



Adverse Event Debriefing

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Background/Rationale

- Adverse events are often unexpected, traumatic, and cause excessive amounts of stress among nurses
- Nurses do not always have the coping mechanisms necessary to manage their emotional responses and subsequent stress
- High stress levels can create safety, risk concerns, and undesirable patient outcomes
- One recognized method for helping nurses cope with stress related to adverse events is to participate in a structured debriefing session



Methodology

- P-** Members of Patient Care Services and Perioperative Services involved in adverse events
- I-** Conduct a literature search and appraise evidence to find best practices, create guidelines and tool based on the evidence, provide education to the nursing staff
- C-** No process currently in place at this medical center for adverse event debriefing, only one debriefing process exists specific to ICU Code Blue debriefing
- O-** Increased knowledge of the adverse event structured debriefing process thus reduction of stress among nurses

PICO Question

What is the best practice and methodology in conducting a structured debriefing among nurses after an adverse event to reduce their stress levels?

Literature Search

45 articles reviewed, 27 appraised

Qualitative Study 5 Systematic Review 1 Case Study 2
 Descriptive 1 Literature Review 8
 Non Experimental 2 Expert Opinion 8
 Systematic Review 1 Literature Review 8

Results/Outcomes

Debriefing after adverse events can:

- Decrease stress among nurses
- Create a safer practice environment
- Provide opportunities for growth and learning
- Improve teamwork
- Lessen financial impact



Practice Recommendations

- Structured debriefing sessions should be conducted after adverse events
- An Adverse Event Debriefing clinical practice guideline should be followed
- An Adverse Event Debriefing tool should be used for consistency and documentation

Led to the creation and integration of

Mercy Medical Center
 Professional Practice Guideline
 for Adverse Event Debriefing

Mercy Medical Center
 Adverse Event Debriefing
 documentation tool

Evaluation Process



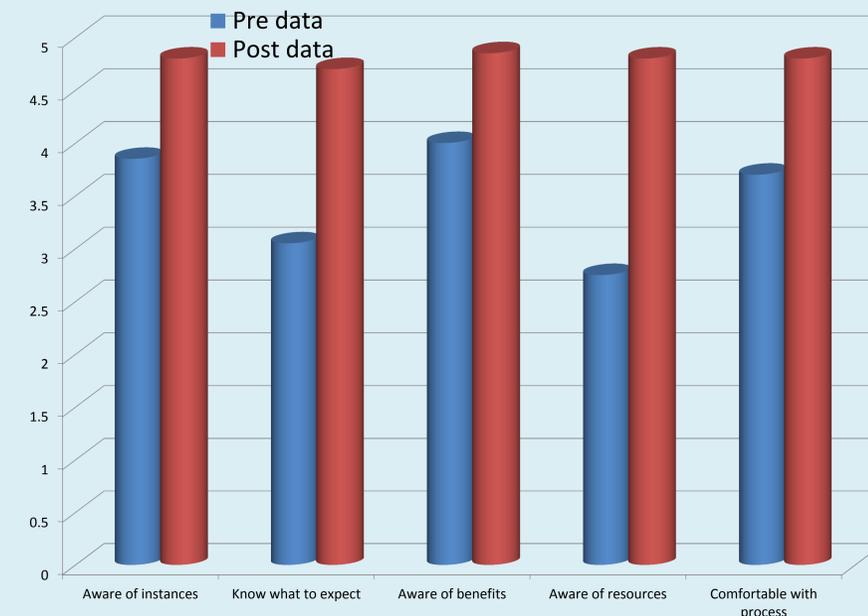
ADVERSE EVENT DEBRIEFING SURVEY

An adverse event is any unplanned undesirable event that is either preventable or non-preventable and potentially the result of individual, team, process, or system issues.

A debriefing is an organized discussion held after an adverse event intended to provide immediate reflection, support, and education to individuals involved.

Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I am aware of instances when a structured debriefing is necessary					
I know what to expect when participating in a structured debriefing					
I am aware of the benefits of participating in a structured debriefing					
I am aware of resources available to me after an adverse event					
I would be comfortable participating in a structured debriefing					

Results (n=20)



Summary

- Participation in structured debriefings has many benefits including decreasing stress in nurses after adverse events
- Structured debriefings create constructive positive environments that promote growth and learning
- Standardized evidence-based debriefing practices create consistent follow-up care after adverse events

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