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KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

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KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

SAMANTHA HEISERMAN, BSN, RN – SHANNON ROUSE, RN – BURN UNIT

Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania

BACKGROUND

- Adult burn patients have various needs regarding their mobility and nutritional status related to their injury.
- Two falls occurred in the first quarter related to toileting needs on the Burn Unit.
- Delayed patient care related to needing to find primary nurse for questions regarding mobility/ nutritional status

PICO

- **P-** Adult burn patients
- **I-** Implementing communication white boards
- **C-** Not implementing white boards
- **O-** Compliance with ordered mobility and nutritional status

EVIDENCE

- “Research shows that common activities which contribute to falls include toileting and ambulation”
- “Staff often assist their coworkers and ambulate patients of which they are not familiar”
- “Everyone was working in relative isolation, which was not conducive to function as a team”

OUTCOMES

- Pre Survey: 21 respondents
 - Do you feel unprepared to assist patients related to mobility/ nutritional status more than 50% of the time? Yes:15 No: 6
 - Do you feel having a white board listing mobility status/ toileting needs/dietary status would help assist in answering call bells? Yes: 19 No: 2
 - Do you have other suggestions for the white board? Answers included: No, and POCT
- Post Survey: 25 respondents
 - Do you feel the white boards increased your comfort when answering call bells of patients not assigned to you? Yes: 19 No :6
 - Do you feel updating the whiteboards during bedside shift report was helpful in improving communication? Yes: 18 No: 7



IMPLEMENTATION

- Pre-survey
- Checking white boards for order compliance/ update daily for one month
 - 83% compliance rate
- Post survey

LIMITATIONS

- Anonymous survey, no guarantee it was the same respondents for pre/post surveys
- Low patient census
- Short data collection time, one month

NEXT STEPS

- Implement permanent communication white boards in all ICU's within LVHN.

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