Perioperative Education Improvement Plan to Update Adherence to the Latest Evidence-based Guidelines

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**Introduction**
- 40-50 million surgeries performed yearly in the US *
- Estimated 15% of those patients will have serious post-operative morbidity *
- Evidence and patient surveys show that patients are not receiving quality post-op education *
- Post-operative complications, due to a lack of education, are common, highly debilitating, and costly *
- Nursing intervention alone has shown to have marked improvement on patient outcome *
- Evidence-based practice is the foundation of good patient care
- The constant changes in evidence can be cumbersome and labor-intensive for nurses

**Purpose**
To determine if a multimodal learning resource and access to the latest evidence-based recommendation material for perioperative nurses is an effective method to increase nurses’ knowledge and use of evidence-based guidelines in providing patient care.

**Specific Aims**
1. Over a 12-week period, enhance nurses’ knowledge of the latest evidence-based postsurgical recommendations through implementation of an educational program.
2. Over a 12-week period, increase perioperative nurses’ utilization of evidence-based resources material in providing patient care.

**Methods**

**Design**
Pre-post test QI project

**Setting**
The main Surgical Unit with 16 OR, 23 pre-op & 23 PACU bays

**Sample**
40 peri-operative nurses

**Intervention**

**Data Analysis**
Qualtrics, Excel and SPSS Statistics 27 (IBM)

**Results**

**Findings for Aim 1:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge test</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>(SD)</th>
<th>median</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Survey</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>6.72</td>
<td>(1.731)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Survey</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>8.68</td>
<td>(1.536)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The results of the paired t-test showed a mean difference of 1.833 with standard deviation of 2.408 in the difference between the pre and post survey scores as evident by a p<0.001.

**Findings for Aim 2:**
“In the past 12 weeks, I have used evidence-based resources to guide patient assessment and practice”:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EBP Use</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Survey</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Survey</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion & Dissemination**
- This DNP quality improvement project emphasizes the effects of continuing education in nursing
- Shows the outcome of unit specific continuing educational for peri-operative nurses
- Dissemination in institution: nurses, educators and leaders
- The Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses (AORN) journal publication


Photo sources in order:

Getty Images: https://www.benefitspro.com/2016/03/07/patients-arent-fond-of-er-doctors/?sreturn=20220319082908

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References


