

## **Implementation of a Cardiac Service Line**

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Nursing staff in the department recognized a need for additional education to care for cardiac patients. This included cardiac pathophysiology, anesthesia care post-procedure, and interventions performed in the Cath Lab. The Cardiac Service Line was developed through collaboration with bedside nursing staff, leadership, and the cardiac procedural team to meet the educational needs of staff and provide quality care for our cardiac patients and families.

### **Objectives of Project:**

- Improve the quality of care provided to cardiac patients by increasing staff knowledge and comfort of post-procedure care in the PACU
- Mentor staff when providing care to cardiac patients and "Champion" cardiac patient care by requesting to care for cardiac patients
- Engage in educational opportunities to improve knowledge and bring newly acquired knowledge to the unit to share with fellow champions and bedside staff

**Process of Implementation:** An initial meeting involving the HR/PACU leadership, nurse educator, and staff nurses interested in serving as champions initiated the implementation. This meeting established objectives of the service line, opportunities for growth/learning for service line members, and prioritized educational initiatives to fill clinical practice gaps. Clinical practice gaps were identified through staff rounding, an organizational reporting system, and conversations with the cardiac procedural team. Post meeting, targeted education was provided by the Champions, Cardiologist, and CRNAs during unit morning education sessions. Service Line Champions initially attended a recurrent Cardiac Lecture Series, spent observational time in the Cath Lab, and met with the cardiac procedural team; additional opportunities for growth are ongoing. Initially, meetings occurred monthly but have transitioned to every 3 months as the line has become established. At each meeting, current initiatives and education topics, future initiatives, and opportunities for professional growth are discussed.

**Statement of Successful Practice:** Purposeful and targeted education from nursing peers, cardiology, and anesthesia team members has helped bridge the gap in clinical practice and continues to improve the quality of care provided to our cardiac patients and families.

**Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing:** Successful implementation of this initiative could lead to the creation of additional service lines for other perioperative specialties, populations, and roles.