CONFUSION ASSESSMENT METHOD for the ICU (CAM-ICU)

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**CONFUSION ASSESSMENT METHOD for the ICU (CAM-ICU)**

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**BACKGROUND**

- The Confusion Assessment Method for the ICU is a tool used to identify delirium in intensive care unit patients.
- The CAM-ICU is one of the tools used in the EPIC charting system used by Lehigh Valley Health Network.
- Nurses at Lehigh Valley Hospital – Schuylkill ICU have never used the CAM-ICU.

**P I C O**

- **P**: LVH-Schuylkill East night shift RNs
- **I**: Educational intervention on the CAM-ICU (including the Richmond Agitation Sedation Scale)
- **C**: No education
- **O**: Knowledge and confidence in using the CAM-ICU.

**EVIDENCE**

- Delirium is highly prevalent in critically ill patients and is associated with higher mortality, costs of care, and greater lengths of stay in the ICU patients (Khan et al., 2017).
- A nursing educational intervention implemented on a 23 bed ICU showed increased knowledge in: impacts of delirium, CAM-ICU interpretation, patient case scenario, and validity of the CAM-ICU tool (Ramoo et al., 2018).

**IMPLEMENTATION**

- Researched evidence on delirium and the CAM-ICU.
- Consulted LVH-CC expert MSICU nurse on information for educational intervention.
- Developed a short, educational intervention to instruct the nurses on using the RASS and CAM-ICU.
- Developed pre and post-intervention survey to assess confidence and chose 3 case scenarios to assess knowledge before and after intervention.
- Pre-survey, pre-test, and educational intervention performed over a two week period followed by a two week period for post-survey and post-test implementation.
- Local bakery cake used as incentive to participate.

**ANALYSIS OF OUTCOMES**

- Pre-education survey results showed the majority of nurses were very uncomfortable using the RASS, CAM-ICU, and with the implementation of EPIC documentation system.
- Post-education survey results showed nurses were more comfortable using the RASS, CAM-ICU, and with the implementation of EPIC documentation system.
- Nurses showed increased test averages results when comparing pre-education scenario test results to post-education case scenario test results.

**NEXT STEPS**

- Interest expressed by nurses on other shifts to receive CAM-ICU education.
- Make education intervention available to all ICU nurses at Lehigh Valley Hospital – Schuylkill prior to implementation of EPIC documentation system.

**REFERENCES**


**OUTCOMES**

**Survey Results**

![Survey Results Graph]

**Case Scenario Test Average Results**

![Case Scenario Test Average Results Graph]

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