

## **PREOPERATIVE EDUCATION FOR PERIPHERAL NERVE BLOCKS IN THE AMBULATORY SURGERY SETTING**

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**Introduction/Identification of the Problem:** Identified the lack of knowledge for those patients needing a peripheral nerve block (PNB) prior to surgery; resulting in an increased delay of surgical start times.

**EBP Question:** Will using a pamphlet to educate preoperative orthopedic patients increase patient recall of receiving information about PNB on day of surgery?

### **Purpose of the Study:**

- Identify areas of inconsistencies of preoperative information given in clinics regarding PNB.
- Improve patient education prior to PNB in order to maintain timely patient flow without surgical start time delays.

### **Methods:**

- Survey data was collected from orthopedic surgery patients and analyzed at the beginning of the project to identify the type, if any information was given during the preoperative appointment.
- An informational pamphlet was created to and distributed to orthopedic clinics to be given to patients during the preoperative visit. This information is on the University of Iowa's website and is available to the public.
- Clinic nurses were educated on the need to inform patients of PNB and to allow time for patient questions and concerns during the preoperative appointment.

### **Significant Findings:**

- A post intervention survey showed 50-90% of patients remembered receiving verbal education and 10-50% received written education during their preoperative appointment. This revealed an increase of 30% by both verbal and written education.
- This study showed inconsistencies in PNB patient education between various orthopedic clinics.

### **Conclusion/Future Research:**

- Continue to collaborate between medical providers, family members, and patient to review available options and address concerns about PNB.
- Create better understanding about PNB for patients.
- Distribute pamphlets to clinics including Cancer, Plastic Surgery, and General Surgery to provide effective and patient friendly educational materials.