

Training the Pediatric Post-Anesthesia RN to Care for the Maternal Fetal Patient

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Background Information: The Boston Children's Hospital (BCH) Maternal Fetal Care Center expanded surgical services to include interventions for fetuses of pregnant women. In order to ensure excellence in care for these patients within our institution, a need to provide training for our current pediatric Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) nurses in preparing and recovering the maternal fetal patient was identified.

Objectives of Project: To develop and implement a training program for pediatric PACU nurses to ensure the delivery of safe and quality care to the maternal fetal patient.

Process of Implementation: Nursing leaders created a PACU subject matter expert (SME) group of 11 nurses. All Maternal Fetal SMEs became Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support certified, completed the *Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses* Fetal Heart Monitoring education course, and attended both a maternal fetal simulation and live skills session.

Multidisciplinary collaboration with BCH Immersive Designs Systems facilitated four simulation sessions. A specialized maternal fetal simulator was used to train staff on fetal monitoring, tocometry, obtaining fetal heart tone dopplers, and emergency response.

Additionally, resources were provided and live skills sessions were held for the Maternal Fetal SME group. These sessions utilized pregnant volunteers to practice fetal monitoring, tocometry and fetal heart tone dopplers. A patient case scenario was developed to orient attendees on the maternal hemorrhage cart and response protocol. Educational lectures on obstetric medication pharmacology and psychosocial support of the maternal fetal patient were also provided.

Statement of Successful Practice: After training, 100% of Maternal Fetal SMEs answered "Yes" to "Do you feel more confident in taking care of the Maternal Fetal patient?" in an evaluation survey. All participants were observed to demonstrate competency in live skills training. Maternal Fetal SMEs have provided safe and quality care for over 50 fetal intervention surgical cases.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: This program created a safe and high-quality model of care for PACU nurses caring for the maternal fetal patient. It also strengthened the multidisciplinary communication and teamwork across multiple departments in the institution to better serve a vulnerable patient population.