



Nurse Led Collaboration and Innovation: Creating Standardized Care for Same Day Joint Arthroplasty Patients

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Background

 A paradigm shift in care of patients undergoing joint arthroplasty has led to the need for enhanced recovery programs that allow for same day discharge of selected patients.

Problem

- After launching a successful same day joint (SDJ) replacement program, orthopedic surgical teams were requesting to have a group of dedicated perianesthesia nurses to provide care for the SDJ patients.
- It was identified that there was a lack of standardized practice and resources available for nurses to facilitate a safe and efficient discharge home for patients.

Setting

- 171-bed Magnet® designated community teaching hospital partner of Brigham and Women's Hospital located in Boston, MA
- Member of the Mass General Brigham integrated healthcare system
- FY21:
- 18,499 surgeries; 357 SDJ surgeries

Project Objective

• To develop and implement a revised process for patients undergoing SDJ to ensure a safe discharge home.

Process

Step 1
Identify
Key Personnel

- New role established: Orthopedic Service Line Clinical Leader
- Identify core group of resource nurses to provide care for patients undergoing SDJ surgery
- Perianesthesia nurses self-selected to become SDJ resource nurses

Step 2
Develop

Resources

- Same Day Joint Replacement Resource binder
 - Contact info for providers and care coordinators
 - Surgeon specific tabs
 - Sample discharge and med forms
 - Research Study information
 - Charge nurse guidelines

Discharge Planning Checklist

- Steps to take for patient recovery to discharge
- Anesthesia recovery protocols
- Pre-discharge requirements
- After Visit Summary (AVS): Discharge instructions generated through the electronic health record

Step 3
Implement SDJ
Discharge

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Statement of Successful Practice

- With the implementation of core resource nurses, a resource binder and checklists, the PACU staff have been able to standardize care and identify any deviation from the pathway that might impede a successful discharge home.
- Anecdotal feedback from
 perianesthesia nurses indicates that
 they feel more confident in caring for
 SDJ patients and preparing them for
 discharge since the addition of these
 standardized resources.
- Providers from the orthopedic teams have reported fewer phone calls to clarify post-op orders and instructions as well as more successful discharges.

Implications

 Perianesthesia nurses are collaborative and innovative in creating and designing systems and processes to safely care for and discharge patients home.

Next Steps

• Collaborate with Orthopedic Service Line to create standardized orders and discharge instructions for all same day joints replacement patients.