

BENEFITS OF IMPLEMENTING A PACU SPECIFIC EVIDENCE-BASED JOURNAL CLUB

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Background Information: Unit specific journal clubs are widely known to be beneficial in incorporating research articles into professional practice. Implementing evidence-based practice is a vital component in providing safe and efficient patient care. Information and research in the perioperative arena is constantly evolving and journal clubs offer a forum to disseminate knowledge through reading and dialogue among peers.

Objectives of Project: The mission of the journal club is to facilitate the translation and utilization of nursing research to improve patient care. Through the journal club, new topics of interest and importance are explored and discussed. The goal is to improve the quality and efficiency of care provided to the Perianesthesia patient population.

Process of Implementation: A welcome packet is distributed to staff with guidelines for critiquing quantitative and qualitative journal and research articles. The journal club team leaders are ultimately responsible for reviewing and distributing a monthly article. Articles must be evidence-based and written within the last 5 years. Members then meet quarterly for group discussion of the articles led by a facilitator. The quarterly meetings are held off-site which has helped increase attendance. Our facility offers continuing education credit for successful completion of the journal critique and attendance at the quarterly meetings. Our facility also recognizes participation in the journal club as credit towards our Professional Recognition Program.

Statement of Successful Practice:

Since initiation of the PACU journal club two years ago the following are some improvements to our practice:

- Use of aromatherapy as a conjunctive treatment of postoperative nausea and vomiting
- Research led us to include the Pasero Opioid-Induced Sedation Scale into our nursing assessment to support safe opioid administration
- Established a liaison in the surgical waiting room to improve patient and family member communication
- Formulating a protocol for Enhanced Recovery After Surgery for colorectal surgical patients

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: The implementation of a Perianesthesia journal club is to continuously improve and enhance the quality of care delivered, improve patient and staff satisfaction, and ensure patient safety. The journal club allows for nurses to feel empowered when it comes to enhancing the direction of their practice in the Perianesthesia environment.