

Abstract

Objective: This quality improvement project sought to increase the knowledge of PCU staff, at an urban academic medical center in Baltimore, regarding the importance of proper personal protective equipment (PPE) compliance as well as increase PPE compliance with staff.

Methods: This project used a 1-group pretest—posttest design comparing knowledge scores of PPE at baseline and after the intervention. The intervention was an education module by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) about the importance of PPE and how to properly don and doff PPE.

Results: A total of 31 employees from the PCU were enrolled in this project. Based on the results of the Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test, there was a statistically significant change in pre and immediate post-test scores ($Z = -4.610, p = .000$) following the education module. Changes in PPE compliance amongst staff improved, however were not statistically significant.

Conclusion: This pilot study found that knowledge scores of staff about PPE showed a statistically significant change after an education session. Limitations of the study include COVID-19 pandemic, due to increased awareness about PPE, a small sample size, and independent sample groups for pre- and post-education observations. The rate of PPE compliance based on 100 observations increased from 67% to 93% compliance. This is a clinically significant increase.