PREOPERATIVE HAIR REMOVAL IMPROVEMENT PROCESS
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Background Information: The current AORN standards are to remove only the hair that interferes with procedure, and to remove the hair prior to entering the OR with the following precautions:
- Hair removal should be performed the day of the surgery
- In a location outside of the Operating room
- Hair should be clipped using a single-use electric or battery-operated clipper or a clipper with a reusable head that can be disinfected between patients

Objectives of Project:
- Create best practice
- Standardize hair removal process
- Follow AORN recommendations
- Remove hair prior to entering the OR

Process of Implementation:
- Met with Surgical Service chiefs to agree on area to be clipped to create standardization
- Train staff in clipping
- Create poster with each clipping identified by surgery and number correlated with the surgical procedure
- Multiple meetings with the staff to discuss process, updates, and feedback
- Address concerns
- Create a process to identify which patients need hair removal

Statement of Successful Practice: Although hair removal preoperatively is controversial, the literature supports benefit of hair removal prior to entering the surgical suite. There is no current literature to how to implement this practice change. We have reduced the number of patients undergoing hair removal in the OR. Our poster will discuss our process as well as display our educational resources we have created at our facility.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: Sharing out process may assist other pre-operative area in instituting this process.