



Improving Continuity of Care through PreOp Workflow Process

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Background

Planned procedural room expansion and onboarding of 22 additional team members prompted discussion on improving preoperative workflow

Effective patient flow management is critical for quality of care, staff workload, and patient outcomes (Al Harbi et al., 2024)

Uncoordinated patient preparation can lead to delays, dissatisfaction, and safety risks

Perioperative leadership and charge nurses focused on addressing these challenges through potential workflow improvements

Objectives

Improve nurse perception of preoperative workflow and handoff communication to enhance continuity of care and reduce stress around patient assignments

Restructure daily preoperative nurse assignments and standardize staffing to optimize nurse communication and ensure optimal patient outcomes

Process of Implementation

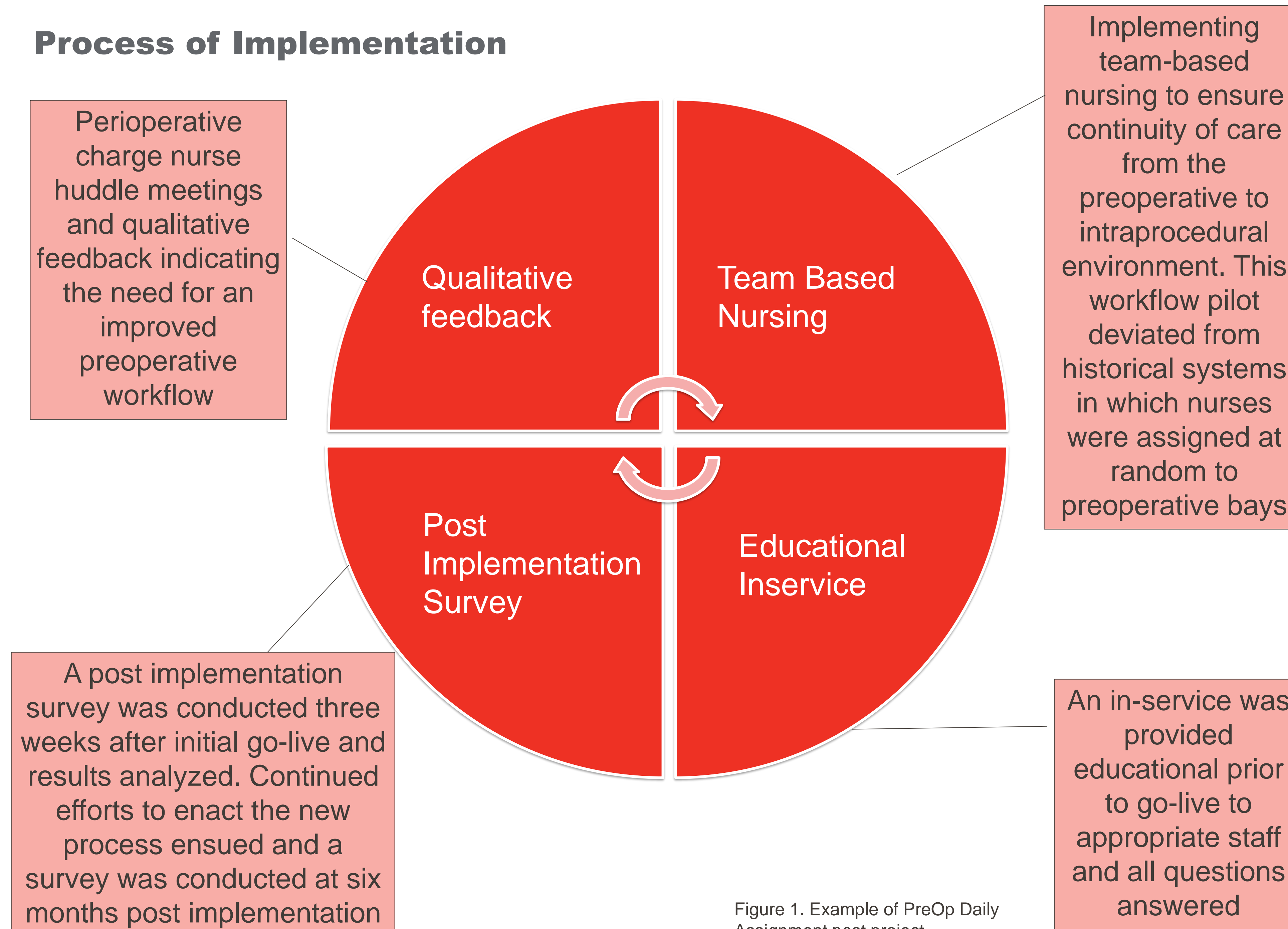


Figure 1. Example of PreOp Daily Assignment post project implementation



Pre-Op		
SHIFT	Staff	ASSIGNMENTS
0630-1500	Miranda	CN
0800-1630	Miklyne	ENDO 1
0700-1730	Jeremy	ENDO 2
0630-1500	Natasha	IR CT 1
0700-1530	Montgomery	IR FL 2
0800-1630	Morito	IR CT 3
0730-1600	Takiyah	IR FL 4

Statement of Successful Practice

Post implementation survey indicated 71% of nurse staff perceived the preoperative workflow improved overall process. Qualitative feedback indicated the enhanced preoperative workflow process led to role clarity, improved communication, and exceptional teamwork. 83% of nursing staff agreed that the preoperative workflow pilot improved streamlining patient care. Additional efforts included implementing a team lead (TL) role to assist in overall workflow process and patient care.

Implications for Peri-Anesthesia Nursing Practice

Optimizing preoperative daily workflows can lead to improved patient outcomes, increased patient satisfaction, and enhanced continuity of care. A culture of continuous quality improvement benefits all.

References

Al Harbi, S., Aljohani, B., Elmasry, L., Baldovino, F. L., Raviz, K. B., Altowairqi, L., & Alshlowi, S. (2024). Streamlining patient flow and enhancing operational efficiency through case management implementation. *BMJ Open Quality*, 13(1), e002484. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjog-2023-002484>