WHAT A SHOCK! ANAPHYLAXIS RAPID RECOGNITION AND TREATMENT: A PERIANESTHESIA CASE REVIEW

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Background: The incidence of anaphylaxis during general anesthesia is reported to be rare and there is limited evidence of known surgical cases. The manifestations of intraoperative reactions differ from those outside of anesthesia and can be difficult to detect, thus compromising recognition of an allergic reaction. Management requires the collaboration of an interdisciplinary team. How did we prepare for such an event? Our PACU received a "call out" and had minutes to accept this unexpected admission.

Objectives: To document in a teaching format how such a patient scenario was managed, and how it impacted our unit. We found that as nurses in the PACU setting we are often in a "bubble". We have specialized training, experience and skill sets to care for complex patients, but lack opportunities to formally discuss that care with others.

Implementation: We developed a PowerPoint presentation to share an interesting and challenging case in a forum we called "Fall into Success". It encompassed an actual patient case, literature research and feedback.

Statement of Successful Practice: Staff demonstrated responsibility for their own learning and practice; using PowerPoint we were able to communicate this patient care experience to the entire Perianesthesia team, not just those directly involved.

Implications for advancing the practice: Collaboration with others can be enhanced when we have opportunities to display and explore our own practices. We are expanding our forum by posting the presentation on our hospital's sharepoint site, thereby allowing us to reach all the patient care areas.