Implementation of a Standardized OR to PACU Handover at an Urban Pediatric Tertiary Care Centre

Jessica Tang, MScN, BScN, RN, Janina Lagason, BScN, RN, Venus Shyu, BScN, RN, and Monika Magnatta, BScN, RN

Process of Implementation

- 2019 Needs Assessment
  - Gathered patient safety report trends related to handover
  - Conducted nursing focus groups to gather subjective data on OR to PACU handover experience
  - Audited handovers from OR to PACU
  - Completed literature review and benchmarked handover practice within the organization (completed by 2020)

- 2020 Implementation
  - Established working group with key stakeholders from surgery, anesthesia, OR and PACU nursing
  - Developed first draft of the handover checklist and process
  - Launched 3-week pilot with 3 surgical services (ENT, Dentistry, General Surgery)
  - Obtained data and feedback from interprofessional teams collected and incorporated into final checklist and process
  - Provided physical resources (annotated checklist and process) and education through didactic teaching, practice stations, and selective teaching
  - Go-live in all surgical services

- 2021 Promoting Best Practice
  - Recruited and trained PACU RNs to the Handover Champion Team
  - Created and shared a scheduled Handover newsletter with the Perioperative Care team
  - Celebrations of best practice and compliance audit communicated

- 2022-2023 Sustainability
  - To ensure adoption of practice and sustainability, an educational handover video was developed
  - Reduced human resources needed to provide education
  - Approval from Perioperative Executive Committee and Medical Affairs Committee to mandate Handover education to onboard perioperative staff and trainees

Statement of Successful Practice

- 90% of survey respondents reported satisfaction with the quality and efficiency of communication to deliver safe and effective patient care
- Ongoing surgical staff presence (~90% attendance) over the last 3 years reflects uptake of the handover process
- Leadership support and endorsement resulted in approval of mandatory handover education to onboard perioperative staff and trainees

Limitations

- Compliance with the use of checklist
- Delayed onboarding education of new anesthesia, surgical staff and trainees
- Implementation excluded the department Image Guided Therapy (IGT) due to fewer number of radiologists and trainees

Next Steps

- Implement mandatory handover education
- Engage IGT team to assess readiness for implementation of the handover process

Scan the QR code below to watch the OR to PACU handover video:

References


