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### Tip Sheet for Floating Nurses

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# Tip Sheet for Floating Nurses

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## BACKGROUND

- Nurses who are floated to other units may often feel they lack vital information to be adequately prepared for work
- This can decrease time management, impact patient care, and increase work related stress
- Essential items and information are located in different places on each unit
- Geared more towards GN and new RN in float pool

## PICO

- P: Medical surgical Registered Nurse that float to a different unit
- I: A unit specific tip sheet.
- C: No tip sheet
- O: Nurse satisfaction

## EVIDENCE

- In a nursing article written by Muffley and Heath in 2017, medical surgical nurses who were part of a float pool were offered group support during the transition from novice to competent nurse. This facilitated retention of skills and increased satisfaction.
- A quality improvement article in 2016 written by Shinnars, Alejandro, Frigillana, Desmond, LaVigne discussed how work satisfaction is an important predictor of a nurse's intention to remain in his or her current position. Therefore, making the floating experience a positive one should be a consideration for all hospital leaders when designing the float pool experience.
- In 2013, Gates discussed in a nursing article how past approaches to preparing nurses and supporting them while floating have proven insufficient. She specifically mentioned how solutions can come in the form of unit-specific informational guides, staff support, frequent communication, and feedback.

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## OUTCOMES

- We created a survey and asked 10 participants to answer 5 questions using a Likert scale. The 5 survey question included were as follows:
  - How often do you get pulled to another unit? A. Weekly B. Biweekly C. Monthly D. Float Nurse
  - How confident are you with your current workplace layout? A. Very Confident B. Somewhat Confident C. Not Very Confident D. Not Confident
  - How familiar are you with the floors you are floating to today? A. Very Familiar B. Somewhat familiar C. Not Very Familiar D. Not Familiar
  - Are you satisfied with the information that you needed to be floated to another unit? A. Very Satisfied B. Satisfied C. Somewhat Satisfied D. Not Satisfied
  - Are you satisfied with the resources that you needed to be floated to another unit? A. Very Satisfied B. Satisfied C. Somewhat Satisfied D. Not Satisfied
- The results demonstrated an overall improvement in nurse satisfaction when using the tip sheet



## IMPLEMENTATION

- Complete pre-survey prior to floating to different floors
- Provide tip sheet
- Complete a post-survey after floating to measure nurse satisfaction
- The goal is to overall improve nurse satisfaction!!!

## NEXT STEPS

- Further implementation of surveys should be conducted in all LVHN hospitals for further research
- In time, a more detailed and specific survey can be obtained to help improve our tip sheet
- Larger sample size
- Finally, the use of our tip sheet throughout the network as a permanent supplement for med/surg nurses floating to various units

## REFERENCES

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