Changing Logistics of Emergency Equipment in Same Day Surgery
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BACKGROUND OF THE PROBLEM
• Our department had a total of six separate emergency equipment carts located in different areas of the department
• In code situations, staff found it difficult to quickly locate the necessary emergency equipment
• This project is important for improving the accessibility of supplies, cost savings by eliminating duplicate supplies, and for the overall safety of our patients

PURPOSE
• Improve efficiency of locating emergency equipment and decrease costs by eliminating duplicate airway supplies

LITERATURE REVIEW
• Barak, Pasadyn, and Weekly (2015) completed a project on standardizing crash carts in three comparable surgery centers. The study showed a fifty percent reduction in the amount of time to locate the emergency equipment on the standardized emergency cart (Barak, Pasadyn, & Weekly, 2015).
• According to Pearson, Caird, and Mayer (2012) “Efficient and effective emergency care depends on how crash carts are provisioned and the response team’s knowledge of the cart layout” (p. 792).
• Makkar and Madaan (2016) study aimed to perform a gap analysis of emergency carts in a tertiary teaching hospital. The study concluded that the standardization of crash carts can be implemented to increase the visibility and accountability of the staff (Makkar & Madaan, 2016).

METHODS
• Initial inventory of all six emergency carts was completed
• Duplicate airway equipment was identified and removed
• A cost analysis of duplicate airway equipment was completed
• Staff members were educated on the new locations of emergency equipment and a post learning survey was completed afterwards

OUTCOMES
• After completion of this project, eighty-one percent of the staff were able to quickly identify the correct location of the emergency equipment
• The staff members are now more knowledgeable about the location of the emergency equipment
• A cost analysis of the duplicate airway equipment totaled $1014 in savings to the unit

CONCLUSION
• Improving the logistics of the emergency equipment has allowed the staff to more efficiently retrieve emergency equipment, saving valuable time and potentially improving patient outcomes
• This project has identified further need for staff education

Implications for Nursing Practice
• Knowledge of the location of emergency equipment is vital to response time
• Other nursing units could utilize the findings of this project to improve the logistics of their emergency equipment
• Limited research was found on the topic
• The authors identified opportunities for nursing research on emergency cart organization

REFERENCES