Bone Marrow Harvest (BMH): Improvement of the Perioperative Experience and Patient Education Brochure
The Johns Hopkins Hospital
Baltimore, Maryland, 21287

Laurel A. Stocks, MSN, CCRN, CCNS
Team: Lynette Mark, MD
Carolyn Coleman, MSN
Melissa Pant, MD

Background:
This project was initiated by the BMH Practitioner and anesthesia providers in response to patient complaints. The oncology patient education brochure did not reflect actual institutional practices and patient length of stay in the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU).

Objectives:
To assess the anesthetic techniques, operating room minutes, and post-anesthesia care unit (PACU) length of stay (LOS). Update the institution's patient education materials.

Implementation:
The records from consecutive 2 year period were reviewed. 81% of the cases received general versus regional anesthesia- exactly opposite of what was cited in the patient education brochure. The operating room minutes and PACU LOS were compared for anesthetic techniques. Patient PACU average LOS exceeded 4 hours regardless of anesthetic technique.

Successful practice:
The patient education brochure was revised to reflect institutional practice. New recommendations were made based on the data to standardize intraoperative management of these patients. This project has promoted interdepartmental communication for a unique population.

Implications for Perianesthesia staff:
Our nursing staff observed BMH patients to be relatively under resuscitated, which contributed to the PACU LOS exceeding 4 hours. Future directions will target a perioperative fluid replacement regime with choice of crystalloid versus colloid and transfusion of autologous blood in the operating room versus PACU. This will be facilitated by intraoperative placement of a second intravenous catheter and use of a standardized anesthesia plan of care.
References:

2. The JHU Bone Marrow Patient Education Pamphlet, 2008.