

Caring for Patients Diagnosed with Concussions at an Urban Level 1 Trauma Children's Hospital; Development and Implementation of a Standard of Care

Susan McInerney BSN RN CPN
St. Christopher's Hospital for Children
Philadelphia, Pa.



PURPOSE

- Identify a baseline knowledge level of pediatric nurses' related to current best practices of concussion care
- Develop and implement a "Concussion Standard of Care"



PILOT STUDY

- Pre-Presentation Survey
- Neurosurgeon Concussion Presentation
- Post-Presentation Survey



RESULTS

 Identified need for a comprehensive "Concussion Standard of Care"



INTERPROFESSIONAL TEAM

- Clinical Care nurse led team!
- Nursing
- Physicians
- Non-Nursing



CONCUSSION STANDARD DEVELOPMENT

- Blank Slate
- Evidence Based Practice
- "Algorithm for Cognitive Rest"
- "Recovering from a Concussion" Discharge Instructions



STANDARD OF CARE

- Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria
- Target Users
- Patient Evaluation –Admitted
- Cognitive/Brain Rest



COGNITIVE/BRAIN REST

- Complete or Modified:
 - Physical Activities
 - School Work/Homework
 - Visitor Restrictions



COGNITIVE/BRAIN REST

(continued)

- Computer Use
- Television
- Video/Hand Held Games
- Text Messaging/Social Media



INTERVENTIONS

- Treat pain and symptoms with medication
- Reinforce/educate patient and caregivers about cognitive rest
- Notify physician of changes in patient condition



DISCHARGE

- Review "Recovering From a Concussion" discharge instruction sheet
- Document teachback, interventions and responses in patients' medical record



IMPLEMENTATION

- Target User Education
- View on-line .EDU Site Lecture Presentation
- Review "Concussion Standard of Care"
- "Algorithm for Cognitive Rest"
- "Recovering From a Concussion" Discharge Sheet



REFERENCES

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).(March 2010). National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Concussion/signs _symptoms. Atlanta (Ga): Center for Disease Control and Prevention; Available at www.cdc.gov/concussions/signs_symptoms.html
- Gioia, Ga.(2012). Pediatric Assessment and Management of Concussions. Pediatric Annals, 41(5), 198-203.
- Halstead, ME.,& Walters KD and The Council on Sports
 Medicine and Fitness (2010). Clinical Report-Sport-Related
 Concussion in Children and Adolescents. Pediatrics,597-615.
 doi:10.1542/peds.2010-2005.



