

Improving Compliance of Sequential Compression Device Documentation

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Background & Significance

- Observations noted that patients were not wearing Sequential Compression Devices (SCD) as ordered. Prevalence Audit data confirmed that compliance with application of SCD and documentation of SCD was incomplete.
- Nurses lack of knowledge regarding correct documentation when a patient refuses to wear SCD.

PICO

What is the effect of education and an algorithm to use as a reference guide on registered nurses documentation of refusal of Sequential Compression Devices (SCD)?

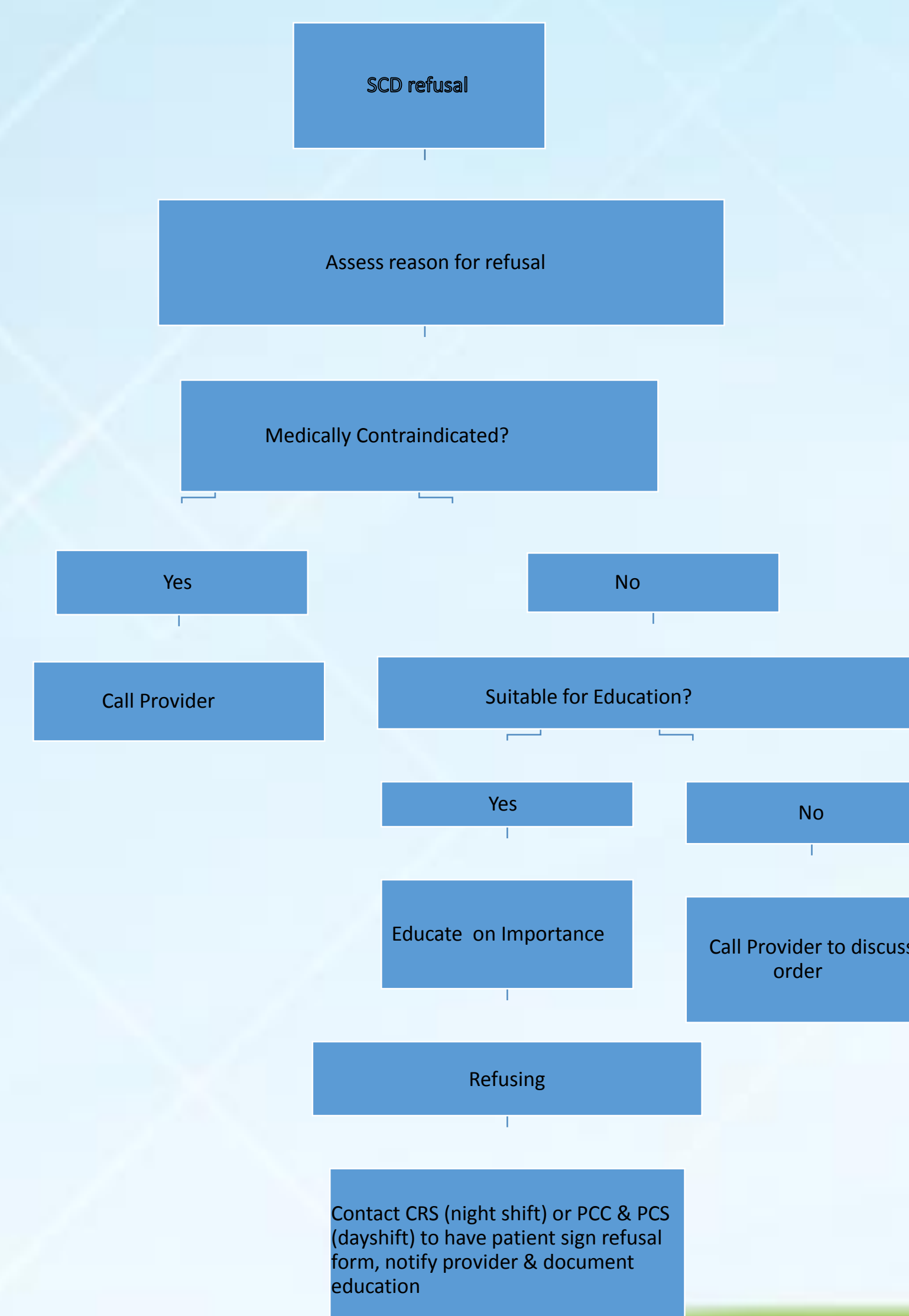
Evidence

- Venous thromboembolism (VTE) is an important patient safety issue resulting in significant mortality, morbidity, and health care resource expenditure. Despite the widespread availability of best practice guidelines on VTE prevention, only 49% of patient were receiving appropriate prophylaxis (Duff, Omari, & Walker, 2011).
- Availability of an institution-wide VTE prophylaxis protocol allows nurses to improve quality of care, implementation, and prevention of DVT's (Gurley & Tietze, 2014).
- Implementation of evidence-based VTE prevention through continuing education can prevent DVT's and increase staff compliance (Gurley & Tietze, 2014).
- If nurses are educated, they feel empowered to implement appropriate VTE prophylaxis (Collin et al, 2010).

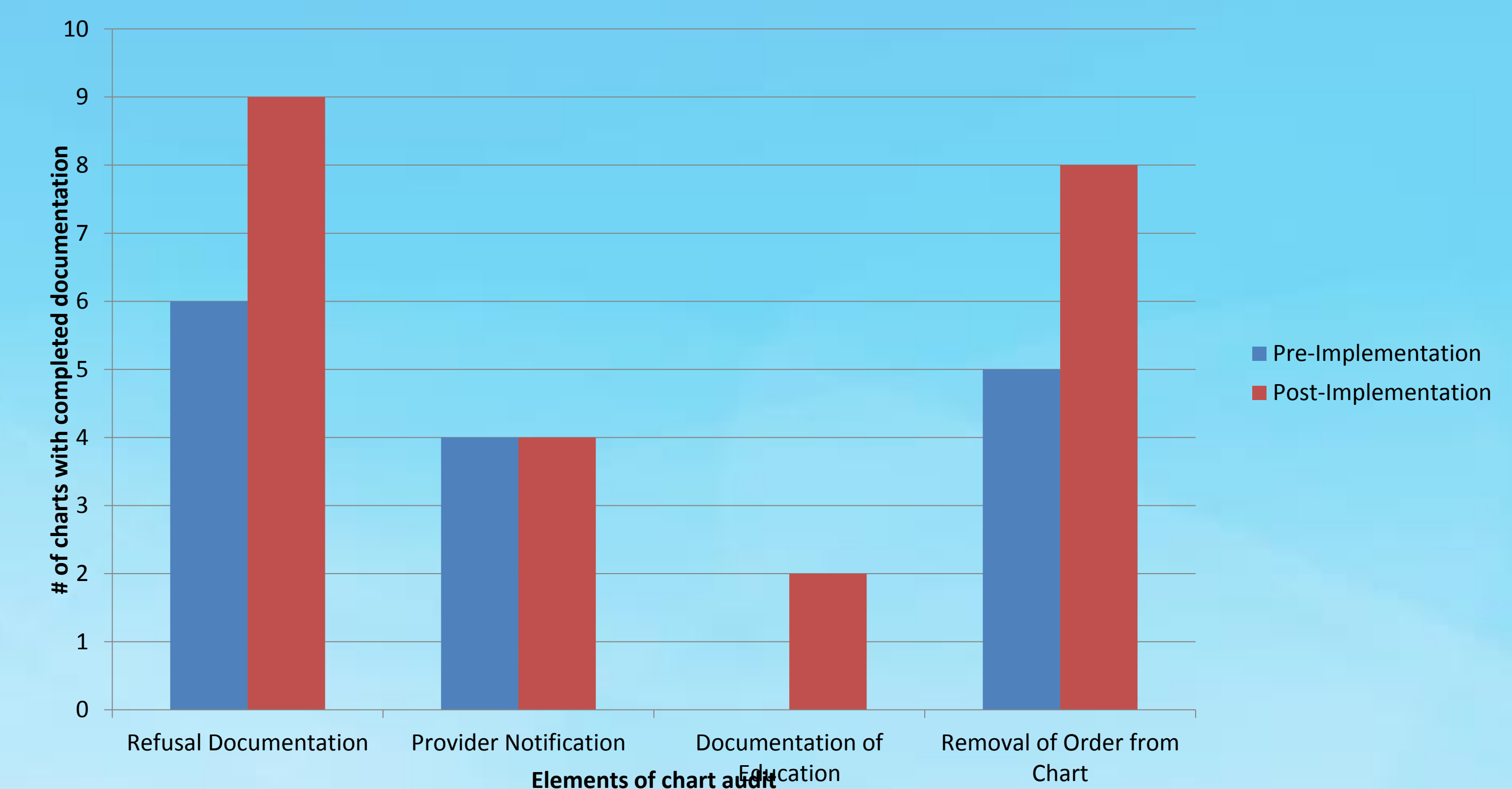
Implementation

- Pre-implementation chart audit completed on 20 charts to audit compliance with documentation of refusal to wear SCD.
- Developed algorithm for registered nurses to use as reference guide to ensure all required documentation of refusal is complete.
- Face-to-face education regarding use of algorithm provided to all registered nurses.
- Copy of algorithm was provided to registered nurses and posted in key areas throughout the unit.
- Post-implementation chart audit completed on 16 charts to audit compliance with documentation of refusal to wear SCD.

Algorithm



Results/Conclusions



- Compliance with documentation of refusal improved 56% post-implementation.
- No improvement noted with provider notification or documentation of education.

Next Steps

- Disseminate findings to network.

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