

Preoperative Education in the Spine Population

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Introduction/Problem

Utilization of the Perioperative Spinal Education Class on Rosenberg 6 was variable due to patient pain control management and time and travel demands. While hands on education is preferred it is not always easily achieved due to patient constraints as mentioned. Patient feedback indicated the need to distribute the information at the time of their initial consultation. This would provide the patient the ability to learn the information prior to surgery. Newer methods such as websites and DVD were explored.

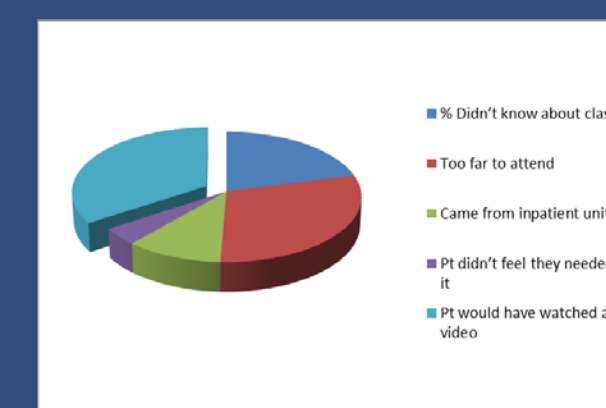
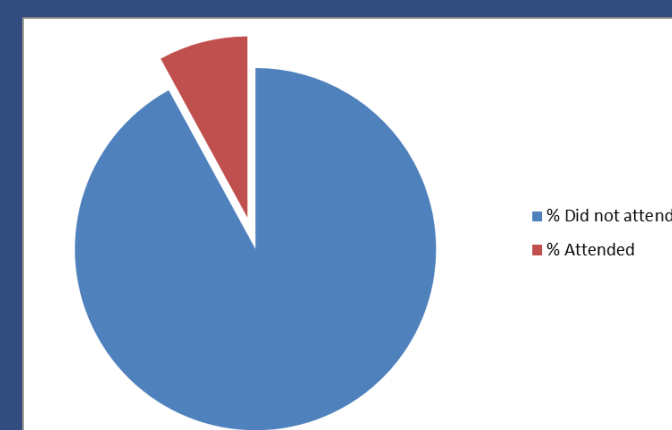
Aim/Goal

The purpose of this process improvement project was to develop alternative teaching methodologies for pre-op spinal surgery patients. The objective was to get more patients the information they needed for a successful surgery.

The Interventions

- This project involved creating an alternative form of patient education material such as a DVD or a web link. This intervention was meant to address the issue of poor patient attendance in the preoperative class offered at BIDMC's main campus.
- Rosenberg 6 has established a preoperative class that addresses the patients education needs and common concerns during recovery. The production an alternative teaching method encompasses the necessary subjects for recovery, such as family involvement with the surgical liaison, what the patient can expect for pain control and what items and equipment will be involved in their postoperative care.

Results/Progress to Date



Lessons Learned

Lessons Learned and Project Barriers:

- Financial implications to Rosenberg 6
- Managing the information to present a short concise video
- Obtaining prior spine videos to merge with new video
- Organizing multiple departments and staff to film video
- Educating Preadmission Testing to inform patients of the class and video alternative

Next Steps

- Combine the new video about the day of surgery with the existing videos to enhance the patients opportunity to participate and become more informed.
- Have copies made for the office to hand out as well as copies to be giving at the PAT clinic.
- Provide an easy access to a web site for patients to log onto to see the videos.
- Upload the videos to the BIDMC patient website in the spine surgery section.

The Team

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See business cards