A Proposed Pro Re Nata (PRN) Psychotropic Medication Workflow in the Electronic Health Record

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Background
- 80% psychiatric patients are likely to receive PRN psychotropic medications due to agitation¹.
- Side Effects include: 2-4:
  - Sedation,
  - Increased confusion,
  - Falls
  - Anticholinergic and cardiac side effect
  - Death
- Nurses have a lack of clarity, confusion, and poor documentation practices surrounding PRN psychotropic medication workflow².

Purpose
- Enhance upon the current workflow to
- Document reasons why the PRN was given
- Document alternative ways to re-direct an agitated patient
- Evaluate if the PRN was effective or not.

Functional Area of Nursing Informatics
- Education and Professional Development
  - Apply nursing informatics concepts and theories to building new workflow
  - Implement and evaluate new workflow
- Coordination, Facilitation and Integration
  - Serve as bridge between informatics solution users and IT experts
  - Serve as project coordinator to facilitate workflow changes

Time Frame

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Months</th>
<th>Goal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Informatics team should decide how they want the new workflow to look like</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>Informatics team should collaborate with CERNER to build the new workflow</td>
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<td>7-8</td>
<td>Test the new workflow</td>
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<tr>
<td>9-10</td>
<td>Training Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Deployment, Go Live of new workflow</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Auditing, Re-education as needed</td>
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Proposed Workflow
- Pop up form for nurses to document the Pittsburgh Agitation Score (PAS)
- Research has shown the PAS items have good reliability at assessment (interclass correlation coefficients between 0.60 and 0.77).
- One hour later there will be a pop up reminder for the nurses to reassess using the (PAS)

Steps to Implementation
- Create a committee
- Build the prototype with the CERNER team
- Test the prototype using simulations
- Create teaching tools to educate the staff
- Train the staff

Current Workflow
- When a nurse scans a PRN medication they must click modify in order to free text the reasons for giving the medication.
- One hour later the nurse must remember to click modify again to free text if the PRN was effective or not.

Stakeholders
- Patients
- Nurses
- Hospital Administrators
- Companies that create electronic health records (i.e. CERNER)

Nurses Feedback of Proposed Changes
- 8 psychiatric staff nurses were interviewed
- 4 of the nurses knew the correct workflow to document at time of administering PRN and re-evaluate one hour after
- All nurses liked the new proposed workflow
- All nurses were familiar with the PAS

Modified Pittsburgh Agitation Scale (PAS)
- The nurse will collaborate with the CERNER team to create a PAS computer form

References