

We've Got Your Back: Cervical and Lumbar Injections in the OR

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Abstract Background Information: East Hospital, 2 West Ambulatory Surgery pre/post was tasked with bringing cervical and lumbar injections to the department for patients with spinal muscular atrophy and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis. Several of these patients are wheelchair bound and have very limited mobility. Due to the complexity of the cases, a higher level of care was required to care for these patients.

Objectives of Project: Enhance the pre/post nurse's skills for monitoring of patients receiving the cervical and lumbar injections and ensure appropriate pre-procedure and post-procedure protocols were followed to provide safe patient care.

Process of Implementation: Some staff were provided with the opportunity to shadow the cases at the previous location where the procedures were being completed. The pain proceduralist/anesthesiologist came to East Hospital to review space and meet the 2 West staff. A small group of pre/post nurses were asked to champion these cases. Education was provided to all staff members to become more familiar with this procedure. Pre-op staff learned to monitor the patients in the operating room and OR staff were added to help with positioning and charting of the patients. Epidemiology, radiology, and pharmacy were also part of the interdisciplinary group.

Statement of Successful Practice: Through trialing and collaboration with all teams, 28 different patients have been able to have their injections for over 70 total procedures from January 2024- August 2024. The patients have provided positive feedback over the move to the hospital setting and the staff have expressed job satisfaction getting to know these patients and work them repeatedly.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: In general, nursing is always evolving. The perianesthesia nurse often adjusts and adapts to the different needs of the patient population. By growing their skill set, they continue to learn and make impactful changes on their practices within their departments.