

Visitation Guidelines in the PeriAnesthesia Setting: From Evidence to Practice Change

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Background Information: In the perianesthesia setting, the promotion of family-centered care includes visitation for the postoperative patient. A variety of nursing practices amongst nurses exist that lead to delays in family presence at the bedside.

Objectives of Project: By creating formal guidelines and educating team members, bedside visitation will occur sooner.

Process of Implementation: Literature review took place at our shared governance unit council meetings. Visitation guidelines were drafted and submitted to nursing leadership for review. Perianesthesia staff received education and guidelines were made available for patients/families in the surgical waiting area.

Statement of Successful Practice: Outcome measurement is the patient time in Phase I prior to family visit. The time decreased by seven minutes in the initial three month time period after implementation.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: In the perianesthesia setting, the promotion of family-centered care includes visitation for the postoperative patient. With the implementation of the new guidelines, there was a decrease in family waiting to visit the patient.