Developing Interprofessional Communication Practices for the Opioid Naïve Population
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Background

• Chronic opioid use and misuse has become a significant health care issue in recent years.1
• Studies suggest that surgery is a risk factor for initiation of chronic opioid use. This may be greater in opioid naïve patients.2
• Effective interdisciplinary team communication practices that are patient-centered could mitigate the risk of chronic opioid use and misuse.3
• These practices are related to higher levels of patient self-efficacy which is further related to lower patient report of pain intensity and pain interference.4, 5

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to develop quality communication among interdisciplinary teams working with opioid naïve patients within a postsurgical context through interprofessional education.

Methods

• A pilot project was developed with the pilot group to consist of nursing, physical therapy and psychology students. The students will be placed into interdisciplinary teams.
• A case study based course was designed and administered through a learning management system (Canvas).
• The case centered around a woman with an acute ankle fracture who is opioid naïve, but the communication about her opioid prescription is subpar.
• Asynchronous pre-activity work was assigned to the students:
  • Communication strategies for both the opioid naïve patient and the interprofessional team
• During the synchronous portion of the course, the case study was introduced and students reviewed it individually.
  • A facilitator ( KK) engaged the students with focused questioning on team communication and patient outcomes as it relates to opioid naïve patients.
• Videos were created to offer additional insight into the complexities of this case.
• Student learning was assessed using the Interprofessional Collaborative Competencies Attainment Survey

Future Application and Next Steps:

• Authors are implementing the project in June 2020

References


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