



Building Bridges: Creating a Perianesthesia and Operating Room Committee

Marianne Boothe, BSN, RN, CNOR; Megan Juliano, MSN, RN, CPAN; Amanda Lenik, BSN, RN, CNOR, RNFA;
Kaitlin Ronning, DNP, RN, CPAN; Anna Lee Siqueza, DNP, RN, NE-BC, CPAN & Margaret Vance, MSN, RN, CNOR, NPD-BC
Pennsylvania Hospital – Penn Medicine



Introduction

- Though Perianesthesia and the Operating Room (OR) work in concert, there can often be a perceived divide between the departments
- Following an increase in safety events in relation to surgical dressings, drains and catheters, a Perianesthesia/OR workgroup was formed
- The team determined that the increased line of communication could go beyond the original scope and purpose
- This shifted a short term workgroup into a long term interdepartmental committee
- Topics of discussion may rotate, however optimizing patient safety and outcomes is always the priority

Objectives

- Develop an interdepartmental committee between Perianesthesia and the OR
- Discover strategies to engage clinical nurses in decision making
- Foster a collaborative environment with clinical nursing staff and unit based leadership



Methods



Results

- Successful trials have been performed for new technology, including vacuum assisted hair removal systems and straight catheters
- Documentation of surgical drains, dressings and catheters has improved overall
- Standardized processes have been established to notify support persons throughout the perioperative continuum
- Increased engagement and community outreach have stemmed from various clinical nurse run charitable events
- Results of this workgroup were highlighted as a Magnet® exemplar

Discussion

- Interdepartmental collaboration between Perianesthesia and the OR can increase communication and success of interventions
- This forum allows clinical staff nurses to constructively view problems and encompass different perspectives
- Engaging clinical nurses from Perianesthesia and the OR promotes departmental partnerships



References

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