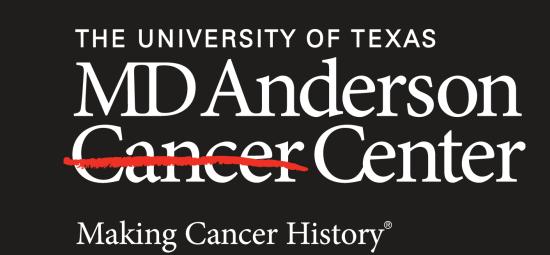


BENEFITS OF SCREENING ISOLATION STATUS OF PATIENTS IN PERIOPERATIVE AREA

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Background Information

Isolation precaution is a crucial infection control practice to prevent the spread of nosocomial infections in high acuity perioperative patient care areas. Unnecessary isolation of a patient can affect patient safety, outcomes, staff workload, and cost of care. The process of accurate and timely screening of patients and removing isolation status supports optimal patient outcomes and cost-effective care.

Objectives of Project

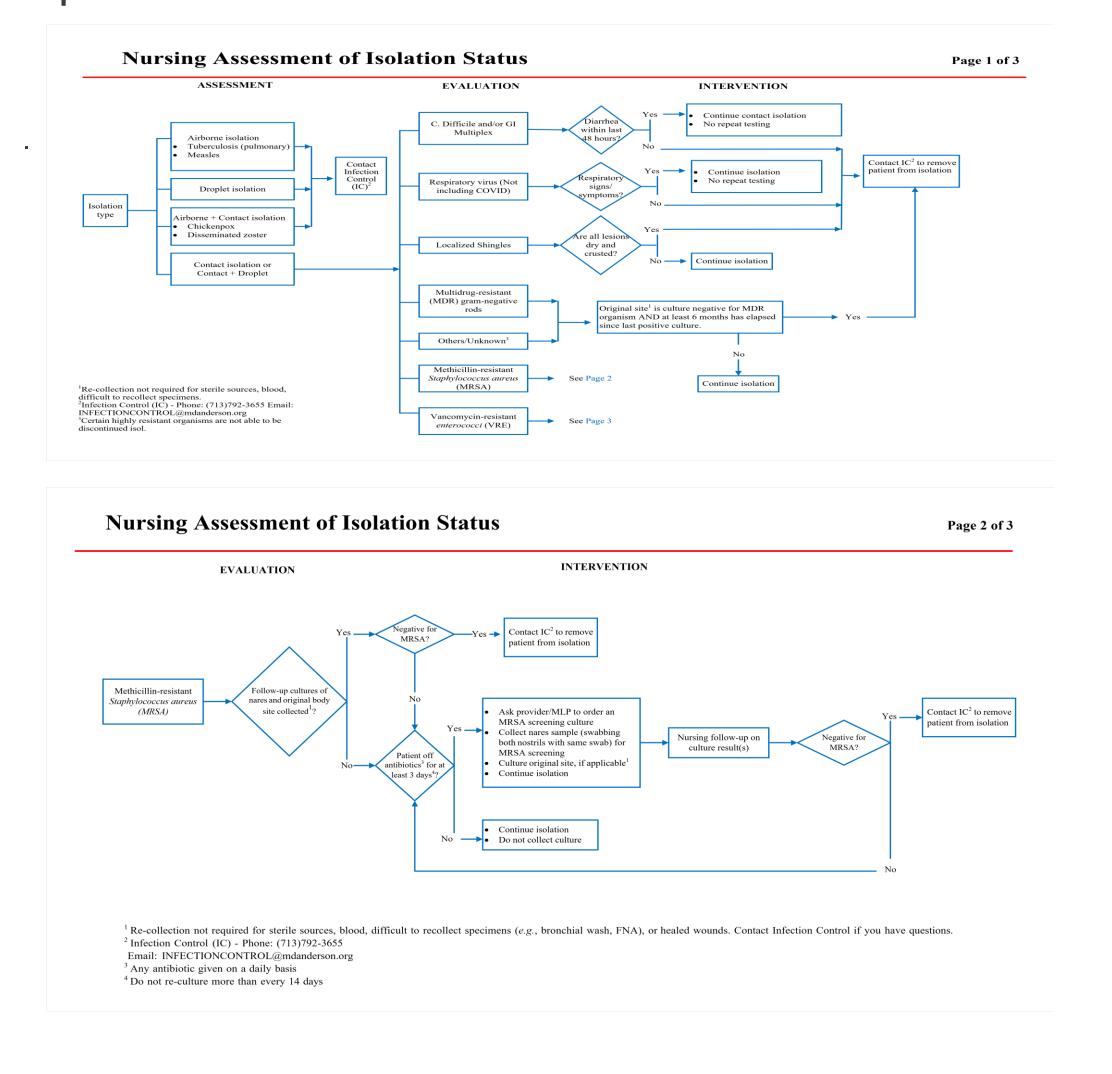
Establish and standardize the process of removing unnecessary and incorrect patient isolation status in the ambulatory procedural population. Additionally, engage staff participation in the removal process leading to patient safety, patient, and staff satisfaction, improved unit workflow, and lower cost of care.



Process of Implementation

In collaboration with institutional infection preventionists, a standard process to remove a patient's isolation status was established.

 Utilized Nursing Assessment of Isolation Status Tool/ Algorithm provided by the Infection Control team to screen patients prior to scheduled procedure

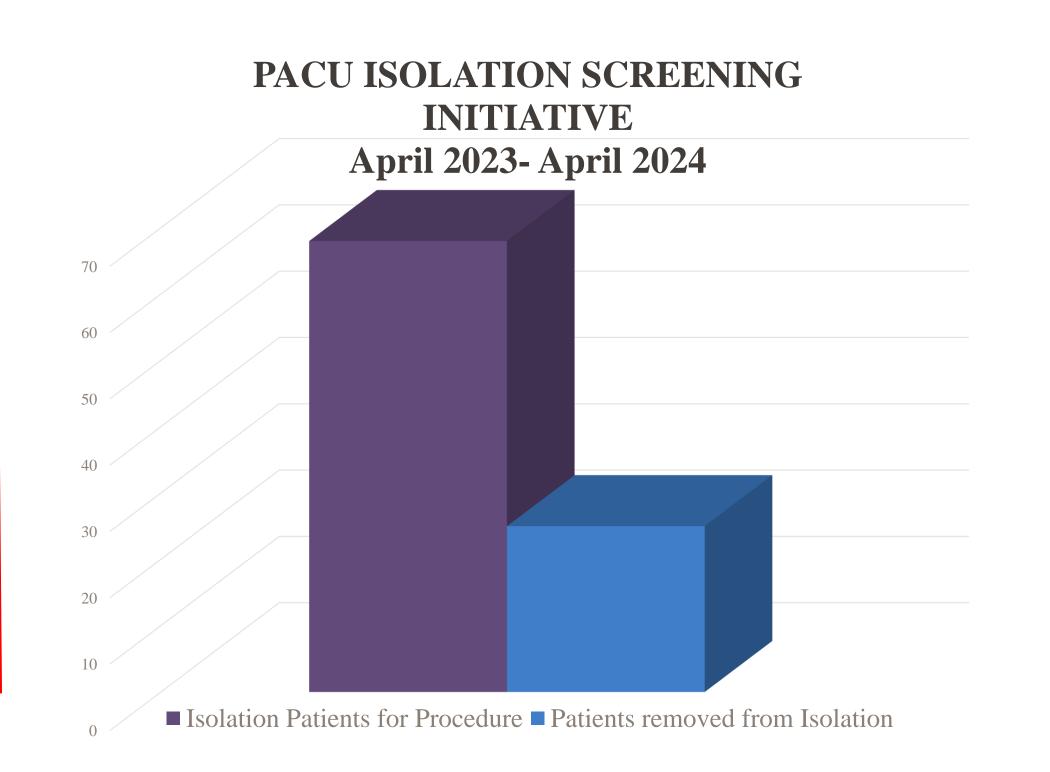


 Collaborated with department teams to order lab tests to assess and update the patient's isolation status

- Notification of Infection Control to update isolation status if removal criteria is met
- Provided education to all perioperative nursing staff regarding the standard process of removing a patient's isolation status to ensure awareness and compliance.

Statement of Successful Practice

After implementing the process of screening isolation status of patients and staff education. 25 of 68 patients (37%), were successfully removed from isolation from April 2023 to April 2024. Qualitative feedback from staff encompasses increased awareness of the isolation guidelines and removal process and are self-driven to initiate the process.



Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing

Collaborating with multidisciplinary teams to eliminate unnecessary isolation precautions enhances process improvement and patient care outcomes. This initiative underscores the value of cross-departmental teamwork in refining procedures and boosting quality care for optimal patient outcomes.

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