

## **Enhancing Transplant Outcomes: Leadership Strategies to Boost Nursing Compliance and Lab Accuracy in the Perioperative Setting**

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**Abstract Background Information:** According to the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) Guideline, solid organ donors and transplant recipients need to be monitored for Hepatitis C, Hepatitis B, and Human Immunodeficiency Virus in the pre- transplant setting. These crucial labs are usually taken in the preoperative area, by nursing staff during preoperative phase. However, there were frequent events identified that these labs are getting omitted due to knowledge gap and an unstandardized process.

**Objectives of Project:** The project aimed to improve awareness, education, standardized process, and compliance of PHS labs ordered in the perioperative area to enhance patient safety and transplant outcomes.

**Process of Implementation:** To enhance lab accuracy in our transplant unit, we initiated strategic measures. Educational in-services, led by transplant coordinators and nursing leadership, were conducted to deepen staff understanding of lab tests and specimen collection requirements. We supplemented these trainings with new, clearly marked signage throughout the unit, detailing each tube's specifications for easy reference. Additionally, we have appointed a Transplant Champion to address any queries and ensure adherence to protocols. Collaboratively, we developed a streamlined labeling system with the multidisciplinary team, allowing direct sending of donor specimens to the Immunogenetics Lab, minimizing misplacement and delays.

**Statement of Successful Practice:** The targeted education initiatives and procedure adjustments showed a significant improvement of 100% in the compliance and accuracy of lab orders. This not only enhanced the safety and effectiveness of transplant procedures but also ensured that critical lab results were processed swiftly and accurately.

**Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing:** Early notification and timely treatment are critical factors in the transplant setting, where timely intervention can dramatically improve patient outcomes and graft survival. This project's approach has shown how structured education and streamlined processes can mitigate risks of infection or graft rejection, thus maintaining the integrity of transplants and enhancing patient survival rates.