Reducing Serious Harm Pressure Injuries: Cause Analysis Through Bedside Huddles

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Reducing Serious Harm Pressure Injuries: Cause Analysis Through Bedside Huddles

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Background

- Pressure injury (PI) prevention poses a unique challenge in pediatrics. Medical devices, perfusion issues, fragile skin, moisture, and other factors put pediatric patients at risk for PIs.
- These injuries increase the patients’ risk for subsequent infections, procedures, extended hospitalizations and increased cost.
- For one hospital-wide skin care team, focusing on failures proved beneficial to improving collaboration, increasing staff engagement, and creating heightened awareness of PI risk factors and prevention strategies.

Objective

- To reduce serious harm PIs through increased interdisciplinary collaboration, communication, and awareness.

Methods

- Beginning in March 2017, the interdisciplinary skin care team implemented a cause analysis process for Serious Harm Pressure Injuries (SHPI). Upon identification of the SHPI, a bedside huddle is scheduled and performed (See Figure 1).
- Huddles occur at the bedside and involve nurses, physicians, wound care, quality improvement, and allied health providers. Family participation and input is encouraged.
- Huddles provide an opportunity for high-quality discussion, giving all parties an increased awareness of PI risk factors, prevention techniques, and treatment options.
- The cause analysis huddle has been trialed and fine-tuned through multiple PDSA cycles.
- Each SPHI is also discussed at the monthly skin care team meeting. This discussion allows for sharing of data between units, sharing of best practices, and collaboration on future prevention efforts.

Acknowledgments

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Results

- From fiscal year 2017 to 2018, the hospital achieved a 66% reduction in SHPI rate (0.11 by 1000 pt. days) and a 65% reduction in the number of SHPIs (11 SHPIs)
- Reinforcing the impact of early intervention, the raw number and rate of Stage 2+ PIs, stayed consistent between FY 2017 and 2018, at 90/0.94 and 92/0.95, respectively.

Conclusions

- Bedside huddles increase awareness of PI risk factors and may help prevent future injuries from occurring or progressing to serious harm.
- Involving multiple disciplines in PI prevention and empowering frontline staff increases collaboration and improves patient-centered care and outcomes.

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