Perinatal Loss in the Emergency Department

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Conclusions / Discussions

Implications for Emergency Nursing Practice

➢ Improve the care for women and families experiencing threatened or actual pregnancy loss in the emergency department (ED)

➢ Research identified mismatch between care given and expected causing decreased staff and patient satisfaction

➢ 1 in four women, 750,000 to 1,000,000, miscarry annually.

➢ 75% of families with early pregnancy loss refer to woman as the mother and the products of conception as the baby.

➢ 2016: Creation of Interdisciplinary Guidelines for Care of Women Presenting to the Emergency Department With Pregnancy Loss

➢ Will education on practice guidelines increase knowledge and confidence of ED staff dealing with pregnancy loss to improve staff and patient satisfaction and care of women and families?

➢ Educational module offered as power-point presentation in person to focus group (nurses, chaplain, social workers, n=15)

➢ Pre- and post- education survey measured Knowledge and Comfort Levels of Staff Taking Care of Patients Experiencing Pregnancy Loss in the Emergency Department with 10 questions on 5-point Likert scale

➢ In addition collected immediate, informal staff feedback

➢ All questions showed post-intervention gain

➢ 3 questions with highest improvement for confidence and comfort with (1) presentation of remains, (2) communication with family, and (3) arranging interdisciplinary care

Conclusion

Improved knowledge and confidence of staff dealing with pregnancy loss in the emergency department demonstrated after education on EBP guidelines

Practice Implications

➢ Offer education to all emergency department staff

➢ Assess implementation needs

➢ Measure improvement of care with patient satisfaction surveys

References


