

Candles for Hospice Patients

Brenna Flood BSN, RN
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Brenna.Flood@lvhn.org

Jennifer Buhler BSN, RN
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Jennifer.Buhler@lvhn.org

Juliana Mitchell BSN, RN
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Juliana.Mitchell@lvhn.org

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CANDLES FOR HOSPICE PATIENTS

Brenna Flood, BSN, RN, Jennifer Buhler, BSN, RN, and Juliana Mitchell, BSN, RN
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania

BACKGROUND

- Everyday noise is expected on the floor
 - Patient rounding, patient care, staff communication, transporting equipment, etc.
- Hospice patients are just one population of patients cared for on 5T
- Goal is to provide a calmer and more respectful environment for hospice patients
- Candles: symbol of light in the dark, remembrance, etc.

PICO

- In medical-surgical staff, does an identifier of hospice care vs. no identifier of hospice care affect staff behavior relative to a hospice patient's environment?

P- Medical-surgical staff on 5T

I - Candle on hospice patient doors

C - No candle on hospice patient doors

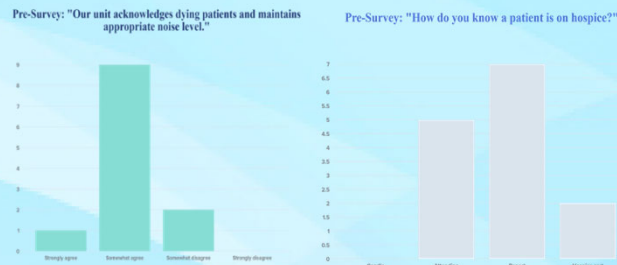
O - Staff noise and awareness around hospice rooms

EVIDENCE

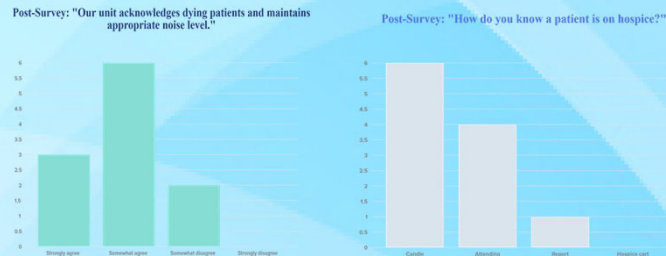
- Candles help staff to identify hospice patients on the floor
- Staff understands the significance of the candle, which helps minimize noise and conversation in hallway
- Positively impacts the dignity of the end of life experience by promoting a more personalized and peaceful atmosphere

OUTCOMES

Pre-Survey Results:



Post Survey Results:



After implementation of candles, our staff are more aware of their noise level and now identify a hospice patient by the use of the candle on the door.

IMPLEMENTATION

- Pre-survey for staff
- Unit education/Candle TLC
- Encourage implementation of candles placed on hospice doors
- Post-survey for staff



NEXT STEPS

- Continue educating staff and visitors about the candles and their meaning.
- Determine further ways to promote peaceful environments for hospice patients.
- Proceed to practice mindfulness during conversation with staff.

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