

ECU College of Nursing and ECU Health Quality Collaboration: Falls



Jetta Cameron-Paz, SN; Brandi Buchanan, SN; Charlotte, Bushman, SN; Hannah Byrd, SN; Nathan Byrum, SN; Kylie Caputo, SN; Brianna Cavicchia, SN; Jesi Chandler, SN; Desiree Gregg, SN; Dyanna Leach, SN; Avery Leggett, SN; Madelene Luarte, SN; Queniya Moore, SN; Riley Veazey, SN; Sydney Weinert, SN; Savannah White, SN; Rebecca Williamson, RN, BSN; Cindy Stille, RN, BSN; Ron Bolen, MSN, RN, CCRN, CEN; Kelli Jones, MSN, RN; Amy Campbell, PhD, RN, CPHQ, LSBB; Charlene Turnage, MSN, RN, LSSBB

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this study was to introduce the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) bundles for Falls to ECU students in the third semester of the nursing program on a trauma step down unit (4 North). A key goal of nursing education is to foster a rich learning environment free of harm and to allow the students to provide safe care. Each year, 11,000 deaths can be contributed to hospital falls and over 250,000 injuries.

PROJECT AIM

The goal of this project was to initiate an academic partnership with ECU Health and ECU College of Nursing (CON) by completing audits on patients on the 4 North Surgical Unit by 12/1/2023.

PROJECT DESIGN/STRATEGY

An interventional pilot study was conducted within the ECU Health Medical Center. Pre education was provided to nursing students by a Quality Nurse Specialist (QNS). The team reviewed observation and documentation piece of each QI bundle. Pictures were provided and the 4 North Leadership team was present during the educational session. Data collection involved reviewing documentation in the electronic medical record and compliance with the falls QI bundle by the students. Data was shared with Nursing Leadership after each audit was completed.

CHANGES MADE (PDSA CYCLES)

PDSA Cycle 1: Students attended a Falls Workshop and simulated Fall Prevention activities.

PDSA Cycle 2: QNS met with team to simulate audits and each student completed 1 audit.

PDSA Cycle 3: Students each completed 2-3 audits, group was debriefed to answer questions.

PDSA Cycle 4: Students completed 10 audits included validating and verifying the observation and documentation piece.

PDSA Cycle 5: QNS reviewed audits for accuracy, no discrepancy noted.



RESULTS/OUTCOMES

- The students have currently completed, 344 audits for falls.
- We had 100% participation of all students in all Falls activity.
- The compliance has been 62.5%.

LESSONS LEARNED

Patient safety should be a daily, conscious activity of everyone participating in care. Often, it is hard to measure objectively. The IHI evidence-based bundles give us the opportunity to validate and verify safe care is provided.

All nursing students should have education related to bundles on every unit.

Importance of teamwork and including students in all aspects of care including quality improvement.

NEXT STEPS

- Continue to collect data on 4 North Surgery.
- Expand the audit process to include central line infection and venous thrombosis vent Prevention.
- Educate other clinical groups on the IHI Bundles.

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4 North Leadership
ECU Health Office Of Quality

