Basic Strategies in Simulation: Using Scenarios to Develop Competence With Communication

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Introduction

This project evaluated the student’s perception of communication as a competency when woven into high risk perinatal clinical scenarios. Student’s experience and knowledge regarding communication techniques, clarity of expression and importance and impact of clinical communication was assessed using an anonymous survey.

Benefits of the use of simulation for clinical competency and communication was evaluated. Samples of interwoven scenarios for patient teaching and high risk clinical situations are provided. Students were able to identify self-improvement in communication and hand off particularly with respect to high risk situations.

Scenario Topics

- Postpartum Hemorrhage
- Safe Postpartum Discharge
- Shoulder Dystocia

Sample Scenario: Postpartum Hemorrhage

Ms D. is a G5P5005 who delivered a 4500 Gm infant boy at 314 PM. She had an estimated blood loss of 1200 mls. She is currently breastfeeding her infant.

She has an intravenous solution of Lactated Ringers with 20 units of oxytocin infusing at 125 mls per hour. There is 200 ml left in the bag. She was straight cathed at delivery and has not voided. Her vital signs are stable post birth, and the oncoming nurse obtains consistently stable blood pressure, temperature, respiratory rate, and pain score. The pulse rate is elevated.

Clinical judgement should direct the student to immediately assess the fundus and the bleeding based on risk factors and assessment.

Student Competency Checklist: Postpartum Hemorrhage

Communication Highlights

1. Student will receive handoff at the bedside of the woman who is at a high risk for postpartum hemorrhage as communicated by fellow student
2. Student will verbalize need for further assessment based on objective data
3. Student will perform assessment techniques
   a. Fundal assessment
   b. Lochia assessment
   c. Perineal assessment
   d. Vital sign assessment
4. Student will perform intervention strategies to decrease blood loss and manage postpartum hemorrhage. Student will communicate in team based format using SBAR strategy.
   a. Calls for help
   b. Communication
      i. SBAR assessment communicated to team
      ii. Assignment of roles
      iii. Provider communication
   c. Bimanual massage
   d. Quantification of blood loss
   e. Administration and communication administration of appropriate medication using closed loop communication.
      i. Oxytocin
      ii. Methergine
      iii. Carprofest
      iv. Misoprostal
      v. Tranexamic Acid
   f. Ascertaining need to empty the bladder
   g. Correctly notes the color and quantity of blood loss
   h. Communication of plan of care to team


Contact Information

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Student Response

Clear indication that communication strategies recognized as critical by student participants