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Mary Lou Anthony

Nancy Christiansen

Jolie Hultner

Heidi Yttri

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Baby Can't Wait

Mary Lou Anthony, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, RN-BC
Nancy Christiansen, MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, CCRN
Jolie Hultner, BSN, RN, CEN, MICN
Heidi Yttri, BSN, RN, CEN, MICN



St. Jude Medical Center
Fullerton, CA

Background

- In the previous 24 months, we had 3-5 unexpected deliveries occurring in the emergency department (ED).
- Management of postpartum hemorrhage is a low volume, high risk event in which both ED and L&D nurses require training.
- The hospital instituted a massive transfusion protocol in December 2018.
- Imminent delivery with postpartum hemorrhage was chosen as a simulation topic to accomplish training for both situations and departments.

Purpose

- Increase ED staff knowledge surrounding imminent delivery and neonate/maternal distress
- Recognize postpartum hemorrhage and implement appropriate interventions
- Implement massive transfusion protocol utilizing a rapid infuser
- Improve collaboration between ED, L&D, and respiratory staff in managing a high-risk situation
- Demonstrate neonatal resuscitation techniques

Methods

- Simulation topic selected and approved by ED, L&D, and respiratory leadership team
- Validators from each department were trained using simulation principles and collaborated to develop the simulation, objectives, and flow
- Standardized patients were used as well as a pelvic mannequin to simulate delivery and hemorrhage
- Components of simulation event were pre-work, pre-brief, simulation, and debrief
- All ED, L&D, and respiratory staff were required to attend one of nine sessions



Results

- Based on evaluations, staff found topics relevant and valuable
- Staff expressed improved communication between all departments and gained understanding of each departments expertise
- Process improvements related to equipment, supplies, protocols

Implications for Practice

- ED experienced an emergent delivery and a massive transfusion situation after participating in simulation. Staff reported using knowledge gained in simulation during actual patient events.
- Simulation is a labor-intensive process but very beneficial

Conclusion

Simulation is a great tool for helping staff collaborate and implement complex processes surrounding high-risk patient situations

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Contact information: Marylou.Anthony@stjoe.org