Let's Get Code Ready!

Nikki Dudley  
*Mariners Hospital,* nikkidud@baptisthealth.net

Zaneta Wylazlowska  
*Mariners Hospital,* zanetaw@baptisthealth.net

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Purpose

Codes happen infrequently at Mariners Hospital. Therefore, Registered Nurses (RN’s) may have not had the experience to feel comfortable managing the crash cart. The ICU Unit Practice Council identified the need to determine proficiency in the use of emergency crash cart supplies by the RN’s at Mariners Hospital.

Survey Results

In the past year, how many times have you participated in a code blue/rescue?

Of the times you participated in a code, how many times did you utilize the crash cart for obtaining supplies?

Rate your confidence in efficiently locating items within the crash cart during a code:

How familiar are you with the contents of the crash cart?

Visual Aid

Crews: PN: 0-5%  10%
        20%
        30%
        40%
        50%
        60%
        70%
        80%
        90%
        100%

PRE INTERVENTION
POST INTERVENTION
Not familiar
Familiar
0
5
10
15
20
25
30
35
40
45

Conference
CONFIDENT
CONFIDENT
CONFIDENT
CONFIDENT
CONFIDENT

Visual Aid

Time reduced by 43 seconds!

Interventions that can be accomplished with 43 extra seconds:

- Start an IV
- Administer a med
- Intubation
- Dress a wound
- Save a life!

Outcomes

- The scavenger hunt demonstrated decreased time to locate supplies from within the crash cart.
- The survey results showed increased RN confidence and familiarity locating supplies.

Recommendations

- Expanding crash cart visual aid poster for pediatric crash cart
- Regular scavenger hunts with all RN’s at mock codes or annual education

References