

PROMOTING ROLE DIVERSITY AND MASTERY IN THE PERIANESTHESIA SETTING

Team Leaders: Marilyn T. Liwag, RN, BSN, CPAN

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Team Members: Marlene I. Reyes, RN, BSN, CPAN, CAPA, CCRN,
Nancy Strzyzewski, MSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA, Kristen Tallman, BSN, RN

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Nurses in the PACU, function in many different roles. Those roles can change several times daily in response to the needs of the patient and the unit.

OBJECTIVES OF PROJECT:

To provide safe and efficient patient care in the many roles that registered nurses are assigned, promote equitable nursing assignments and foster role flexibility.

PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION:

The week before, the permanent Charge Nurses review the four week master schedule to determine the rotation of nurse through the various roles. Rotation is based on a variety of unit activities and needs. Roles are assigned based on daily changes that include orientee needs, meetings, planned and unplanned staffing changes. The rotation of nurses through the various roles is carefully tracked so that all nurses are fairly and consistently rotated.

The variety of roles include: preop patient phone calls, preop patient care, post anesthesia patient care in phase I and phase II, post discharge phone calls, charge nurse (Preop and PACU) and float nurse in preop and PACU.

STATEMENT OF SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE:

All nurses on the unit are able to function expertly in every role needed to provide excellent, safe nursing care.

IMPLICATIONS FOR ADVANCING THE PRACTICE OF PERIANESTHESIA NURSING:

Rotating through all the roles has increased the nurses understanding of the patient's experience throughout the continuum of care.