Unit 4: Quality Patient Care
Z-Chapter 22
ONLINE CONTENT (1 H)

Unit Objectives:

- Discuss the use of key indicators to measure performance. (2,3,7)*
- Describe the nurse's role in quality and performance improvement. (3,4,7)*
- Identify tools and processes for continuous quality improvement. (2,3)*

*Course Objectives

Quality Improvement Project
Due February 12, 2024 @ 0800 in the Z-CH # 22 dropbox

Pick one topic from the following list:

1. Improving communication about individual patients during shift change. (shift report)
2. Preventing catheter related infections, urinary or central line.
3. Preventing falls and injuries for patients within healthcare facilities.
4. Preventing pressure ulcers for patients within healthcare facilities.
5. Reducing medication errors.
6. Reducing nurse turnover rates.

Answer the following questions as it relates to the topic pick from the list above.

1. Identify problem areas (or causes) associated with the topic and prioritize each identified problem area. (List at least 3)
    - Pressure- constant pressure on any part of the body restricting blood flow to the tissues
    - Friction- skin rubbing on clothing or bedding
    - Inadequate nutrition
2. Develop solutions for each problem or cause listed. (Provide at least 3)
    - Pressure
        - Ensure patient is being turned
        - Ensure we are floating heels and elbows with pillows
        - Helping patient with mobility and ROM as tolerated
    - Friction
        - Ensure lift sheet under patient
        - Have help when pulling patient up in bed
        - Ensure patient skin is dry and sheets are clean and free of moisture
    - Inadequate nutrition
        - Ensure patient is receiving adequate calories

    - Consult the dietician
    - Small bites and sips of food throughout the day

3. Identify why these problems might exist.
    - These problems may occur if a patient has experienced a change in condition resulting in the patient being bedridden.
    - These problems can occur due to incontinence being on the skin and patient is sitting in moisture for a while.

4. Provide a plan to improve and how to implement the plan. The plan should provide steps for improvement. The implementation should provide a timeline.
    - Ensure the patient is being turned and repositioned every 2 hours to relieve the pressure to different areas of the body.
    - Encourage small bites of food and drinks of fluid every 4 hours and PRN.
    - Changing bed linen once a shift and as needed to ensure bedding is clean and dry.
    - Bathing the patient once a shift and as needed ensuring skin is dry and lotion is applied.
    - Always lift instead all pulling patient up in bed to prevent skin rubbing on sheets every 2 hours and as needed.

5. How will you monitor that your plan is effective?
    - Check documentation
    - Follow up with those who are providing the care to the patients.
    - Be sure all information is being relayed to oncoming staff in the handoff report.

Please be prepared to share and discuss your answers in class.

In order to receive full credit (1 H class time) for this assignment, it must be completed in its entirety by the due date/time assigned. Any assignments not completed in its entirety by the assigned due date and time will result in missed class time.