Are We Ready For Ebola?

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Background

- Adherence to special precautions while caring for patients with potential Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) is vital to preventing spread of the virus.
- We developed a training program using personal protective equipment (PPE) in compliance with CDC guidelines.

Objective

- To determine whether health care providers (HCPs) felt adequately prepared in PPE use, should a suspected or confirmed case of EVD present to our hospital for care.

Methods

- An online survey of 49 HCPs working in the medical intensive care unit was conducted.
- 10 question survey, using the Likert scale, assessed comfort level with PPE training and care of the EVD patient.

Findings

RN/MD Survey Response Rates

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<th>Response to Survey</th>
<th>Total Surveys Sent</th>
<th>Percentage Response</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physicians</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>67%</td>
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Provider Years of Practice

- 24% under 5
- 27% 5 to 10
- 49% More than 10

Initial Comfort Level

P-value = -0.31

Comfort Level After Training

P-value = *0.004

Do you feel you have had adequate practice with PPE?

P-value = *0.04

Level of Comfort in Donning/Doffing Skills

P-value = *<0.001

Implications & Next Steps

- Understanding the factors that contribute to the willingness of health care providers to provide care during an Ebola outbreak is critical.
- In order for people to be more comfortable and prepared, there need to be frequent training sessions.
- Smaller volunteer team with more hours of practice may be in the best solution to who should care for these patients.
- Plan to include more questions to understand the background behind the discomfort that staff have and how to improve their comfort level.