UTILIZATION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS' SKILLS
IN PHASE I RECOVERY

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**Background Information:** In 2000, a children’s hospital brought in a consulting firm to evaluate the various time components associated with different roles and jobs within the hospital structure. The Phase I recovery area was utilizing nursing staff to report and transport postoperative patients to various receiving units. The initial numbers projected forty hours of nursing labor which then in turn becomes one full time employee/equivalent (FTE). Frequently this kept the nurse off the unit for approximately 30 to 40 minutes.

**Objectives:** To identify a professional skill set that would compliment nursing services in Phase I Recovery

**Process of Implementation:** We decided an EMT with airway skills would be the appropriate clinical mix to assist the nursing staff. For regulatory purposes we created a new role now titled CMT, (Certified Medical Technician) with specific competencies. Within the present job description of the CMT is the requirement to be a high school graduate or holder of a GED certificate along with a current Emergency Medical Technician certification and certification in BLS and CPR.

**Statement of Successful Practice:** We evaluated the time of one identified task, transporting patients to various units. The estimated cost savings was $13,500.00 per year.

Implications for Advancing Perianesthesia Practice: Utilizing and training CMT’s with EMT skills to the Phase I recovery environment provides a cost saving skill mix to assist in patient care.