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Changing the View on Specialized Treatment: The Interdisciplinary Approach

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Published In/Presented At

Bailey, G. (2013, March 2-7). Changing the view on specialized treatment: The interdisciplinary approach. Poster presented at: The Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses' Congress, San Diego, CA.

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Changing the View on Specialized Treatment: The Interdisciplinary Approach Perioperative Services Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania

Objectives

- Describe the basis of interdisciplinary teamwork.
- Identify the benefits of interdisciplinary teamwork when initiating a new procedure.
- Define the educational needs in developing teamwork.

Problem Statement

Advanced medical techniques brought to the market require a paradigm shift in the way the operating rooms are staffed. Lehigh Valley Hospital, a level one trauma center, was chosen to provide patient's with the latest medical advancement in valve surgery. As the hospital had done in the past with the advancement in the

Thoracic Endovascular Aortic Repair (TEVAR), Endovascular Aortic Repair (EVAR), and this current addition of the Transcatheter Heart Valve **Replacement (TAVR) procedures** required a smooth transition from the specialty to multidisciplinary processes. Advanced procedures require a multitude of knowledge



from specialties such as cardiothoracic surgery, Radiology, Cardiology, Anesthesia, Cardiac Catheterization Lab, and the Operating Room staff. Prior to addition of this procedure a lack of cohesion and understanding of each team's individual knowledge was present.

Rationale

As the wave of healthcare continues to grow in the realm of advanced procedures, team collaboration must occur. Mutual interaction and continued buy in from the staff is necessary for optimal team results. Through continued education, active listening and open communication differences among each specialty can be understood. As an institution, this collaboration is a must for the advancement in programmatic development.

- A consistent roster of staff from each area allowed for a greater buy-in to the new procedure and a greater level of comfort among team members.
- Commingled the processes per specialty to garner the best results for the advanced procedures.
- Continual preparation and education on need for collaborative communication, cohesive team work and continuous feedback.
- Joint participation among so many specialties was paramount, including learning from pioneering hospitals in the country.
- Staff participated in a dry run of the procedure allowing a familiarity of the location of supplies and pre-determined established roles of the staff.
- Prior to each individual procedure the surgical team huddled in an effort to establish a plan of care. This plan of care was communicated to assigned staff.
- A debriefing was performed to review process, teamwork, and results. It also served to navigate through any questions and concerns.



Results

 Success of the initiation of the TAVR procedure at Lehigh Valley Health Network blending the efforts of multiple specialty teams.

A change in view of specialty based care

Interest in cross training from staff increased

 Shared responsibility for outcomes and success of procedure has come to the forefront.

Mutual trust among consistent staff.

Mutual respect and advanced communication among differing specialties

Take Home Message

Change of thought process must occur between specialties in order to succeed in advanced procedures.

Continual collaboration among staff helps establish mutual respect. Advanced education and progressive communication is vital in order for the success of future advanced procedures.

Common goals must be created and shared by all members of the

Support and collaboration from all layers-administrators to front

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