

Implementation of a Code Blue preparedness initiative to increase staff knowledge, comfortability, and competence in medical emergencies on 8 Southeast

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BACKGROUND:

According to an article from the (Code Blue. Hospital Handbook), preparing for code blue situations in advance is key to favorable patient outcomes. On WVUH 8 Southeast, a survey was conducted during our annual Stay Interview which established a need for specific education and preparedness efforts with front line staff related to medical emergencies. Over 50% of RN staff requested a hands-on approach to develop their skills to provide better and more efficient care to their patients in high-risk situations.

IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLAN WITH ACTIONS TAKEN

- Initiate a task force (4 frontline staff : 2 dayshift, 2 night shift)
- Development of mock code scenarios
- Early recognition of patient decline
- Critical thinking
- Evaluating concerning trends (lab values, vital signs)
- Nurse Intuition
- Monthly CUSP Review of high-risk scenarios on unit

RESULTS:

- Baseline data was obtained from conducting a unit wide Stay Interview
- > 50% of RN staff stated they wanted to feel more prepared to handle high risk situations on 8SE
- Reevaluation of Stay Interview results in 2024 showed that 80% of staff felt more confident after experiencing mock codes.

SCALE UP PLAN:

- 8 Southeast is devoted to continuing education and promoting personal growth
- Development of unit champions for Code Blue Preparedness
- Utilization of simulation mannequins
- Utilizing current patient backgrounds/reason for admission for real time scenarios
 - Enhanced scenario knowledge and increased the relatedness of the patient population



SMART OBJECTIVE:

Goal: Increase in 8SE staff confidence and preparedness to handle high risk medical situations (rapid response/code blue) based on annual stay interview question pertaining to code blue preparedness from 50% on 2023 annual stay interview to >75% by end of 2024

CODE BLUE TRAINING



SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

- Sustainability for this project will rely heavily on continued staff engagement.
- Monthly mock codes will continue to be conducted
- Monthly scenario reviews during CUSP Meetings

LESSONS LEARNT:

- Gaining confidence takes exposure to these situations
- Hands on approach vs discussion: both have a great impact, but physically training yourself to act in situations develops skill sets mentally and physically
- Listen to your frontline staff, they have so many great ideas, don't be afraid to utilize them as a leader