OBESITY AND HOSPITAL-ACQUIRED PRESSURE INJURY RISK

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Abstract

The obesity epidemic in the United States has demonstrated an increase in the need and urgency to create and apply targeted assessment tools and educational resources for inpatient nurses that specifically address bariatric patient care. The purpose of this project was to develop a formal learning module for a sampling of acute care nurses in a mid-sized, urban medical center which was anticipated to enhance their understanding and competency level in skin assessment, concomitant nursing interventions and pressure injury prevention for care with the bariatric hospitalized patient. This virtual educational presentation was emailed to nurses in one Midwest hospital with an invitation to participate in an initial survey in order to gather baseline self-reflective data concerning their perceived skills in preventing pressure injuries in the bariatric patient population before viewing the embedded training on this topic. At two-weeks and then again at six-weeks after this initial invitation with the virtual learning module was delivered, a survey [this time without the training] was again released to this same group of nurses to determine if they retained the key objectives of the initial educational presentation and reflect upon its value, if any, to their practice in preventing pressure injuries in the bariatric patient group. After evaluating the survey results, it was determined that most nurses did not report a significant impact in their practice after the virtual training and that more research is needed in this area to determine the best approach for the delivery of these educational opportunities in the future.

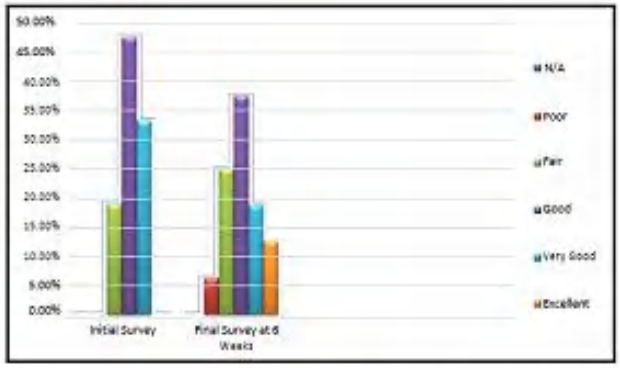


Figure 6. **Rating for overall knowledge and understanding of pressure injury risk factors in bariatric patients of Initial & Final Surveys.**

Recent Publications

Chicca, J. & Shellenbarger, T. (2018). Connecting with Generation Z: approaches in nursing education. *Teaching and Learning in Nursing, 13*(2018), 180-184.

Ness, S.J., Hickling, D. F., Bell, J.J., & Collins, P.F. (2017). The pressures of obesity: the relationship between obesity, malnutrition and pressure injuries in hospital inpatients. *Clinical Nutrition.* Retrieved from: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0261561417302972

Phillips, W., Hershey, M., Willcutts, K., & Dietzler-Otte, J. (2018). The effectiveness of the Braden Scale as a tool for identifying nutrition risk. *Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 118*(3), 385-387, 389-390, 391.

World Health Organization (WHO). (n.d.). In *Health care-associated infections: fact sheet. Patient Safety.* Retrieved from http://www.who.int/gpsc/country_work/gpsc_ccisc_fact_sheet_en.pdf

Wyandotte County, Kansas. From *County Health Rankings & Roadmaps. Building a culture of health, county by county*. County Health Rankings. Supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute School of Medicine and Public Health. Retrieved fromhttp://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/kansas/2018/rankings/wyandotte/county/outcomes/overall/snapshot



Dr. Kathy Kump lives in Kansas City, Kansas, USA, and has been a Registered Nurse for 36 years and completed her academic degrees at the University of Kansas, including a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, a Master of Health Services Administration, Master of Science in Nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice, and is a family nurse practitioner. She has over 26 years of clinical, managerial, and program development experience in hospital healthcare, especially in the specialty of complex wound care; and 10+ years' experience in nursing education to include that as a hospital nurse educator and as a prior university Director of Nursing for Ottawa University, USA, where she opened the institution's first BSN and MSN educational nursing programs as the inaugural administrator. She has spent a significant portion of her career in wound care, including as a director of several wound clinics in which she assisted in opening these centers.

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