

# Promoting Utilization of EMR Strategies to Streamline Communication Across Perioperative Teams

Sarah Hill, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC



## BACKGROUND

Implementation of the EPIC electronic medical record (EMR) at our institution, coordination of care communication and information for day of service, such as hemostasis and endocrine plans, has occurred inconsistently inside and outside of the EMR. This led to

- Overlooked information and errors with coordination of appropriate teams of safe anesthesia care
- Cancellations or delays to patient procedures
- Decreased patient, family and perioperative team satisfaction

## OBJECTIVES

Development and utilization of a consistent, central location utilizing EMR tools (FYI Flag and designated status board) for communication of anesthesia care coordination and patient care plans

## PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION

A perianesthesia nurse practitioner:

1. Collaborated with the EPIC OpTime IT builders creating a patient specific FYI Flag in the EMR called "Anesthesia Care Planning and Special Needs"
2. Collaborated with EPIC OpTime IT builders to enhance an already utilized Status Board accessible across all perioperative teams
3. Gathered 5 months of qualitative data from daily huddle emails identifying incidents of miscommunication between teams and missed coordination of care leading to delays, cancellations, and/or dissatisfaction reinforcing need for consistent communication practice change.
4. Gathered baseline knowledge regarding FYI flags and status board tailoring educational presentation to all perioperative teams regarding purpose, utilization, anesthesia care planning information, and accessibility of the FYI flag and status board.
5. Continued gathering qualitative huddle data and post implementation surveys in order to reinforce practice change and continued improvements of the new communication tool across perioperative teams.

## STATEMENT OF SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE

**Prior to implementation:**

**65%** of perioperative team members surveyed understood the purpose & where to find FYI Flag information in a patient's chart  
**5** incidents/month were reported of delays or cancellation of procedure due to missed communication regarding anesthesia coordination of care

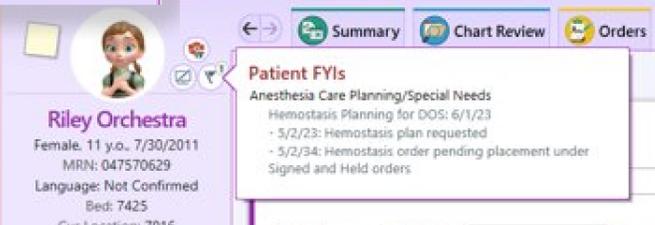
**6 month Post implementation:**

**100%** of perioperative team members surveyed understood the purpose & where to find FYI Flag information in a patient's chart  
**0** incidents/month were reported of delays or cancellations due to missed communication regarding anesthesia coordination of care

## IMPLICATIONS FOR ADVANCING THE PRACTICE OF PERIANESTHESIA NURSING

Utilization of designated communication tools in the EMR for patients undergoing procedures with anesthesia:

- Increases patient care safety & effectiveness through consistent location for communication of anesthesia coordination of care
- Decreases delays/cancellation of procedures due to missed/overlooked communication of anesthesia care planning



Scan QR code for references and acknowledgements

