CREATING A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR THE NEW PREPROCEDURE FLOAT POOL NURSE

Team Leader: Denise Barry BSN RN CPAN
Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts
Team Member: Karen Munkley BSN MSN RN

Background Information:
- A new Preprocedure Float Pool was created to supplement staff in Pre Procedural areas within the hospital and ambulatory center
- Pre Procedural areas included Preadmission, Pre Op, Cardiac Cath Lab, Endoscopy and Pain clinic
- 15/20 hired were Newly Licensed Nurses (NLN), who started their orientation in the Pre Op Unit of the Hospital
- There was no quick resource guide to refer to for practice in this area

Objectives of Project:
- To assist nurses new to the area with guidelines for practice
- To ensure safety in practice by following policy and procedure
- To educate staff on new changes in practice and reinforce current practice
- To provide support and validation of practice for NLN’s

Implementation:
- A pocket sized resource guide was created for nurses to have with them while on the unit
- Information in the laminated spiral bound guide included:
  - Documentation standards for consents and H&P’s
  - Required lab work and testing based on age and procedure
  - Required site markings
  - Recommended IV placements for the particular procedure
  - Required skin assessment documentation
  - Epic documentation requirements

Statement of Successful Practice:
- Nurses during and after their orientation felt comfortable having a quick reference guide available to them.
- NLN’s had confidence being their patient’s advocate when making sure all pre procedure requirements were completed by all team members.
- Nurses floated to Pre Op from other peri op areas also used the guide to maintain adherence to policy and procedure.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing:
- Pre Op is an area where accurate documentation and adherence to pre procedure policies are crucial for patient safety
• Having a resource guide available to all nurses who are floated into this area helps maintain patient safety.