

Evaluating the Role of an RN Facilitator in Enhancing ICU Liberation Bundle Implementation in the CVIC: A Multi-Site Trial Analysis

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Project Description

Background:

Approximately 5 million patients are admitted annually to U.S. ICUs for intensive procedures and monitoring (Viglianti & Iwashyna, 2017), with medical errors and adverse events occurring in 15–51% of cases (Phua et al., 2020). The ABCDEF bundle has been shown to be effective across diverse patient populations. A 2019 study involving 15,000 adults in 68 ICUs found that adherence to the bundle improved discharge rates, reduced mortality, and lowered the need for ventilation compared to those who received fewer bundle elements (Pun et al., 2019). Despite these benefits, a study of 76 ICU facilities identified limited education, staffing uncertainty, and team disconnect as barriers to implementation (Balas et al., 2019). This research, part of the multi-site BEST-ICU trial, hypothesizes that an RN facilitator dedicated to the ICU liberation bundle will address these challenges. The study will assess the effectiveness of the RN facilitator role in the CVICU and compare perceptions of implementation to those of RN facilitators, determining its impact on patient outcomes.

Goal:

Evaluate the influence of nurse facilitators on the implementation of the AF Bundle by observing patient care, reviewing documented interventions, and surveying the experiences of nurse facilitators

Product:

Research project poster for the undergraduate research festival through the Office of Undergraduate Research

Objectives

1. Conduct a comprehensive literature review to identify the importance of the nurse facilitator role as well as identify gaps in knowledge and barriers to implementation in the ICU setting.
2. Data collection through a Multi Method approach: Gather data through direct observations, chart reviews and survey of RN facilitators to provide a holistic assessment of the execution and effectiveness of the RN facilitator role in the

CVICU.

3. Quantitative and qualitative comparison analysis: Compare the observed activities and self-reported roles of the nurse facilitators to identify and measure discrepancies and factors influencing responsibilities
4. Synthesize and develop poster and present: Analyze and synthesize the data to highlight key findings to create an organized poster to clearly communicate the importance, challenges, and effectiveness of the RN facilitator role in the CVICU

Project Reflection

I was never really involved in research until this semester. We had read a lot of research in class, but never on topics that truly interested me. Getting to choose a topic that I enjoyed and guiding a project on my own was truly rewarding.

I have really enjoyed getting to work on a yearlong project and have the satisfaction of an end-product. I would not change anything about my project. I feel like all elements turned out well, and I was able to successfully present at the research conference.