Perioperative Cultural Safety and Comfort

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Abstract

What does it mean to be culturally safe in the perioperative unit? “The main issue in cultural safety seems to be its actual name.” Different cultures have different expectations. From privacy issues, to religious beliefs, sexual orientation, disabilities, and ethnicity; therefore, the goal is to treat all patients the same rather than recognize their differences. As healthcare workers we need to be non-judgmental towards the patients. As part of the surgical team, the goal of every surgical intervention is to provide optimal patient outcomes while maintaining a safe and comfortable environment. The hospital has recently initiated a Keystone as part of safe practice. There have been many changes which are being implemented. In the preoperative area, the surgeon must mark the site on every patient if laterality is involved. During this phase it is significantly important to obtain any cultural information that may help give effective care. In the intra-operative phase before incision is made “briefing,” and time-out must be done. At the end of procedure after the dressing is applied, the surgeon must do a “debriefing” which includes procedure performed, specimen, and what we could have done better. For this theory project we selected Emogene King as our model of choice because of safety and comfort that is used for all the patients. In surgical services it is a collaborative effort from nurses, interpreters, surgeons, anesthesia, scrubs and other healthcare provider to give thorough care. As the surgical staff we must be competent in all of the services because of the emergency case on call.

Key words: Cultural safety, comfort, time-out, briefing, debriefing
References


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Produced for CRM Learning by Armstrong Moving Pictures, Produced for CRM Learning by Armstrong Moving Pictures ( DVD). Obtained from OR educator.