

COME GROW WITH US CAMPAIGN

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Background Information: The PACU leadership team wanted to encourage the nurses in the PACU to become certified. How was the question? An article in Nurse Leader called “Let’s Get Certified: An Innovative National Campaign” inspired Kate to start a campaign in the PACU at the Main Campus facility

Objectives of Project: Encourage and prepare nurses to sit for the CPAN/CAPA review class and be successful. Increase the number of certified RN’s in the PACU

Process of Implementation: On Certified Nurses Day we had a celebration for our certified nurses, but the celebration was open for all staff members to attend. At the event we had the Top Ten Board with the reasons to become certified. We had information about certification from all of the applicable organizations sample test questions and the names of Certified Nurses in each department with their credentials. Next the staff were given sample questions from a review book with flower seeds attached. Sample questions were continuously distributed to the staff. The sample questions engaged nursing staff and anesthesia residents to share information and knowledge with one another. Approximately 1 and 2 months later Sunflower plants and tomato plants in compostable pots were given to the nursing staff. This continued to plant the seed of certification in their brains. Resources were purchased and available for all to staff use in preparing for the exam. Several nurses formed their own small study groups. The Perioperative Educators held two CPAN/CAPA review courses prior to exam windows in spring and fall.

Statement of Successful Practice: As staff became certified we posted their names on the Certification Board in PACU. We have had 100% pass rate for RN’s that attended the class and took the exam. We have increased our number of certified nurses by 30%.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: Obtaining your CPAN/CAPA certification strengthens the PACU nurses’ sense of personal and professional pride. Certification is a reflection of your commitment to Perianesthesia Nursing, your co-workers, and most importantly your patients. A certified nurse has validation of their knowledge that is specific to the PACU. This knowledge transcends to improved patient safety because there are decreased errors through increased knowledge and practice.