Standardization of the Resource Role

Introduction/Problem

- >Currently, on medical surgical units at BIDMC, there is no standard process for training resource nurses which leads to missed work and errors
- >The staff and patients could be negatively affected if a resource nurse is not proficient in managing all the aspects of the job
- > Lack of standard or role ambiguity causes confusion and differing expectations around the responsibilities of the resource nurse
- Literature shows role ambiguity leads to high stress, burnout, increased turnover, decreased job satisfaction and poor organizational commitment

Aim/Goal

- >To standardize orientation to the resource role by providing a standardized step by step guide
- >To use the standard work tool to reinforce the standard for nurses currently practicing in the role
- >To improve role development in resource nurses as well as increase job satisfaction
- >Implementation of the standardized step by step guide will be over a 6 month time period during which a pre and post survey will be circulated to show improvement in job satisfaction and decrease in role ambiguity

The Team

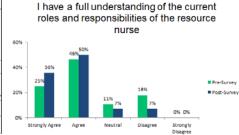
- Alice Bradbury RN, MSN
- Kimberly Cross RN, MSN
- Sandra Sanchez RN, MSN

The Interventions

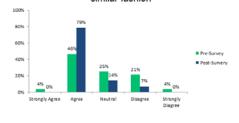
- Procured baseline data from staff and resource nurses regarding their perception of the role via survey monkey
- Created standardized work document that outline tasks and expectations of the resource role in addition to how to complete them
- Implemented documents and provided education of new resource nurses as well as staff currently practicing in the role
- The standardized work was used for 5 months and a post survey was conducted

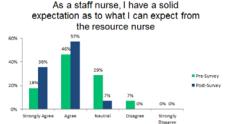
Results/Progress to Date





Different resource nurses do their work in similar fashion





Lessons Learned

- > Simple written and/or visual instructions aids in training staff to perform a new role in addition to increasing consistency of job functions
- Standard work improves awareness among all staff regarding expectation of the resource nurse
- Limiting role ambiguity creates improved job satisfaction and comfort performing in a new role

Next Steps

- Present standard work and findings at nursing leadership council
- Share the original standard work to other areas to work off of in order to create standard work specific to their work areas
- Edit and adapt standard work to cardiology/medicine population needs versus vascular population

For more information, contact: