SURVEY ON RN PERCEPTION OF ELECTRONIC CHARTING USING THE EPIC COMPUTER SYSTEM

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Background Information:
- 2004 - all clinical staff training on principles of change, leadership, Partnership Councils and basic computer skills. Staff input on computer system to choose, solicited. Staff participated in the design, build, validate phases of program. IT personnel trained by Epic.
- 2006 - total system (all departments, entire hospital) Epic “go live” with integration of physician order entry, nursing documentation, MAR and support staff documentation in the patients’ EHR (electronic health record). Environmental redesign of all departments implemented to accommodate desktops and rovers. 24 hour Helpline for Epic and computer issues.
- RNs have used Epic for five years now
- Author is interested in looking into RNs’ perceptions regarding various aspects of electronic documentation (see questionnaire)

Objectives: To determine
- If perceived level of computer skills correlates with perceived ease of use of the EHR.
- RN acceptance and perception of the benefits of computerized charting
- RN perception on whether computerized documentation influences positive patient outcome

Implementation:
- Author developed survey questionnaire, distributed housewide to RNs
- Duration - September 25 through October 15, 2011
- Author will tally results
- Results will be shared with SMMC Epic Documentation Guidelines Committee for consideration of staff RN recommended changes

Successful Practice Identified:
- Acceptance of electronic charting and perceived ease of use promotes efficiency in the utilization of Epic for documentation in the EHR.

Positive Outcomes Achieved:
- Epic program improvement to further benefit patients and staff.

Implications for Perianesthesia Nurses:
- Enhanced staff satisfaction and improved patient care and safety.