

### Preop to PACU: A Nursing Orientation Program for Preop Nurses to Attain Competency in the Care of the PACU Patient



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### WHAT WE LEARNED

Preoperative nurses cross-trained to the Post Anesthesia Care Unit were competent in the care of the post-operative patient after a ten hour Critical Care Crash Course and an on-unit orientation with a preceptor.

### **PURPOSE**

Cross-train preoperative nurses to competently care for all patient populations in the PACU.

### **BACKGROUND**

## Perioperative patient throughput has been affected by:

- Infrastructure change
- · Increased surgical volume
- New patient populations

# Perioperative nurses have historically been trained to their home unit:

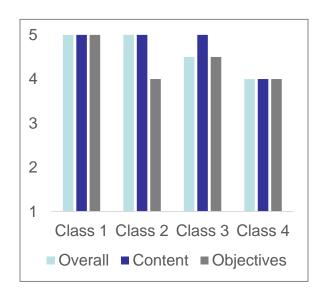
- Preoperative Area
- Postoperative Area

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

- •PACU Crash Course: 2 days; 20 hours
- Pre-course and post-course assessment of knowledge
- Participant evaluation of course
- •Eight week orientation to the PACU
- One year follow up survey of participants

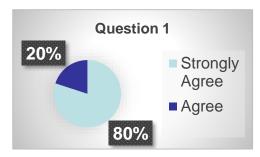
### **EVALUATION**

- Course Evaluation collected at end of Day 2
- Rated: "Overall Course", "Relevance of Content" and "Ability to Meet Objectives"
- 1-5 Likert scale (5-Excellent)



### **RESULTS**

The lectures and hands on training during the didactic portion of my orientation were all pertinent to my role as a PACU nurse.



The critical care crash course and my 8 week orientation to the PACU adequately prepared me to competently care for a PACU patient.

