



Integrating TeamSTEPPS® into an Obstetric Hemorrhage Emergency Plan

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Introduction: A lack of a systematic treatment plan for obstetric hemorrhage patients caused inconsistencies in care and communication.

Objectives, purpose, goals: The purpose of this project is to standardize obstetric hemorrhage management and give nurses autonomy to initiate the emergency plan. The goals were to enhance team communication between nurses and providers, increase team response time, and increase confidence level of staff during a hemorrhage.

Intervention/practice: This project first began with designing the obstetric hemorrhage emergency management plan. Nurses co-led the design process of the tool, obstetric hemorrhage risk assessment, and process for quantification of blood loss. TeamSTEPPS communication methods were taught to nursing staff and providers through in-services and modules, which explained the purpose and elements of the bundle in detail. Preparing the units for this bundle included: purchasing of scales, switching to calibrated drapes, designing obstetric hemorrhage carts, and creating a hemorrhage kit in our medication dispensing cabinet. Lastly, interprofessional drills in our hospital's simulation center were conducted.

Results: Five months post implementation, the interprofessional team was surveyed. The confidence level in treating a patient with obstetric hemorrhage increased from 55% to 85% of staff reporting being confident or very confident. None of the staff identified that they were not at all confident. In addition, 95% of the staff reported that they were likely to complete a debrief in comparison with only 50% prior to training. The increase in response supported our original purpose to appropriately train our team and improve confidence. The results from the survey also validated our goal of increasing communication between nurses and physicians using TeamSTEPPS communication tools.

Conclusions/implications: Our project is unique in two ways. Primarily, nurses co-led the creation of a stage-based hemorrhage plan. This tool gives nurses the autonomy to initiate and guide the team in appropriate interventions. Secondly, the addition of TeamSTEPPS tools is crucial to safe patient care and outcomes.