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PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY INITIATIVE BY EVALUATING AND IMPROVING THE HANDS-OFF PROCESS AT ENDOSCOPY SUITE IN IN A TERTIARY CARE HOSPITAL IN KARACHI, PAKISTAN

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One of the most serious pieces of patient care is the handoff. This is the point of time when crucial evidence of the patient's care is transferred to the patient's new care provider. Significant outcomes from current and appropriate studies on patient safety and clinical handoffs are concise and studied. After concisely revising process management the purpose of this paper is to discuss how these disciplines can be combined to further improve patient safety in handoff. After analyzing the root cause of specific Incidents related to unstable transferring of patient within the hospital it was identified that proper hands-off process was not followed. For the purpose of effective implementation of international patient safety goal (improve effective communication) SBAR tool was utilized which were: process mapping; brain storming and review of graphical presentation of indicators were done. The project methodology that was followed was a JURANS CQI methodology for quality improvement and patient safety.

Organizational Continuous Quality Improvement – Plan-Do-Study-Act method was used. Analyzed the current practice, identified the learning needs, and developed the Hands-off tool. Determined the readiness to accept the change, implemented and established a plan for making an improvement, educate and enhance awareness among health care workers as per patient safety guidelines. A team of nursing management was involved and aimed at effective and efficient implementation of Hands-off process for patient safety. An action plan was developed in which initial in-service was conducted with end –user.

Health care workers integrated patient safety knowledge related to the risk of fall, performed pre-sedation assessment, ensured medical equipment in working condition.

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KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS OF INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AMONG RURAL WOMEN IN LIMPOPO PROVINCE

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Children with intellectual disability learn more slowly than a typical child. Children may take longer to learn the language, develop social skills, and take care of their personal needs, such as dressing or eating. Learning will take them longer, require more repetition, and skills may need to be adapted to their learning level. Nevertheless, virtually every child is able to learn, develop and become a participating member of the community. The aim of the study is to understand the knowledge, attitudes and perceptions of Limpopo rural women in relation to intellectual disability. The targeted areas are reproductive health: antenatal, and postnatal care, and family planning; integrated management of childhood illnesses; immunization of children; and nutrition. The objectives were: To assess the level of knowledge of women towards specific health problems and services; To identify the attitudes of women towards children with intellectual disability, and the benefit of utilizing primary health care services targeting children and women; To determine the level of quality of care of primary health care services as perceived by the women in the rural communities. A survey will be conducted with rural women in Limpopo. A simple random sampling procedure will be used to select participants. An existing KAP Survey questionnaire will be modified and used to collect data which will be analysed using SPSS. In addition, four focus group discussions will be conducted, data will be analysed using thematic content analysis. Ethical issues will be observed.

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