

## Caring for You and Your Smile Oral Hygiene Education at the Bedside

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# Caring for you & Your Smile

## Oral Hygiene Education at the Bedside

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### BACKGROUND

- We noticed an opportunity to improve oral care management for our patient population.
- Bedside staff are in the best position to promote timely oral care practices for patients who may otherwise not perform their normal oral care practices due to being hospitalized.
- Increasing bedside staff knowledge of the significant relationship between oral care and positive patient health outcomes will highlight the importance of oral care management for the hospitalized patient.

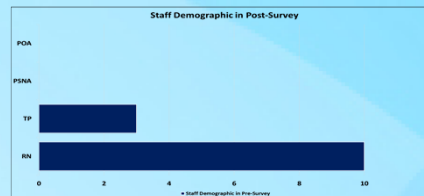
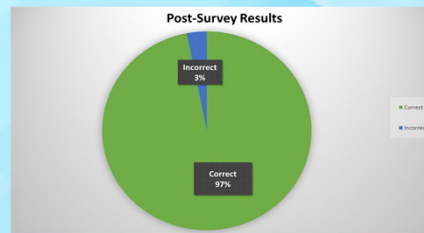
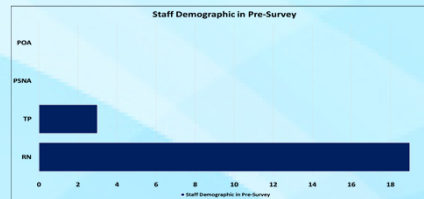
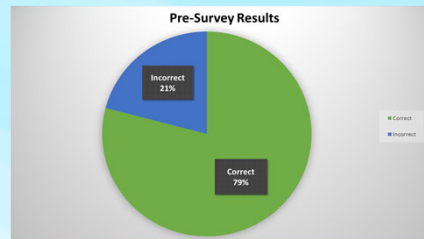
### PICO

- **P:** Direct bedside staff (PSNA, TP, POAs, RNs)
- **I:** Increase the education of the benefits of oral care management for the hospitalized patient.
- **C:** Lack of education of the benefits of oral care management for the hospitalized patient.
- **O:** Impact awareness of the positive patients outcomes of oral care management.

### EVIDENCE

- Hospital acquired pneumonia from missed oral care is the leading cause of hospital acquired infections (HAP). (Klompas, 2016)
- The implementation of teeth brushing after every meal and before bed in non-ventilated patients prevents the occurrence of HAP. (Pettit et al., 2012)
- Scheduled oral care decreases a patient's length of stay. (Weitzel, Robinson, & Holmes, 2006)
- The leading missed aspect of nursing care by patients is oral care. (Sjogren et al., 2008)
- Non-ventilated HAP is a risk to adult patients in all inpatient settings. (Baker & Quinn, 2018)

### OUTCOMES



#### Results:

- In the pre-survey, the average score on the questionnaire was a 79%.
- The staff demographic in the pre-survey included 3 technical partners and 19 RN's.
- In the post-survey, the average score on the questionnaire was 97%.
- The staff demographic in the pre-survey included 3 technical partners and 10 RN's.
- The average test scores improved from 79% to 97% with the addition of an educational resource via email.
- The education focused on the importance of basic oral care of non-intubated patients.

### IMPLEMENTATION

- Distribute a pre-survey staff questionnaire in April, 2020 (5 questions) related to basic oral care knowledge to capture baseline knowledge on oral care management for the hospitalized patient.
- Develop an educational resource on oral care management for the hospitalized patient via PPT.
- Assign the staff (RN's & TP's) the oral care PPT educational resource via email in July of 2020.
- Re-distribute the staff questionnaire to gain insight on the impact of the oral care educational PPT.
- Compare pre-survey and post-survey scores to identify the impact of the oral care educational PPT and learning gaps.

### NEXT STEPS

#### Barriers:

- Covid-19 pandemic, reduced post-survey response.

#### Moving Forward:

- In-service educational sessions.
- Currently used oral care protocol will be printed and posted throughout unit.
- Education will be included in the new hire orientation and yearly educational in-services.

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