Improving Nursing Knowledge of Comfort Modalities for Patients Receiving Hospice Care

Ashley L. D'Andrea BSN, RN
Lehigh Valley Health Network, ashley_l.dandrea@lvhn.org

Gabriela DePaulo BSN, RN
Lehigh Valley Health Network, gabiela.depaolo@lvhn.org

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarlyworks.lvhn.org/patient-care-services-nursing

Part of the Nursing Commons

Published In/Presented At
Improving Nursing Knowledge of Comfort Modalities for Patients Receiving Hospice Care

Ashley D’Andrea, BSN, RN
Gabriela DePaulo, BSN, RN
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania

BACKGROUND / INTRODUCTION
- Initiation of Inpatient Hospice and Hospice Response Team in November 2015.
- Medical/surgical nurses unfamiliar with comfort measures in patient care.
- Nurses verbally admit to feeling uncomfortable with managing needs of patients at the end of life.

PICO
For medical/surgical patients receiving inpatient hospice care, does implementation of multiple comfort modalities for pain management compared to current practice yield increased nursing satisfaction with care and pain management?

METHODS
Qualitative and quantitative survey distributed to 6K nurses prior to education. Algorithm for comfort measures and hospice packet distributed upon admission to 6K.
Same pre-survey administered three weeks after re-education with hospice packet to assess learning.

OUTCOMES
Improvement in 6K nurses’ comfort level of providing care to inpatient hospice patients.

CONCLUSIONS
- 1.8% improvement in nurses’ feeling that they effectively managed pain.
- 5% improvement in nurses' ability to identify ways to improve comfort in inpatient hospice patients.
- 2.5% decrease in nurses' effectiveness in implementation of comfort measures after identification.

REFERENCES