Purpose: To determine the effects of an EPIC Snapboard Shared Calendar System in enhancing communication between OR and AOD nurses to improve on-time OR first case starts.

Problem Statement: For operating room (OR) start times, how does adding OR nurse assignments to an EPIC Snapboard shared calendar for daily morning assignments compared to a paper copy of the nurse assignment sheet, affect the number of minutes the first 10 OR case start times are delayed within a 7-week time frame?

Background: On-time OR first case start times are important in maintaining daily on-time surgeries. Increasing communication among OR and perioperative nurses may help to improve first-case OR on-time starts.

Approach: Individualized training of OR charge nurse designee to input daily OR nurse assignments into EPIC Snapboard Shared Calendar feature each morning.

Results: On time first case starts improved by 30%, delays decreased by 23%. Average ready times increased by 1.03 minutes and first case start delays decreased by 15.02 minutes.

Discussion/Implication to practice: The EPIC Snapboard shared calendar system is a helpful communication tool in the operating room to enhance communication between perioperative and operative nurses.

Abstract

Identification of Risk Factors, Risky Behaviors, and Nursing Interventions

Implementation Survey Questions Evaluation

Best Practices

- Lean and Six Sigma techniques have been applied to healthcare processes, including surgical processes, to improve efficiency and decrease waste (Coffey et al., 2018).
- Soliciting input from team members to improve efficiency (Bender et al., 2015).
- Use of checklists and flow sheets to improve preoperative processes (Panni et al., 2015).
- Pre-operative facilitators and enhanced communication techniques to increase efficiency (Panni et al., 2015).

Results and Implications to Practice

- On-time first case starts increased by 30%, delays in first case starts decreased 23%, and test delays such as pre-operative x-rays (KUB) decreased by 7%.
- Average number of minutes for on-time first case starts increased by a difference of 1.03 minutes as compared to the average number of minutes for first case start delays which decreased by 15.02 minutes.
- Average number of minutes healthcare professionals had completed their pre-operative procedures prior to rolling out of AOD for first case starts increased by 4.33 minutes (OR nurses), increased by 12.95 minutes (Anesthesiologists) increased by 7.88 minutes (Surgeons), and increased by 4.9 minutes (AOD nurses).
- First-case start time delays were highest for surgeon delays (95%), test delays (14%), patient late arrivals (13%), H&P completion (7%).

Implications to Practice: Increased communication using a shared calendar system was effective in improving first case on-time starts.

References (only 4 evidence based articles and other resources you used.)


