

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)
 - a. Pay rate- biggest priority
 - b. Burnout- second priority
 - c. Patient load- third priority
2. Develop solutions for each problem or cause listed. (Provide at least 3)
 - a. Nurses should be paid more depending on their experience and even starting as a new grade to boost morale to keep working.
 - b. Burnout- To solve burnout, nurses need more breaks and more time off as nursing is a very stressful and difficult job.
 - c. Patient load- The number of patients a nurse should have should be lower so the nurse can provide safe care to their patients. Fixing this could also prevent burnout.
3. Identify why these problems might exist.
 - a. These problems might exist because nursing is a career that is very in demand. The hospitals might want to get away with paying nurses less for more work they do, including more patients they take care of.

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.

I would first plan to allow the nurses to have more breaks during their 12-hour shift. As the nurse goes on break, I would implement break nurses to relieve them and watch after their patients as they go to break. I would start this as soon as possible. With the extra breaks I am hoping it would decrease nursing burnout. For wage increase I would also implement this as soon as possible, this could also reduce the rate of turnover.

5. How will you monitor that your plan is effective?

I will monitor these changes by tracking the number of nurses that quit. I would also do a survey to get the feedback of the nurses that are getting more breaks.

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.