Communication with Mechanically Ventilated Patients: A Quality Improvement Project
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**Background**
- Mechanical ventilation significantly impacts ability to communicate
- Inability to effectively communicate
- Fear
- Anxiety
- Loss of Control
- Patient dependent on nurse for communication
- Nurses not offered effective resources or education
- Nurse feeling inadequate/failure

**Methods**
- Pre/Post Design
- Aims: increase nurse satisfaction, confidence, & knowledge in communicating with mechanically ventilated patients
- SPEACS-2 CTP

**Implications**

Low level of satisfaction, confidence, & knowledge reinforce need for additional education

**Results**

Demographic characteristics of nurse participants (n = 36)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categorical variables</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender (female)</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>88.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education (BSN)</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>88.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCRN certification (yes)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Continuous variables</th>
<th>Mean (sd)</th>
<th>Median (IQR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td>27.8 (4.7)</td>
<td>26.5 (23-42)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing experience (years)</td>
<td>3.8 (3.1)</td>
<td>3 (1-16)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICU experience (years)</td>
<td>3 (2.7)</td>
<td>2 (1-16)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Unable to perform planned analyses due to attrition
- Satisfaction* 2.6
- Confidence* 2.8
- Knowledge** 58.9%

**Limitations**
- Attrition
- Lack of incentives
- Email habits
- Technology
- Competing priorities
- Psychosocial event

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