

UNITING A HEALTHCARE DELIVERY SYSTEM THROUGH STANDARDIZATION

Team Leaders: Maria Katrina Eng MS BSN RN CPAN, Alison Horan RN CPAN,
Po Ngai BSN RN, Sharanya Polisetti BSN RN

New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center, New York, New York

Background Information: Currently, New York-Presbyterian Healthcare System (NYP) Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) nurses document on a multi-system wide electronic health record (EHR). We utilize the PACU Admission and PACU Discharge/Transfer Note and five years ago designed the PACU Second Stage Admission and Discharge Notes. Reviews based on current practice revealed that all nurses chart differently and there is no standardized process for how nurses are documenting patient admissions and discharges.

Objectives of Project: The objective is to standardize PACU documentation across six campuses within the healthcare organization (HCO).

Process of Implementation: To explore PACU documentation processes, a bedside nurse-led review on one campus revealed there is no standardized process to document PACU admissions and discharges on the EHR. In efforts to standardize across units and campuses, a project RN champion team was formed to create a mock system modification presentation relying on end-user (nursing) input. Multiple collaborative cross-campus meetings took place among all levels of nursing and leadership to acquire input. Multiple interdisciplinary meetings between bedside nurses, leadership, and informatics specialists took place to discuss and create pilot PACU admission and discharge EHR notes. The pilot notes are currently in process and education is planned for the roll-out of the new documentation process.

Statement of Successful Practice: A single note has been designed for PACU admission and discharge, thereby eliminating variation in documentation. Our efforts have standardized high quality PACU nursing care across the six campuses of the HCO.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: Uniting an organization can be challenging but possible through effective communication, teamwork, and strong leadership. Standardization and streamlining processes aligns with best practices and is often an operational goal. We anticipate future implications include improving PACU RN workflow time related to one comprehensive note leaving more time for direct patient care.