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INTRODUCTION

The primary goal in nursing is to provide quality patient-centered care. Educating patients to their own care helps to increase confidence, foster independence and give the patient’s agency over their health and wellbeing.

The ASEPT® Drainage System is a complete drainage and dressing change kit. The catheter is placed in the pleural or the peritoneal space to drain accumulated fluid caused by pleural effusions and malignant ascites. Standardizing discharge instructions for nurses to utilize helps to adequately instruct and educate patients being discharged home with pleural drains in place.

Due to the low volume of ASEPT® drain procedures in the Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) it was identified that there is an opportunity to address a practice gap by standardizing education for all patients being discharged with an ASEPT® Catheter for pleural effusions needing drainage.

PURPOSE

The goal of this project was to develop standardized education for all patients being discharged post-pleural drain insertion needing the ASEPT® drainage kit to drain pleural effusions at home. The question asked was: How can Post Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) nurses caring for patients after a pleural drain insertion provide comprehensive discharge education to the patients and their families?

- Develop and implement a comprehensive visual educational toolkit for staff and patient education, standardizing resources, and materials to enhance knowledge, skills, and best practice
- Improve clinician efficiency, confidence and enhance patient and caregiver comfort with pleural drainage process at discharge
- Create a toolkit that will contribute to a higher level of care and better patient experience on the unit

METHOD

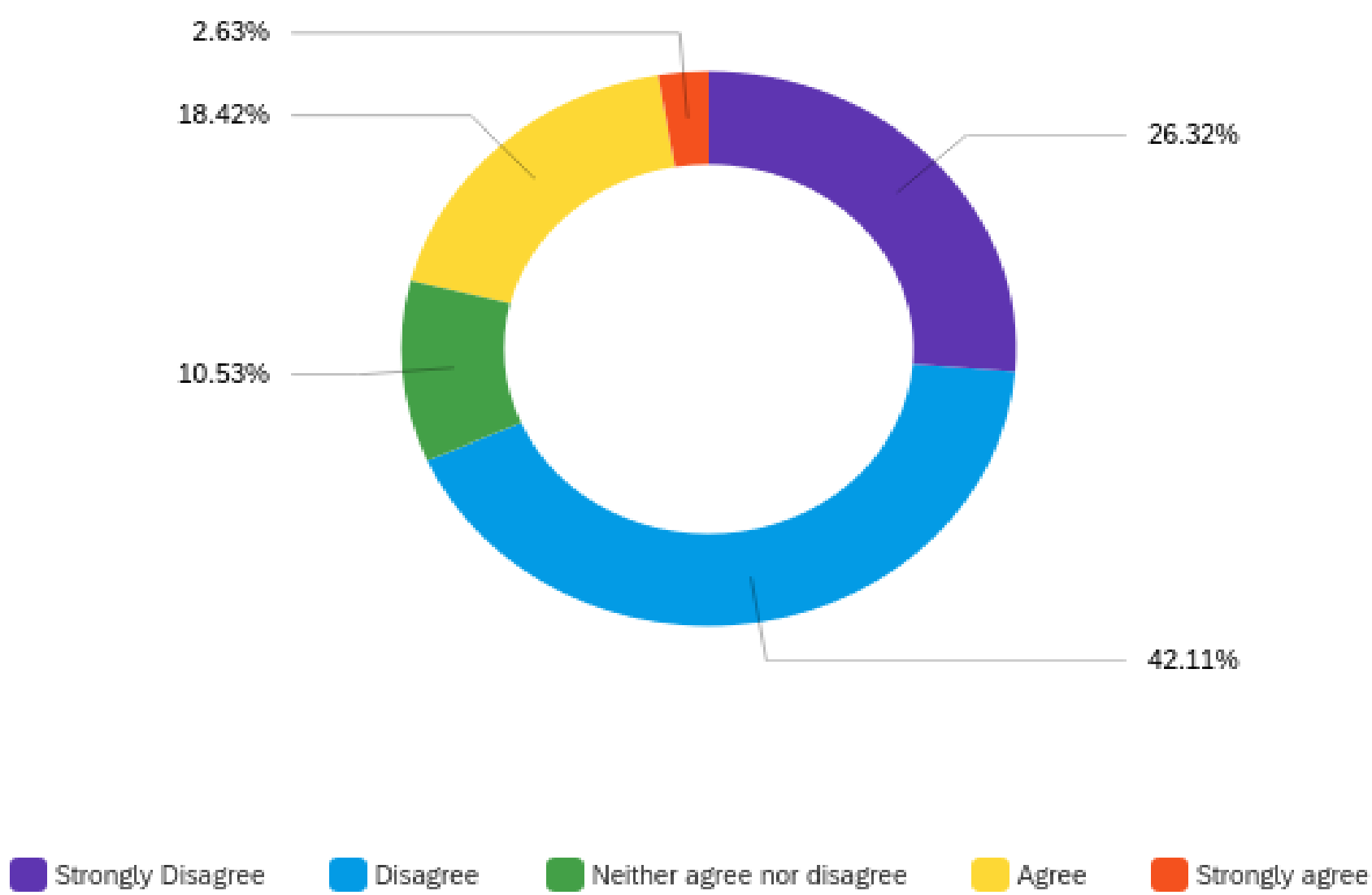
A pre-survey questionnaire was given to all the registered nurses, assistant nurse managers and manager in the PACU. A Likert scale was utilized to assess comfortability with teaching ASEPT® drain care for the PACU RN staff. The pre-survey revealed a lack of familiarity and comfortability in teaching and reviewing care of the pleural drain and ASEPT® drainage kit with patients and caregivers.

A toolbox was utilized which included an ASEPT® drainage kit, tip sheets, visual aids and a simulated pleural catheter model. The Nursing Professional Development Specialist developed the pneumonic CDCD (Connect, Drain, Clean, Dress) for ease in learning and teaching.

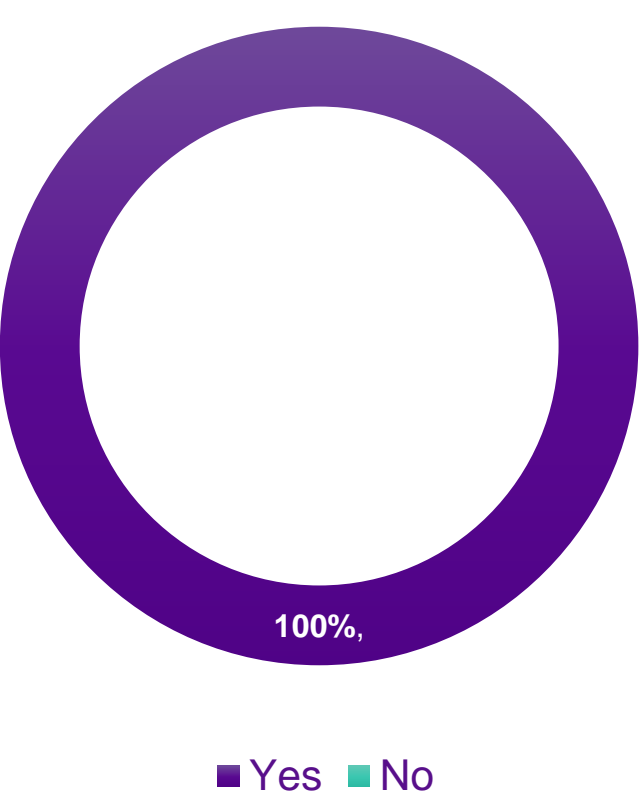
The educational methods utilized for nursing staff were in-service, huddles, group and individualized hands-on practice with return demonstration utilizing the new ASEPT® drain toolbox.

FIGURE

ASEPT® Drainage Kit Education pre-survey question: I am comfortable teaching ASEPT® catheter care to patients and their caregivers?



ASEPT® Drainage Kit Education post-survey question: I am comfortable teaching ASEPT® catheter care to patients and their caregivers?



RESULTS

The standardized visual educational toolkit was created for staff and patient education, streamlining resources and promoting best practice.

A self-evaluation pre-survey tool was created and distributed to the registered nurses. The survey revealed that 70% of the registered nurses in the PACU were uncomfortable instructing patients and their caregivers about usage of the ASEPT® drainage kit.

After educating the PACU registered nursing staff a post-survey tool was distributed. This survey revealed that 100% of the registered nursing staff were confident to educate and instruct patients and their caregivers about utilization of the ASEPT® drainage kit.

CONCLUSIONS

Education was created to support the implementation of the ASEPT® drain toolkit, tip sheets and unit champions. Integrating education to staff utilizing a teamwork approach, while partnering with the Nursing Professional Development Specialist for the PACU, greatly improves the implementation and maintenance of standardized care.

Standardized care helps to reduce risk/injury, and increase comfort and confidence for the patient and their caregivers. It also helps to promote efficiency in the PACU setting for the nursing staff.

The benefit of having the education kit ensures that resources are available at all times to the nurses in the PACU for education on all shifts.

A standardized approach to patient education allows nurses to feel more confident in educating the patients and prepare them for the transition to home with a pleural drain. In the future the format for standardized education can be used for other skills requiring patient education in the PACU.

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