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Checklist Utilization to Reduce CAUTI Rates: A DNP Project

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CHECKLIST UTILIZATION TO REDUCE CAUTI RATES: A DNP PROJECT

Abstract

Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs) are preventable events with significant ramifications for both patients and hospitals. Proper training on evidence-based practices for catheter management is a vital component of preventing and decreasing CAUTIs. Following a review of the literature, evidence supports that CAUTI education with the use of a standard urinary catheter checklist for registered nurses (RNs) has the potential to ensure that knowledge is applied, thus decrease CAUTIs. This doctoral project developed, implemented, and evaluated an educational program and checklist to reduce CAUTI among patients at a Veterans Administration (VA) hospital. This project utilized a mixed-method data collection with a convenience sample of nurses ($N = 26$) from acute care medical units who participated in the project. An educational intervention was delivered on CAUTI prevention based on the hospital's existing protocol and guidelines from regulatory agencies. Knowledge and confidence were measured pre and post-intervention, and there was a statistically significant difference. On analysis of the pre-test and post-test scores, a statistically significant difference was found in two of 10-questions, indicating that nurses' knowledge and confidence of CAUTI improved after the intervention had a medium ($d = 0.5$) effect size.

Keywords: catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI), education, catheter management, checklist