

Enhance Multimodal Pain Management with Team Collaboration in the PACU

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Pre-op

- Preemptive Analgesia
- Early plan by the acute pain service

Intra-op

- Assure postanesthetic orders is ready for the PACU nurses prior the end of the surgery

Post-op

- Opioids Analgesia
- Non-opioids Analgesia
- Non-pharmaceutical pain relief
- Psychosocial support

Background Information

Postoperative pain management remains a challenge in current clinical nursing practice. It is very common to see those difficulty and challenge postoperative patients especially those with chronic pain background in our PACU. It could result in patients' suffering and dissatisfaction by delayed and insufficient pain management during the recovery time. Our current PACU experience shows that the early planning and implementation of multimodal pain management, supported by multidisciplinary collaboration would help to recover those challenged patients efficiently.

Objectives of Project

- Emphasizing effective postoperative multimodal pain management based on evidence-based practice
- Enhancing multidisciplinary team collaboration on pain management
- Decreasing PACU recovery time and increasing patient satisfaction

Process of Implementation

- Include preemptive multimodal analgesia in pain management plan
- Assure PACU anesthesia orders are ready prior the patient's arrival
- PACU nurses confidently practice multimodal pain management by collaborating with anesthesia team, surgical team, acute pain service and pharmacy
- Continue education on multimodal or new pain management related topics during PACU annual review or PACU forum and encourage to obtain professional certificates including pain management

Statement of Successful Practice

- PACU resident, anesthesia team and acute pain management evaluated postoperative patients at bedside upon patients' arrival and formed unique/individual multimodal pain management plan promptly
- PACU nurse actively communicated or followed up with anesthesia team and pharmacy to make sure all postoperative proper pain management orders were available and validated intime
- As a result, shortened the PACU recovery time significantly and improved patient's satisfaction and hospital experience

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing

- Ensuring PACU nurses master the multimodal pain management skills in the care and receive updated pain management knowledge
- Understanding the importance of multidisciplinary collaboration on postoperative pain management
- Continuing offer nurses pain management education and training to meet the nowadays complex and challenging postoperative pain issues

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