

Enhancing Communication Along the Perioperative Continuum.

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Enhancing Communication Along the Perioperative Continuum

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PURPOSE:

As a network that services over 38,000 surgical cases a year, it was identified that patients were entering the surgical arena without proper communication and documentation completed by the perioperative team. The concern for patient safety and potential for error drove a new process.

IMPLEMENTATION:

The STOP sign is utilized as a communication tool. This visual aid has enhanced relationships between the operating room and preoperative staff. Patient information is shared with the receiving team to optimize care the patients receive



METHODOLOGY:

- Create a multidisciplinary team including both preoperative and intraoperative nursing staff as well as managers to create a tool
- Evaluation of the current process to look for areas of improvement
- Develop a visual reminder with the **STOP** sign to increase communication regarding the patient's care
- The team participated in educating the frontline staff on utilization of the **STOP** sign



RELEVANCE:

With the growing surgical case volume, developing and implementing a process to increase communication between the surgical team and the preoperative team. This process is aimed at decreasing near misses with patients and enhance communication within the perioperative team.



OUTCOME:

- Decreased amount of errors in documentation
- Enhanced patient safety with increased communication within the perioperative team
- Created a more favorable working environment

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