

## **INCREASING KNOWLEDGE AND PREPAREDNESS OF EMPLOYEE AND PATIENT SAFETY THROUGH STANDARDIZATION OF EDUCATION**

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**Background Information:** Chart audits identified an opportunity for improvement in documenting patient falls. Nurses identified a need to improve site shaving for surgery. Nurse Manager indicated a need for education on blood borne pathogens and disaster safety, as well as competencies on regional anesthesia and airway management. A survey of the staff's knowledge was completed prior to planning an education day. Topics surveyed include, blood borne pathogens exposures, Code Silver, finding information on the Cleveland Clinic intranet, assessment and documentation of patient falls, preparing skin for surgery, airway management and regional anesthesia.

**Objectives of Project:** Our staff float between three surgery departments. Our goal is to increase knowledge and preparedness of employee and patient safety through standardization of education at the Lorain, Chestnut Commons and Avon Surgery departments.

**Process of Implementation:** The method to achieve our goal was to plan an education day at each surgery department to cover the topics surveyed. Education boards were created for each topic. A nurse was present to interact with the participant to explain the board and answer questions. The crash cart, malignant hyperthermia cart and pediatric crash cart were available to complete search and finds. A post education day test was taken by each employee. An evaluation of the education day was completed by each employee who attended the education day program. A post education survey was also completed.

**Statement of Successful Practice:** The increase in post education day survey results, indicate the program was successful. The nurse educator will work with staff to capture those unable to attend and keep staff informed through staff meeting and email.

**Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing:** Due to the complexity of the world that we live in today, patient and employee safety is at the forefront of nursing practice. Pre safety education scores indicated that the majority of our staff felt completely unprepared or somewhat unprepared to handle an emergent safety situation, such as, an active shooter in the building, tornado preparedness, prevention and post care of patient falls, etc. Our post education scores indicated that the majority of staff felt prepared to handle these types of safety situations.