

SYNOPSIS

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Title: "Evaluating the Effectiveness of International Patient Safety Goal 4: Ensuring Safe Surgery at Artemis Hospital."

Introduction:

Introduction to Patient Safety and IPSG 4

Patient Safety: A Fundamental Aspect of Healthcare

- Patient safety is a cornerstone of high-quality healthcare and involves the prevention of harm to patients during the process of healthcare delivery. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines patient safety as "the prevention of errors and adverse effects to patients associated with health care." Ensuring patient safety requires a systematic approach that includes effective communication, adherence to best practices, continuous monitoring, and the implementation of safety protocols. (World Health Organization. 2019) ¹

International Patient Safety Goals (IPSGs)

- In response to the need for improved patient safety, the Joint Commission International (JCI) developed the International Patient Safety Goals (IPSGs). These goals are designed to address specific areas of concern in patient safety and provide a framework for hospitals and healthcare organizations to follow. The IPSGs aim to promote specific improvements in patient safety and provide evidence-based solutions to common safety issues. (Joint Commission International. 2020) ²

IPSG 4: Ensure Correct-Site, Correct-Procedure, Correct-Patient Surgery

- Among the IPSGs, IPSG 4 is particularly focused on ensuring that surgeries are performed on the correct site, with the correct procedure, and on the correct patient. Surgical errors, such as operating on the wrong site, performing the wrong procedure, or operating on the wrong patient, are rare but serious events that can lead to severe patient harm, including disability or death. These errors are entirely preventable with proper protocols and checks in place. (Joint Commission International. 2020) ³.

Importance of IPSG 4

Preventing Serious Surgical Errors

IPSG 4 aims to eliminate wrong-site, wrong-procedure, and wrong-patient surgeries through systematic verification processes. These errors can have catastrophic consequences for patients, causing unnecessary suffering, prolonged recovery, and additional surgical interventions. Preventing these errors is paramount to ensuring patient safety.

Enhancing Overall Patient Safety

Implementing IPSG 4 directly contributes to improving patient safety by minimizing the risk of surgical errors. This goal requires healthcare providers to adhere to rigorous verification and documentation processes, ensuring that every surgical procedure is conducted safely and accurately.

Promoting Standardized Procedures

IPSG 4 encourages the standardization of preoperative verification, site marking, and time-out procedures across all surgical teams. Standardization reduces variability and ensures that all healthcare providers follow the same high standards, leading to consistent and safe surgical practices.

Building Patient Trust

Patients who are aware of and involved in the safety protocols surrounding their care are more likely to trust their healthcare providers. By implementing IPSG 4, healthcare institutions demonstrate their commitment to patient safety, fostering trust and satisfaction among patients.

Enhancing Communication and Teamwork

The time-out procedure mandated by IPSG 4 ensures that the entire surgical team communicates effectively before commencing surgery. This collaborative approach helps prevent misunderstandings, ensures that all team members are informed, and reinforces a culture of safety and accountability.

Supporting Legal and Ethical Standards

Adhering to IPSG 4 helps healthcare providers fulfil their legal and ethical obligations to avoid causing harm to patients. Compliance with these safety protocols not only protects patients but also reduces the risk of legal action and enhances the institution's reputation.

Conclusion

Patient safety is an essential component of quality healthcare, and the implementation of International Patient Safety Goal 4 plays a critical role in safeguarding patients during surgical procedures. By focusing on the correct site, correct procedure, and correct patient surgery, IPSG 4 aims to prevent serious surgical errors, enhance communication and teamwork, and promote a culture of safety within healthcare.

institutions. Adherence to IPSG 4 is vital for ensuring that surgical care is safe, effective, and aligned with the highest standards of patient safety

Research Gap

Even though IPSG 4 is extremely important, not much research has been done to assess how well it performs in particular healthcare settings like Artemis Hospital. For surgical operations to improve patient safety, it is essential to recognize the current levels of compliance, identify any gaps, and design measures to strengthen adherence to IPSG 4.

Rationale

The main objective of International Patient Safety Goal (IPSG) 4, "Ensure Safe Surgery," is to improve overall patient outcomes by lowering the risks related to surgical procedures.

The goal is to prevent surgical errors, which are serious problems that include wrong-site, wrong-procedure, and wrong-patient procedures. Implementing guidelines such as the World Health Organization's (WHO) Surgical Safety Checklist can dramatically lower these mistakes by guaranteeing that surgical teams confirm vital information prior to, during, and following surgery ⁴ .

Research Question:

1. What is compliance percentage for the sign in, time out and sign out process?
2. What are the Gaps during related to surgical procedures?
3. How the errors can be mitigated through improved safety protocols?
4. What strategies can be employed to enhance compliance with surgical safety protocols among surgical team members, including Surgeons, Nurses, and Anaesthesiologists?

Objectives:

1. To study the existing compliance of International Patient Safety Goal 4 (***Ensure Safe Surgery***) in Artemis multi-specialty hospital.
2. To identify the gaps in IPSG-4 compliance with the help of audits.
3. To suggest improvement measures for the gaps that has been identified on IPSG 4.

Methodology:

Study Design: This study will make use of Quantitative methodologies to evaluate the effectiveness of IPSG 4 at Artemis Hospital.

Setting:

The study will be conducted in multi-specialty hospital (**Artemis Hospital**) located in Gurgaon.

Study Population: The study population will include healthcare personnel such as, Surgeons, Nurses, and Anaesthesiologists, physicians, and hospital administrators, involved in Surgical and invasive procedures include all procedures involving an incision or puncture, including, but not limited to,

- open surgical procedures,
- percutaneous aspiration,
- selected injections,
- biopsy,
- percutaneous cardiac and vascular diagnostic or interventional procedures,
- laparoscopies,
- and endoscopies.,

Duration of Study: The study will be conducted over approximately 3 months

Sample Size: 100 healthcare personnel, including Surgeons, Nurses, and Anaesthesiologists, physicians, and infection control practitioners, and administrators for conducting a comprehensive assessment of staff knowledge and 50 sample size is collected on IPSG-4 effectiveness in ARTEMIS Hospitals using surgical checklist.

Sampling Technique: Simple Random sampling techniques will be used to select participants.

Data Collection Procedure:

Primary Data

- Review of patient medical records (**Pre-Operative check list, Surgical Safety checklist and Intra-Operative Nursing record**)
- Observation of Sign In, Time Out, Sign out and protocols.
- Staff interview to assess awareness on surgical safety protocols.

Data Analysis Plan:

Quantitative data will be collected through primary survey by using IPSG audit checklist and data will be analysed to evaluate the gaps in IPSG practices.

Formula used: $Compliance\ Percentage = \left(\frac{Total\ Number\ of\ Observations}{Total\ Number\ of\ Opportunities} \right) \times 100$

Ethical Considerations:

Ethical approval will be obtained from Artemis Hospital, and confidentiality will be maintained throughout the study.

Implications of Research:

The research will offer a comprehensive understanding of Artemis multi-specialty hospital's adherence to IPSG-4. This encompasses evaluating the implementation of safe surgery protocols, WHO surgical safety checklists and conducting staff awareness assessment.

The findings of this research will provide valuable insights into

- Enhancing surgical safety, correct site, correct patient and correct procedure, optimizing healthcare quality, reducing healthcare costs, guiding policy development, and improving professional education in surgical settings.

References:

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