From Paper to Pixels: Revolutionizing Nursing Education through a Digital Learning Management System

Primary Investigator: Mark Templonuevo BSN RN CVRN-BC
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas
Co-Investigators: Jin Huang MSN RN OCN, Elsy Puthenparampil DNP RN-BC CPAN

Introduction: Traditional paper-based educational systems posed significant challenges in centralizing institutional education resources, tracking completion, and referencing back to education presentations, thereby inhibiting seamless access, collaboration, and completion.

Identification of the problem: Our project aimed to improve nursing education by transitioning from paper-based educational items to a digital Learning Management System (LMS) to enhance accessibility, completion, and tracking of educational requirements.

QI question/Purpose of the study: Our primary objective was to streamline and consolidate all education materials into one comprehensive digital LMS – a centralized platform of educational resources from multiple sites to give staff easy access to all education materials for easy reference and tracking.

Methods: We surveyed nurses on previous-existing paper-based educational items and how it affected their overall satisfaction. A fishbone diagram showed us areas of improvement for institutional and unit-based education items. We collaborated with the PACU Leadership and Education Committee nursing teams to identify a suitable LMS platform and organize the educational content and process. We conducted group and individual training sessions to familiarize staff with the new digital system, to ensure a smooth transition. Continuous feedback loops were placed to enhance user experiences and evolving needs.

Outcomes/Results: We sought to improve the ability of staff to complete education items by their due dates by 10% and reached 12% improvement. The level of feeling overwhelmed was also reduced by 13%.

Discussion: The successful implementation of the digital LMS resulted in a centralized hub for all nursing education resources, seamless access to assignments, and serves as a tracking system for members and leadership that can ultimately improve patient care outcomes.

Conclusion: The digital LMS has significantly reduced time spent searching for paper materials and increased engagement in learning activities, leading to improved efficiency and productivity.

Implications for perianesthesia nurses and future research: The digital LMS has foundationally created a way to leverage advanced technologies and foster a culture of continuous learning, which contributes to improved patient care, enhanced patient safety, and overall advancement of the perianesthesia nursing practice. The success of this transformation highlights the importance of embracing digital solutions to optimize education communication in healthcare.