

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

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Background Information: As a Magnet designated hospital, BWFH strives to achieve excellent patient outcomes. Our dedication to provide innovative, high-quality care for patients in a busy 171-bed community teaching hospital in Boston, MA has led to the development of a successful same day joint (SDJ) program.

Objectives of Project: To implement strategies that facilitate the safe discharge of patients undergoing SDJ replacement surgery.

Process of Implementation: After successfully launching a SDJ replacement program, it was identified that nurses needed education and resources to support safe discharge home for this patient population.

- Identification and education of dedicated resource nurses
- Development of SDJ Resource binder that includes tip sheets and checklists
 - pre-discharge medications, hydration and nourishment guidelines, spinal anesthesia recovery protocols, pre-discharge required consultations (PT and Care Continuum Management), and home discharge instructions.

Statement of Successful Practice: Since April 2019, >600 patients have been discharged home the same day as their joint replacement surgery resulting in a reduced hospital length of stay compared with traditional practice. With the identification of dedicated resource nurses and the implementation of a SDJ resource binder, nurses have been able to provide high quality, standardized care. In addition, nurses have been able to identify deviations from the SDJ care pathway that might impede a successful discharge home. Nurses have reported a decrease in anxiety when caring for this population since the addition of these resources. Providers from the orthopedic teams have reported receiving fewer phone calls to clarify post-op orders and instructions.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: Perianesthesia nurses are collaborative and innovative in designing systems that allow for a successful SDJ program. Standardizing post-op care and having resources such as informational binders and PACU nurse champions play an important role in the safe care and discharge of SDJ patients.