

BACKGROUND

A vaccine clinic will provide flu and COVID-19 vaccines to employees and the general public. However, because this is a new responsibility for the nurses working in the clinic, no processes or procedures exist. A major patient safety concern is the lack of policies, procedures, and education. Without these formal documents, nurses could mishandle vaccines from storage to administration, which could potentially cause patient harm. This project aims to create policies, procedures, and education to support this change.

This project posed the following PICOT question:
Does a formalized process for providing nursing education for flu and COVID-19 vaccines, compared to no education, decrease the incidence of medication errors in vaccine clinics?



EVALUATION

The following steps will be taken for further education and evaluation:

- **Step 1:** The vaccine clinic will order vaccines and supplies
- **Step 2:** Staff will complete a pre and post-education survey. The education will be presented on Trainual, an educational delivery system. The survey will measure the nurses' understanding of their role in handling, storing, and administering vaccines
- **Step 3:** Adverse events will be reviewed through AdvancedMD
- **Step 4:** Any updates or changes needed will be made to policies, procedures, and education

METHODS

The Knowledge to Action Framework was used to guide this project. The literature review identified ways to create and improve policies, procedures, and education to reduce adverse events and increase patient safety when administering flu and COVID-19 vaccines. Three themes were identified from the literature review.

- Avoiding medication errors
- The nurse's role in patient education and perception of vaccines
- Following the CDC recommendations

Following approval from management and the infectious disease team, staff will be presented with a PowerPoint outlining the new vaccine clinic's policies and procedures.

CONCLUSIONS

The literature review found that creating policies, procedures, and education promotes patient safety regarding flu and COVID-19 vaccines. Following evidence-based knowledge will ensure fewer adverse events within this vaccine clinic.

This project highlights the importance of having updated policies and procedures and ensuring that nursing staff is up-to-date on their vaccine education. Doing so improves patient safety and reduces adverse events in this vaccine clinic.

REFERENCES

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