**BACK TO BASICS BOOTCAMP**

Team Leaders: Katrina Push BSN RN, Toya Clemons MSN RN AGPCNP-BC,Mari-Kay Haubert BSN RN

VA Medical Center, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Team Members: Diane Bowling RN, Diana Brunner RN BSN, Claudia McCormick-Male RN BS, Marilyn Gardner RN, Kris Earl RN BSN, Hedly Mallabo RN BSN, Bill Ehram RN, Hillary Guerin RN BSN, Matthew Hendren RN BSN, Blake Williams RN BSN, Beth Henry RN BSN, Nancy Lash RN BSN, Cheryl Aton RN, Verlane Gray RN BSN

**Background Information:** Getting “Back to Basics” is a unit based project developed to encourage team building, increase knowledge and accountability of policies and procedures of our unit and enable staff to be the best they can be. We developed a voluntary program that showed our commitment to our patients, co-workers and ourselves. Volunteers for this project are required to complete each monthly assignment, choose something related to one of the topics and find a way to improve, change or further develop it.

Each month includes:
- Pre and post-test to document improvement
- Educational module
- Exercise/activity that incorporates the monthly topic
- Opportunity for staff to improve upon a process and present changes
- Opportunity for Leadership and Team Building

**Objectives of Project:** Promote collaborative and increase productive relationships between staff, patients and colleagues. Enhance our unit by providing patient centered care while reinforcing unit-based policies, procedures and clinical guidelines. Encourage staff to collaborate in making improvements in our processes.

**Process of Implementation:** This project started during Nurses Week 2016. A “kick-off” week included an informational in-service on our goals, a calendar of events, an explanation of the requirements and a voluntary sign-up. Every nurse on our unit volunteered to be a part of this year-long project. Our first monthly topic started in June 2016.

**Statement of Successful Practice:** Three months into our project and we have already experienced some successes. For example, the month of July 2016 was EOC (environment of care). Our staff chose four items to improve.

1. Visitation policy
2. Emergency supply box
3. Weekly EOC rounds/checklists
4. Quarterly Active Threat Training

We have noticed similar results with our “alarm safety” and “collegiality” months. We anticipate continued success with this program.

**Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing:** The implementation of this project has resulted in multiple unit process changes as well as created an atmosphere of comradery. Results have shown an increase in staff knowledge of unit policies and procedures.