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Decreased Recovery Time with Postoperative Pain Assessment in a PACU

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Gracie Yoon

What we are trying to accomplish

Global Aim: To improve the quality of patient care, adequate pain control and decreases readmissions and length of stay.

Project Aim: To reduce the length of postoperative recovery time by providing its nurses with skill pain management education by July 2023.

Background:

Setting: The average Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA) surgery case per day is five cases in the PACU unit. Forty PACU nurses in the unit provide care for patients recovering from general, regional, and local anesthesia. The planned project is to provide the PACU for nurses with education on effective pain management of postoperative patients.

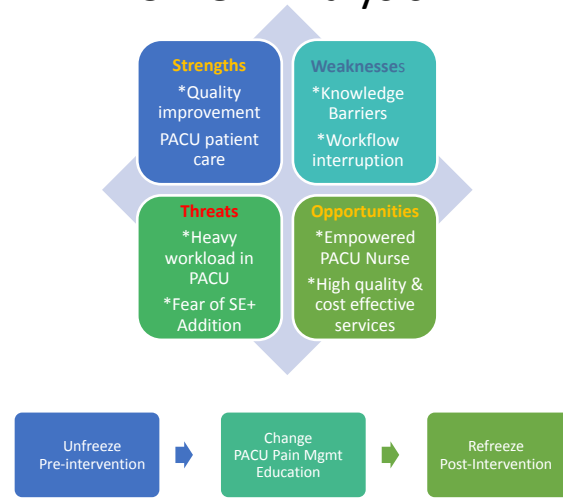
Quality Gap: A baseline of recovery time is 120 minutes for Total Knee Arthroplasty with regional nerve block by providing those patients with proper pain management during the first twenty-four hours of their stay in the PACU.

Evidence: Improper postoperative pain assessment increased recovery time in the PACU. Adequate pain control decreases readmissions and length of stay, which directly aligns with the institution's priorities of providing high-quality care at an affordable cost (Donigian et al., 2022).

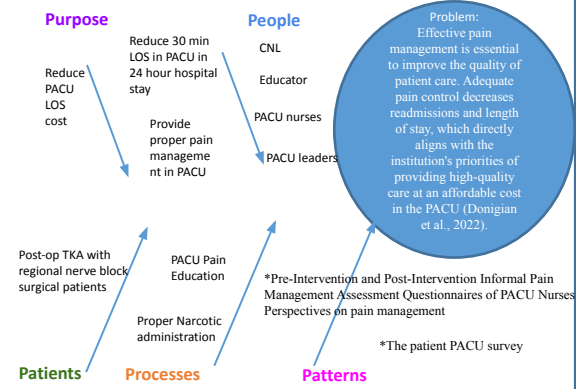
How we will know there is improvement

- Outcome Measure**
 *Impact on patient relief and reduce PACU LOS
 *Impact on patient satisfaction value
- Process Measure**
 *% patients with PACU order set used
 *% patient with documented pain plan in medical record
- Balancing Measure**
 *% reduced PACU LOS
 *Feedback from PACU nurses' Perspective on Pain Mgmt.
- Data Collection sources**
 *Pre-Intervention and Post-Intervention Pain Mgmt. Assessment Questionnaire of PACU Nurses' Perspectives on Pain Mgmt.
 *The patient PACU survey
 *PACU LOS Chart Audit Report

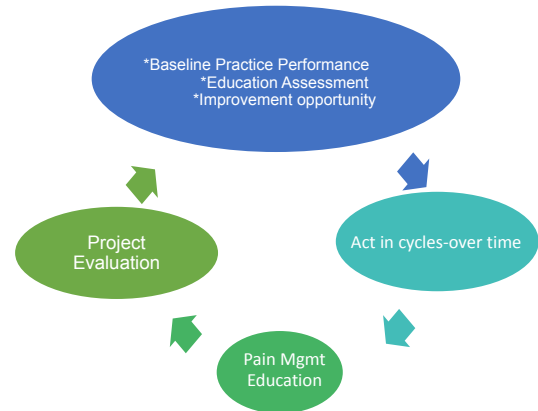
Tools SWOT Analysis:



What changes can we make The 5 P's of Clinical Microsystem



PDSA Cycles



Results

- Outcome Measure**
 *A total of 20 PACU nurses participate in the quality improvement project between March and July, 2023.
 *15 PACU nurses were completed acute postoperative pain management training for four week.
 *A total of 15 patient surveys were collected by post op follow up phone calls.
 *90% impact on patient satisfaction values noted from Patient PACU survey, exceeding the goal of 70%, or strongly satisfied score '6'.
- Process Measure,**
 *90% patient with PACU order set used.
 *30% patient with documented pain plan in medical record.
 *90% of Pre-Intervention and Post-Intervention Informal Pain Management Assessment Questionnaire of PACU Nurses Perspective on pain management.
- Balancing Measure**
 *30% reduced PACU LOS noted on PACU LOS Chart Audit Report.
 *The Project Saving/Cost Avoidance (ROI) is \$6000/ 24 hours hospital stay in PACU.

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