Improving Pressure Ulcer Outcomes at a Hospice Facility: A Quality Improvement Project
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Purpose
- The overarching purpose of this evidence-based project is to implement a non-research Quality Improvement (QI) project at the selected hospice facility to improve PU outcomes.
- The goal of this project is to increase nurses' knowledge of pressure ulcer (PU) management. This study will focus on identifying the impact of facility-specific goals and the impact of pressure ulcer management on overall facility outcomes.
- The purpose of the project is to evaluate the effectiveness of a QI intervention designed to improve PUs.
- The aim of this project is to increase nurses' knowledge regarding PU prevention and management to improve outcomes.

Methods
- In order to determine the current state of evidence and the feasibility of the proposed project, a literature review was conducted to assess current recommendations for pressure ulcer management in hospice settings.
- A pretest/posttest design, before and after an educational intervention, using the Pieper Pressure Ulcer Knowledge Test (Pieper, 2014) was used to assess the nurses' knowledge before and after the intervention.

Results
- A joint project design, before and after an educational intervention, using the Pressure Ulcer Knowledge Test (PUKT) was administered to 13 hospice nurses.
- To evaluate the effect of the pressure ulcer education in-service, descriptive statistics and the Student’s t-test for paired groups was used.
- A paired sample analysis showed significant improvement in PU knowledge (mean pretest: 36.11 [SD 2.92] vs. mean posttest: 38.08 [SD 2.34]; p < 0.0006).

Discussion
- This QI project was undertaken to determine nurses’ knowledge and practice for management of PUs and to assess the efficacy of an educational intervention. Additionally, a summary of the facility’s wound care protocol was provided to the nurses for quick reference.

Findings
- Based on the results of the pre- and post-tests, education sessions increase nurses’ knowledge of PU management.
- The findings suggest that further emphasis needs to be placed on nurses’ education regarding the management of PUs.

Recommendation/Next Steps
- Ongoing quarterly nursing education in-services.
- Continued QIs/activities and collaboration with Empath Health.

Acknowledgements
- The authors of this presentation would like to acknowledge:
  - Dr. Carolee Burns and Dr. Melanie Mehra for their guidance and continued support throughout the project.
  - Empath Health Leadership and Staff

References
- Etter, J. (2011). Non-research, community-based organization offering comprehensive hospice and palliative care, caregiver education, individual and group counseling, and spiritual support for clients. Located in North Pinellas County, FL
- Pieper, E. (2014). The prevalence of PUs among hospice patients is approximately 33% (Langemo, 2012).

Setting/Sample
- Sample: 13 hospice nurses, 7 Front Coast Team and 6 Front Rangers Team

Figure 1:Reaction of Article Selection

Table 1: Pieper Pressure Ulcer Knowledge Test Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>CI 95%</th>
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<td>36.11</td>
<td>29.0</td>
<td>34.5</td>
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<td>40.0</td>
<td>41.55</td>
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<td>38.91, 44.19</td>
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</table>

Table 2: Descriptive Statistical Analysis of Pre and Post Test Results

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<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Pre Test</th>
<th>Post Test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>36.11</td>
<td>38.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD</td>
<td>2.92</td>
<td>2.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CI 95%</td>
<td>30.92, 41.21</td>
<td>38.91, 44.19</td>
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