

Communication with Mechanically Ventilated Patients: A Quality Improvement Project

Shelby Reed, BSN, RN; Nancy Gentry Russell, DNP, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, CNE;
Tiffany Wagoner-Duncan, MBA, BSN, RN, CCRN



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Background

- Mechanical ventilation significantly impacts ability to communicate⁴
- Inability to effectively communicate⁴
 - ↓ Fear
 - ↓ Anxiety
 - ↓ Loss of Control
- Patient dependent on nurse for communication¹
- Nurses not offered effective resources or education¹
- Nurse feeling **inadequate/failure**³

Methods

- Pre/Post Design
- Aims: increase nurse **satisfaction, confidence, & knowledge** in communicating with mechanically ventilated patients
- SPEACS-2 CTP²



Implications

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

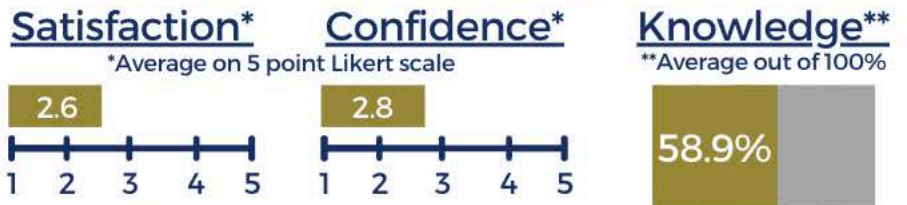
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Results

Demographic characteristics of nurse participants (n = 36)

Categorical variables	n	Percentage
Gender (female)	32	88.9
Education (BSN)	32	88.9
CCRN certification (yes)	3	8.3
Continuous variables	Mean (sd)	Median (IQR)
Age (years)	27.8 (4.7)	26.5 (23-42)
Nursing experience (years)	3.8 (3.1)	3 (1-16)
ICU experience (years)	3 (2.7)	2 (1-16)

- Unable to perform planned analyses due to attrition



- No difference based on age or experience

Limitations

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

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