

## **Improving Safety and Handoff for the Fast Tracked Patient**

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**Background Information:** Following an endoscopy procedure, most patients are fast tracked from the endoscopy suite to phase II. Some patients were returning to phase II from the endoscopy suite that had not achieved phase II status by evidence of decrease level of consciousness, difficult arousing, and unstable vital signs.

**Objectives of Project:** All patients returning from the endoscopy suite will have achieved phase II status when fast tracked and PACU phase I is bypassed. Endoscopy suite nurses and Same Day Surgery nurses will understand the difference between phase I and phase II.

**Process of Implementation:** Same Day Surgery phase II nurses collaborated with Surgery nurses in the endoscopy suite to develop a solution. Bedside report was started to improve patient safety. Before intervention, the endoscopy nurse would come get the Same Day Surgery nurse at the SDS nurse's station upon arrival to phase II post op and both nurses would go to the patients' bedside. This process had flaws and to resolve issues, the endoscopy nurse now calls the 'Endo Post Op Nurse' on Vocera to notify phase II that a patient is returning from procedure. The Same Day nurse meets the endoscopy nurse and patient at the bedside in the SDS phase II area. The endoscopy nurse and the CRNA give report and take initial vital signs with the phase II nurse. If the Same Day nurse does not agree that the patient has achieved phase II status according to the Conscious Sedation Scale score, that nurse has the right to speak up for patient safety. The patient would be taken to PACU at that time or taken back to the endoscopy suite to recover by the CRNA or endoscopy nurse. Education was provided for all nurses in surgery, Same Day Surgery, and CRNA's on phase I and phase II. This had to be completed and a test was provided to ensure understanding.

**Statement of Successful Practice:** In February 2018, only 98.63% of patients came back to Same Day Surgery from the endoscopy suites in phase II status. Bedside report was implemented in March and 99.73% of patients returned to SDS in phase II, April achieved 100%. Since implementation, over 99.7% of patients have returned achieving phase II after being fast tracked.

**Implications for Advancing the Practice of PeriAnesthesia Nursing:** Advancing knowledge on the difference between phase I and phase II postoperative patients in combination with improving handoff report improves safety for the fast tracked patient.