teams into the APOC department.
- Data analysis of surgical scheduling has been incorporated within APOC and health care administration have requested the APOC department becoming involved in overseeing surgical scheduling as a phase two of this project.