Nurse Scheduling:
A Successful Multi-Site O.R. Implementation - Why?

Abstract

As was pointed out at the ORSA-TIMS-AIIE Meeting in Atlantic City two years ago, the only multi-site successful implementation of an operations research study in health was the menu-planning and dietary inventory model developed by Joseph Balintfy et al. At that time, a second study was well underway to multi-site success. This latter study was the scheduling of nursing personnel. In the past year or so a Nurse Scheduling Package has been implemented at a dozen hospitals. This paper explores the reasons for the success of these multi-site implementations and suggests strategies for carrying other O.R. projects beyond their initial site.