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Protocols for Postpartum Hemorrhage

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Abstract

The occurrence of postpartum hemorrhages (PH) within the healthcare system are on the rise. The detrimental effects that can occur are extremely serious and require an intervention of education and proper training. Labor and delivery units experience traumatic PHs due to lack of proper training regarding early warning signs and correct technical interventions needed for a quick turnaround. This project will use research from scholarly articles to take a closer look at statistical evidence based on the outcomes of being prepared versus underprepared. The project will discuss various methods on how to better prepare nurses to care for hemorrhagic situations. Methods include required patient simulations, yearly training sessions to stay informed on proper protocols and updated methods, as well as team building scenarios. Research studies show that team training is positively influential in learning how to approach hemorrhagic situations as a unit. The study will look at data presented from a variety of studies that discuss the benefits of training to reduce the amount of human error during stressful situations. Furthermore, research indicates that nurses will be better prepared to properly stock rooms and be sure they are ready in the event of a PH. Interventions will be implemented by placing requirements that all nurses need to accomplish prior to starting their next year of working as an RN. For example, they will need to keep a log of training sessions they attend over a one-year period. Success of the protocols put in place will be determined by the average blood lost by postpartum patients, team coherency, and overall unit hemorrhage rates. It will take two years to judge the effectiveness of utilizing mandatory training sessions for postpartum hemorrhages. This is due to the time

requirement of having to complete training sessions on the topic as well as the need to compile accurate averages of blood loss and patient outcomes.

Keywords: postpartum hemorrhage, patient simulation, uterotonics, causes