"PINK BOARDING PASS": PERIANESTHESIA/PERIOPERATIVE TRANSFER OF CARE

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Transfer of care is the communication between healthcare providers for every patient as they move from one provider to another. The Joint Commission estimates approximately 80 percent of serious medical errors involve miscommunication during the hand-off between healthcare providers. This alarming percentage validates the need for standardization of the hand-off, which is essential to providing safe patient care. The objective of the project is to enhance the quality and safety of our patients by improving communication between staff members.

- There is a "Boarding Pass" generated from the surgical schedule and a work sheet is used to communicate information about the patient.
- The "Boarding Pass" verifies all information on the consent matches the surgical schedule.
- Upon transfer to OR, we review the work sheet and also compare "Boarding Pass" which states the patient's name and surgery to verify accuracy.
- When the patient leaves the OR the same worksheet is used by CRNA to give report to PACU nurse.
- There are two sheets in use- one that the preoperative nurse transfers to CRNA and another that CRNA provides to PACU nurse. The team decided to combine these into one worksheet to ensure that the preoperative sheet stays with the patient throughout their surgical stay.

In conclusion, with our standardized transfer of care we continue to focus on improving perianesthesia and perioperative communication. A survey demonstrated staff's positive feedback toward the combination of the two work sheets. It has improved collaboration within Surgical Services resulting in a clear, organized transfer of care.