Protecting the Heart of the Veteran

Implementation of a Modified Early Warning Scoring System (MEWS) on Acute Care Remote Telemetry Units in a Large Veterans Administration Hospital

Cheryl Manjengwa
DNP, RN, CNL, NE-BC
Background

- In-hospital cardiac arrests
- Diminished Quality of Life
- Vital Sign Trending
Problem

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Code Blue

Reactive
Proactive
Aim

The aim of this project is to increase the use of a MEWS by nursing staff on acute care medical-surgical telemetry units at a large Veterans hospital from 0% to 90% with 3 months to increase proactive identification of deteriorating patients.
Methods

- Team assembly
- Baseline data collection
- Education
- Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA)
Results

MEWS COUNT

Pre/Post-Intervention Codes

100% Staff Nurse Participation

Increased RRT Count

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Conclusion

- Limitations
- Office of Nursing Service Directive
- HRO Principle - Preoccupation with Failure
- Improved
  - Staff Nurse Confidence in delivery of Quality Care
  - Veteran safety
Questions ?
References


References


References


Costs and Outcomes of Chronic Heart Disease Care in the VHA. HSR&D study, Principal Investigator: Peter Groeneveld, MD, MS.