

**Hand Hygiene Interventions to Improve Long-Term Compliance: Quality
Improvement**

Katie Finn

Lakeview College of Nursing

Dr. Ariel Wright

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Houser defines *quality improvement* as “The systematic, data-based monitoring and evaluation of organizational processes with the end goal of continuous improvement” (Houser, 2020, pp. 13). A quality improvement study aims to study ways to improve practice within a field. QSEN’s knowledge, skills, and attitudes competencies aim at different standardized methods that can be tools in creating a quality improvement study. The different topics outline what can be used in a study to create an effective quality improvement.

The selected research article focuses on compliance with proper hand hygiene (HH), an essential practice for all nurses because it decreases the spread of disease among patients. Proper HH is essential to creating a safer medical environment in hospitals, long-term facilities, and everyday life. Analyzing effective interventions is helpful for other hospitals and long-term care facilities to implement to improve staff compliance with HH.

Article Summary

Introduction (note that the key points is flush to the far left)

Albert et al. (2019) examined HH compliance over three years with seven interventions in the Medical-Surgical Intensive Care Unit at Boston Children’s Hospital. The staff included 150 nurses, six nurse practitioners, and 55 other providers. The interventions used in this study include weekly rounds for patient safety, photos of leadership showing good HH displayed around the unit, identifying HH exemplary employees, showing HH compliance of the unit outside the patient rooms, implementing challenges for HH, administration increase support for

increased HH audits, and direct feedback to non-compliant staff members. The baseline compliance rates were 87% overall for all groups of providers, 93% compliance during the study period, and 93% compliance after the study.

HH is vital to preventing the spread of germs and creating new infections in patients. Due to the proximity and density of people in one area, nurses must be vigilant in HH to create a safe patient environment. This study helps other hospitals learn what types of interventions will increase compliance among nursing staff.

Overview

One of the QSEN (2020) competencies for quality improvement include recognizing that all providers have a role in the care system that affects the outcomes for patients and families. These researchers include attending physicians, critical care fellows, pediatric residents, nurse practitioners, and nurses in this study. The article recognizes that HH is essential for all staff members, not just one group.

Another QSEN (2020) competency includes appreciating the value of care improvement by the individuals and staff. The research team for this article used recognition for HH “champions” to help improve compliance. Recognizing exemplary staff members helps create a model for the other providers.

Quality Improvement

Care settings to implement from this research could include conducting HH challenges with rewards. Including challenges with rewards in the hospital can bring about some healthy competition to help give incentives for good, consistent HH.

The hospital should research what incentives would work best for the staff, and collecting money for the incentives would be necessary. During the implementation of challenges, the administration would need to track the progress of each unit or group accurately and advertise the rewards for the challenges. After the implementation, the hospital should analyze the practicality of the challenges in improving HH compliance.

The suggested change would impact the institution financially, but it is possible to make an account just for this change. Patient satisfaction would go up due to seeing providers doing consistent HH. Nursing satisfaction could go up due to quality prizes from the challenges. Nursing safety would also increase with patient safety due to decreased infection and spread due to HH compliance.

Application to Nursing

Here add in a summary of the information learned to the application to practice. Follow the MEAL paragraph formatting and use Grammarly.com. Be sure to cover all aspects within the rubric. Be sure to use double space and to tab over for your first line of a new paragraph.

Practice

Paragraph goes here discussing the application to practice. Review the rubric for full requirements. Follow the MEAL paragraph formatting and use Grammarly.com.

Education

Paragraph goes here discussing the application to education. Review the rubric for full requirements. Follow the MEAL paragraph formatting and use Grammarly.com.

Research

Paragraph goes here discussing the application of research. Review the rubric for full requirements. Follow the MEAL paragraph formatting and use Grammarly.com.

Conclusion

Write a conclusion here in your overall paper. Review the rubric for full requirements. Follow the MEAL paragraph formatting and use Grammarly.com.

References

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