Improving Knowledge of the EMMC Bloodless Program among Staff Nurses after Implementation of Multimodal Education Regarding the Policy and its Purpose

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**Background**

- In Maine alone there are approximately 5,500 Jehovah’s Witnesses.
- Jehovah’s Witnesses is a Christian denomination that prohibits certain medical treatment, one of those treatments includes receiving blood; prohibition against blood products include whole blood, packed red blood cells, white blood cells, plasma, and platelets, as well as autologous transfusions.
- Northern Light EMMC has an established bloodless program for doctors and registered nurses to implement when taking care of bloodless patients.
- Bloodless patients’ seek care at Eastern Maine Medical Center because of the reputation of the bloodless program and hospital liaison committee for Jehovah’s Witnesses.

**Methods**

- Administered anonymous paper pre-surveys to RNs.
- Presented educational content to RNs during July staff meeting.
- Anonymous post-surveys were administered directly after the educational session.

**Measures and Results**

**Effectiveness of Educational Material on The Bloodless Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>GOOD</th>
<th>FAIR</th>
<th>NEUTRAL</th>
<th>UNAWARE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Survey</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>What would you rate your knowledge level regarding the EMMC Bloodless program?</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Survey</td>
<td>Comfortable and Confident</td>
<td>Somewhat Comfortable</td>
<td>Need More</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After reviewing the educational material do you feel more comfortable implementing the bloodless program?</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Survey</td>
<td>GOOD</td>
<td>FAIR</td>
<td>NEUTRAL</td>
<td>UNAWARE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What would you rate your knowledge level regarding the EMMC Bloodless Program?</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summary/Discussion**

- EMMC’s Bloodless program is utilized by patients across the state.
- Sixty pre-education surveys with multimodal education and sixty post-education surveys were utilized.
- The results of our survey demonstrated that there is a need for hospital wide education in regards to the EMMC Bloodless program.
- In order to make this hospital wide this educational material should be implemented during orientation.
- Our study was done in a limited time and controlled setting which resulted in limitations.
- **Limitations:**
  - Some limitations noted during this study were the population size, time, and that the population was limited to registered nurses working on cardiac units.

**Conclusion**

- 29.4% of participants reported a good understanding of the bloodless program BEFORE educational material was utilized.
- 94.1% of participants reported a good understanding of the bloodless program AFTER educational material was utilized.
- After educational material was utilized, 82.4% of participants reported feeling confident they could properly implement the program and confident that they can properly and effectively care for a JW patient.