

SUMMARY

There are many challenges involved in the delivery of health care. In the operating department environment, one of the most important challenges is to make sure that the quality of care is consistently high. Every perioperative nurse should always strive to maintain and improve the quality of care. The perioperative nursing provide specialized care to the surgical client and promote the return to optimal function. It needs standards that state the minimum performance and competencies required for the implementation of quality patient care during the perioperative period standards are an authoritative statements that describe a common or acceptable level of patient care performance. They are valid acceptable definitions of the quality of care. They are commitment and assurance that the highest quality of care will be provided to all patients in all health care setting

The aim of this study was to develop standards for the operating department at Benha university Hospitals and measuring its validity and applicability.

Subjects of this study were 70 nurses working at (general surgery, orthopaedic, urosurgery, neurosurgery and ENT) ORs and 36 experts of jury group.

Tools for this study were four: 1) perioperative standard questionnaire, to elicit opinions of the jury group about the proposed OR standards related to face and content validity; 2) observational checklist to examine the developed standards criteria; 3) nursing audit to

measure the quality of documentation related to operating department; and 4) nurses opinionaire to elicit opinions of the nurses around the importance of audit items.

Results of this study indicated that:

- The jury group opinionaire have shown that there was no omission for any items of the proposed standards because there was no item took less than 50%. Also, as regard face validity the jury have agreed up on all items.
- There was no operating department philosophies, organizational chart, job description, policies & procedures manual and no written guidelines for infection control in ORs.
- All circulating nurses done the following items unsatisfactory; sterilization & disinfection, sanitation of all rooms and equipment used, preoperative skin or body cavity preparations, effectively prepare the environment, documents and reports patients' conditions.
- All scrub nurses done the following items in a satisfactory result, (more than 60%) preparing the equipment for each specified surgery and handling the surgeon with sterile equipments.
- The following items had done unsatisfactory (less than 60%); assuring that surgical services are consistent with patients needs, using approaches to effectively monitor and evaluate patients' conditions and using approaches to effectively count sponges, gauze and instruments before wound closure.
- 62.9% of nurses viewing the philosophy and objectives for the operating department not important.
- 55.7% of nurses viewing the direction of OR department by a registered professional nurse is not important.

- 98.6% of nurses viewing the anesthesia nurse as OR staff is important.
- The highest percent of the nurses' opinions viewing the documentation of the following items is not important; types and amount of all fluids administered, unusual events during surgical procedures, adverse reactions and measures used to manage them, blood loss, urinary and drainage output, tubes and drains.
- Also, all nurses viewing the monitoring of patients' conditions is not important.
- Most of nurses (98.6%) viewing the availability of policies and procedures that being collected in the OR manual is important.
- All the studied nurses viewing the availability of a written guidelines for infection control in the operating rooms is important.
- The majority of nurses 88.6% viewing a presence of performance appraisal system that evaluates nursing personnel is important.

In conclusion, the proposed operating rooms standard were validated and agreed by external and internal jury and examined its applicability in the operating rooms. It is recommended that the developed OR standards be used in the hospital. It should be disseminated to all operating rooms staff at Benha university Hospitals. To enable professional to describe, in measurable terms the care they provide for patients, what's required to carryout that care and what the expected outcome will be. Standards can be used to obtain information to monitor care, assess the level of service, identify deficiencies, communicate expectations, and introduce new knowledge. Also it must be revised periodically to keep up to date with recent changes.