

STOP BLOCK & ROLL: A PRE-SURGICAL RN PILOT PROGRAM

Team Leaders: Keith Karwelies BSN RN ONC, Wanda Rodriguez MA RN CCRN CPAN,
Terri Ruiz BSN RN OCN

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center: Josie Robertson Surgery Center, New York, New York

Team Members: Alexis Balingcongan BSN RN, Annalisa Concepcion BSN RN,
Melissa Gilbert BSN RN CAPA, Lisa Faivus RN, Marcia Levine MSN RN NE-BC,
Grace McCarthy MS RN CNOR, Rhonda Lynn Mol BSN RN, Noelle Paul BSN RN OCN CAPA,
Danielle Silletti BSN RN CAPA, Amanda Steiner BSN RN, Hanae Tokita MD

Background Information: The Josie Robertson Surgery Center (JRSC) has initiated a pre-surgical Paravertebral Nerve Block (PVNB) program to manage the postoperative pain of patients undergoing oncologic breast surgery with immediate reconstruction. PVNBs are placed by a qualified anesthesiologist in a monitored setting with the use of ultrasound guidance and moderate sedation. Post-operative benefits of the PVNB include:

- | <u>Reduced</u> | <u>Increased</u> |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pain• Narcotic consumption• Nausea/ Vomiting | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Range of motion• Early ambulation |

Objectives of Project: To offer PVNBs to qualified patients without impeding pre-surgical patient flow or causing avoidable surgical start time delays. Maintain ASPAN standards of a 1:1 patient/nurse ratio when assisting with a procedure.

Process of Implementation: The block RN is a designated daily assignment. Block RNs are selected from a group of perianesthesia RNs who maintain BCLS and ACLS certifications and have successfully completed a moderate sedation competency exam in accordance with hospital policies and protocols. Patients are pre-screened prior to surgery and those who have been identified as candidates for the PVNB are offered the adjunct treatment by the anesthesia team. Once admitted they are preoperatively assessed by a primary RN. After their initial intake, the designated block RN accepts patient endorsement from the primary RN and the PVNB procedure begins. During the PVNB procedure, the responsibilities of the block RN include:

- Collaborating with and providing support to the anesthesia block team
- Maintaining patient comfort and safety during the PVNB procedure
- Patient positioning and procedure set up
- Ensuring adherence to Universal Protocol
 - Leading procedure “time out” (patient identification, procedure verification, site and laterality marking, surgical and PVNB procedure consent, patient allergies, applicable labs)
- Administration of moderate sedation
- Continuous Cardiac and VS monitoring

Post-procedure the patient is endorsed back to the primary RN.

Statement of Successful Practice: A block RN allows for seamless patient flow in the pre-surgical area, provides high quality and safe patient care during the pre-surgical and PVNB procedure and allows perianesthesia RNs to work within their full scope of practice.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: Creates a new and unique role for perianesthesia RNs and crafts a new staffing model that maintains ASPAN standards of 1:1 and 2:1 patient/nurse ratios in the perianesthesia setting.