

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

Review chapter 22 and place your answers to the following questions in the Z-Chapter 22 dropbox by 0800 on 2/10/2025.

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. Not turning the bed or chair alarm on when the patient is not within your supervision
 - b. Not providing grippy slipper socks to each patient
 - c. Not putting the fall risk sign up and band on the patient
2. Develop solutions for each problem or cause listed. (Provide at least 3)
 - a. Making sure to turn on all alarms before leaving the patient's room. Also, double checking they are on even if you think they already are
 - b. Making sure that grippy socks are put on all patients during admission
 - c. Making sure everyone knows where to access signs and bracelets and every patient who needs one, gets one upon admission
3. Identify why these problems might exist.
 - a. Inappropriate knowledge of fall risks and what to do

- b. Staff does not know where to find the signs, bands, or socks or they do not know how to turn the alarms on
 - c. The staff is busy and overlooks patients who need fall risks or do not make time to help them around the room when needed
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.
- a. Start by sending out an email on the proper precautions to take
 - i. Include what nurses, pcts, and other staff members should be doing so it is clear for everyone
 - b. Print out a diagram on what to do and hang it up in hot spots for nurses and staff
 - i. Make the diagram easy to read so people can read it in a hurry
 - c. Periodically test nurses and staff on their knowledge of what to do
 - i. Make sure they questions are appropriate for whatever field they work in and be sure to follow up if they do not know the answer right away
5. How will you monitor that your plan is effective?
- a. By checking all reports to see how many falls we have had since
 - b. Checking rooms to be sure the plan is being followed
 - c. Asking other nurses if they believe the plan is working well

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.