

No Log Left Behind: Elevating PACU Event Logs Efficiency with Digital Dashboards

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Abstract Background Information: Perioperative Services support 51 operating rooms and over 100 pre and post anesthesia care unit bays, managing approximately 140 surgical cases daily. Accurate Event Logs and timestamps are essential for tracking patient throughput from admission to discharge, ensuring smooth care transitions (American Society of Anesthesiologists, 2023).

A nurse-led review of 15,983 charts from January to July 2024 found 1,033 missing Event Logs accounting for a 6.5% documentation gap. Further investigation revealed that omissions frequently occur during shift changes and patient handoffs, which hinders monitoring during recovery, communication with patients and families, and accurate billing for services rendered.

Objectives of Project: To reduce the number of missing Event Logs in PACU documentation by 50% by June 2025, as measured by the PACU Verification Report from the OR/Anesthesia Billing Department.

Process of Implementation: To reduce the number of missing Event Logs in PACU documentation by 50% by June 2025, as measured by the PACU Verification Report from the OR/Anesthesia Billing Department factors to documentation lapses. Utilizing the Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) framework, the following interventions were tested and refined prior to full implementation:

- Formation of PACU Task Force: Responsible for data collection, staff engagement, and in-service training.
- Integration of CSLink Dashboard: Enabled real-time monitoring of Event Log documentation.
- Standardization of Handoff Communication: Ensured key events were consistently logged during shift changes.
- Staff Education and Targeted In-Services: Reinforced the importance of accurate documentation and familiarized nurses with dashboard functionality.
- Regular Audits and Feedback: Continuous monitoring of Event Logs, with recognition awarded to units demonstrating high compliance.

Statement of Successful Practice: Event log documentation improved in both preop and PACU settings. The project achieved a 50% reduction in missing Event Logs, showing improved compliance. With successful integration into daily workflows, the CSLink dashboard was well-received by nursing staff.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: Improved Event Log compliance supports timely and accurate billing and revenue integrity. The Log Verification Rate increased from 93% to 98%. Significant Reduction in incomplete charts: decreased from 7.2% to 2.4%, a 70% overall reduction.

As technology evolves, ongoing evaluation will be critical to measuring long-term impacts on nurse performance, patient throughput, and quality of care in PACU.