Title:
Development of a Neonatal Nursing Handbook

Charlotte Li
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Surrey Memorial Hospital, Surrey, BC, Canada

Session Title:
2012-2013 Maternal-Child Health Nurse Leadership Academy Invited Posters

Keywords:
Confidence, knowledge, Neonatal Nursing Handbook and Patient safety, quality of care

Abstract Text:
The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Surrey Memorial Hospital (SMH) is expanding and transitioning into a higher acuity facility within the next year. Extensive education and training are anticipated to be required for new and current staff nurses. Following a needs assessment survey, staff indicated a strong interest for the development of a Neonatal Nursing Handbook to increase nurses’ knowledge and confidence in caring for higher acuity patients in the new NICU setting. The purpose of this project was to explore whether the knowledge and confidence of neonatal nurses increase after utilizing a quick reference Neonatal Nursing Handbook. A secondary aim was to examine whether access to the Neonatal Nursing Handbook increases patient safety and the quality of care provided to infants in the NICU. A quick reference Neonatal Nursing Handbook was created to improve the knowledge and confidence of NICU nurses. All NICU nurses will complete a pre-survey two weeks prior to launching the Neonatal Nursing Handbook to explore the neonatal nurses’ confidence level, knowledge in neonatology and safety/quality of care in their practice. The nurses will be able to use the Neonatal Nursing Handbook for one month before they complete the post-survey.