The Pressure is Off: Improving Assessment Skills of Pressure Injuries
Grace Combs, Romie Suer, Chloe Schwartz, and Jenna Wamack

University of Cincinnati College of Nursing

Introduction

Pressure injury occurrence developed in patients during hospitalization can increase length of stay and negatively impact health outcomes. A recent study done in 150 Korean hospitals found that the mortality rate in patients with pressure injuries was 2.81 times higher and the length of hospital stay in patients with a pressure injury was prolonged for 15.8 days on average compared with patients without a pressure injury.

Current research

Current research for the treatment of pressure injuries includes frequent assessments and turns (done by the patient or care provider). If there is a pressure injury present; location, size, grade, wound bed, exudate, pain, surrounding skin, and undermining should all be assessed by the nurse. The culmination of research shows that there is a gap between knowledge of pressure injury care and implementation. All together, there is need to increase pressure injury training in nurses that goes beyond prevention and moves into implementation of assessment and care.

Materials & Methods

Education plan+implementation:
Place: Mercy Fairfield Hospital
Presented to: Nurses on the Progressive Care Unit
Overall Purpose: To educate PCU nurses on the assessment of pressure injuries and improve confidence in the assessment and ability to follow an already developed treatment by the wound care team including the use of a new teaching tool (badge reel card).

Objectives:
Learners will be able to identify assessment questions to consider when caring for a patient with a pressure injury
Learners will be able to identify different characteristics of pressure injuries to assess on my patients (i.e. wound color, drainage, size, etc.)
Learners will be able to improve their level of confidence about following treatment plans for their patients from the wound care team

PowerPoint Presentation: 10 minute presentation delivered via email to nurses and given a week to view the presentation and teaching tool

Pre/Post-test: Five questions asked using a Likert scale, ranging from not confident at all (1) to completely confident (5)

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre- &amp; Post- Education Survey</th>
<th>Pressure Injury Education Analysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On a scale of 1 (1 is not confident at all) to 5 (5 is completely confident)</td>
<td>Pre Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Have you ever received specific training on the treatment of pressure injuries during your employment at Mercy Fairfield? (Yes or No)</td>
<td>![image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. I can identify three assessment questions to consider when caring for a patient with a pressure injury.</td>
<td>![image]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. At Mercy Fairfield, I am confident in my ability to access the necessary hospital resources regarding pressure injuries (i.e. wound care team phone number).</td>
<td>![image]</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. I can identify different characteristics of pressure injuries to assess on my patients (i.e. wound color, drainage, size, etc.).</td>
<td>![image]</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. I feel confident about the care and treatment of patients with pressure injuries.</td>
<td>![image]</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Conclusions

After providing the educational session, the nurses on this unit showed an overall increase in knowledge and confidence in the assessment of pressure injuries, as well as finding the badge reel helpful. There was comprehensive understanding of the assessment questions required for nurses to ask every shift and how to accurately identify different characteristics of pressure injuries after viewing the provided education.

References


Present in person PowerPoint with all of our group members present (unable to do this because of hospital covid restrictions)

Provide nurses with a physical copy of the teaching tool on the day of our presentation and receive feedback on it

Provide more time for the nurses to watch the presentation and complete the pre/post-tests in order to get a larger number of submissions