Collaboration and Teamwork: A Playbook for Success

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Background Information: In the perianesthesia department, various skill sets and competencies exist. Due to a dynamic department, clinical practice standardization is complex. The microsystems within perianesthesia include Preop, PACU, Phase II, Extended Recovery, and Diagnostic Radiology; all encompass workflows and expertise requiring various degrees to meet the patient's needs and improve patient outcomes. Through a systems-level approach, a playbook was envisioned to ensure the department operates optimally and in a standardized process. Over 100 stakeholders were encouraged to complete a presurvey to validate the gap in practice and the need for a standardized playbook, and an average of 98.5% strongly agree/agree to the benefits of utilizing a playbook to assist in meeting the project objectives.

Objectives of Project: The project aims to outline the nursing workflow related to the respective clinical practice areas. This opportunity allows for professional growth, streamlining nursing workflow in the various units and supporting staff to understand their role and responsibilities through the standardization of workflows.

Process of Implementation: The process for implementation includes using the Plan, Do, Act, and Study (PDSA) platform. The plan begins with selecting various clinical representatives from each clinical unit within perianesthesia to outline their roles, responsibilities, workflow, procedures, technologies, devices, and resources. Once each member submits their standardization unit document, collate the information, followed by an interdisciplinary collaborative session to reevaluate, deconstruct, and analyze the content and disseminate.

Statement of Successful Practice: The next phase is to present the information to all stakeholders during a staff meeting and establish a living document that will be located in each unit and digitally stored on various computers throughout the department. The goal is to complete this by December 2023.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: Providing critical stakeholders with a standardized playbook will establish clear and concise clinical practice workflows, assist with onboarding and existing staff members navigating unfamiliar workflows, provide ancillary workflow delineation, and support and guide perioperative staff members' clinical practice. The playbook will provide direction, clarity, collaboration, and inclusivity, build relationships, engage and retain nursing staff, improve patient care delivery, and improve patient outcomes.