DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS FOR PATIENTS WITH NERVE BLOCKS
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**Background:** Patients who have an anesthetic nerve block for shoulder, arm, and knee surgery at the Same Day Surgery (SDS) are given verbal instructions related to post nerve block care. There were no written instructions specific to post nerve block care. A post operative phone call survey revealed a lack of consistent information given to these patients as well as the lack of information recall regarding the nerve block care.

**Objectives:** To improve patient outcomes and ensure patient safety by providing written nerve block instructions for these patients. Written instructions will also provide consistency with the information delivered.

**Process:** Written nerve block discharge instructions were developed and then approved by the Anesthesia Department, Perianesthesia Nursing Practice Committee, and the Health Education Committee. RN staff was educated on the nerve block discharge instructions to ensure uniformity. A post implementation patient survey was performed to validate effectiveness.

**Success:** Acceptance of the written nerve block instructions by the SDS nursing staff was positive. Post survey resulted in an increase in the percentage of patients that receive nerve block instructions and an overall decrease in the number of concerns regarding nerve block care.

**Implications:** Written discharge instructions specific to anesthetic nerve blocks contribute to patient safety and positive outcomes.