The Five Steps to Safe Post-Anesthesia Recovery - A Model for Nursing Care in the Post Anesthetic Care Unit

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Background Information: The period that begins after surgery and anesthesia can be critical for the patient, and safety measures guarantee the success of the care provided to the patient. Therefore, proposing a model of nursing good practices in the Post-Anesthetic Care Unit - PACU, could have a positive impact on nursing actions, guaranteeing patient safety in the immediate post-operative period.

Objectives of Project: To propose a model of safe nursing care for patients, seeking the best practices in the PACU.

Process of Implementation: The World Health Organization recommends using a checklist to implement patient safety in the perioperative period, known as the Safe Surgery Checklist. In the post-operative period, we propose a model for systematizing care, which can guarantee step-by-step safe recovery and better results for nurses' safe practices in this period. In 2020, SOBECC proposed material based on the safe surgery checklist, specific to the PACU, including: safe transportation from the operating room to the PACU, safe admission of the patient, safe maintenance of the patient in the PACU with attention to signs of illness, records of all actions taken during this period, and safe transportation of the patient from the PACU to the destination unit.

Statement of Successful Practice: Each step was described with the time of application, and how to implement the step so that the nurse can monitor each element ensuring patient safety, and move on to the next step, ensuring that the previous step has been properly evaluated. In Brazil, there is a shortage of material on nursing care in the PACU, so the material had a major impact on SOBECC’s media, causing a large number of views and shares, with 10,990 impressions and 68,161 interactions: save, like and share!

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: We believe that the search for knowledge is essential, and SOBECC has a responsibility to offer its members and nurses a condition for constant improvement, keeping the target of patient safety in focus, and guaranteeing safety in the immediate post-operative period. The launch of the material gave rise to the Anesthetic Process Nurses Committee, which at SOBECC works specifically for professionals in the perianesthesia area and their challenges.