

**DO YOU HAVE ENOUGH 411 TO PREVENT A 911? INCREASING
PERIOPERATIVE COMMUNICATION**

Team Leaders: Diane Janakovich, RN; Carol Pehotsky, MSN, RN, CPAN, ACNS-BC
Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio

Team Members: Monique Witcher, RN; Sara Shubert, RN; Lidiya Brown, LPN

Cardiothoracic surgery patients arrive to a separate pre-operative area in our facility. This area prepares approximately 4,500 patients for surgery annually. From the time they arrive to our door until their surgical procedure begins, these patients may encounter up to ten different caregivers. We were concerned that additional safety measures were warranted to prevent miscommunication and potentially patient harm.

Our objective was to create a communication tool to ensure patients received all proper care in the proper area. The resulting Perioperative Log Sheet includes all pertinent patient information, from arrival through patient transportation into the operating room. Caregivers complete the log by reviewing patient information, and documenting the next planned location of patient care. Part of handoff communication is also a review of the Log Sheet information. All staff that interacts with the patient (anesthesia provider, surgical transport, nursing) are expected to complete each portion of the log as the patient moves from the preoperative area, to the Induction Room (holding area) to the operating room.

Since implementation of the Perioperative Log Sheet, we have had high compliance from staff across disciplines. There have also been no incidences of patient harm in our area due to clear communication between caregivers. Perianesthesia nurses can take the lead in developing initiatives to ensure safe patient care.