

The Rapid Response Team (RRT) and Its Effects on Cardiac and Respiratory Arrests in Non-Intensive Care Areas

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RESEARCH QUESTION

Will the implementation of a RRT reduce the incidence of cardiac and/or respiratory arrests of patients who are hospitalized in non-intensive care areas?

STUDY DESIGN

- Quantitative, descriptive
- Retrospective chart review

BACKGROUND

Failure to rescue is the inability to save a hospitalized patient's life once problems arise. It may contribute to the unnecessary deaths of hospitalized patients.

Rapid Response Teams (RRT) can assist in the early treatment and prevention of cardiac and/or respiratory arrest.

ROLE of RRT

- Assess
- Stabilize
- Assist with communication
- Educate and support
- Assist with transfer to CCU, if needed

BENEFITS of RRT

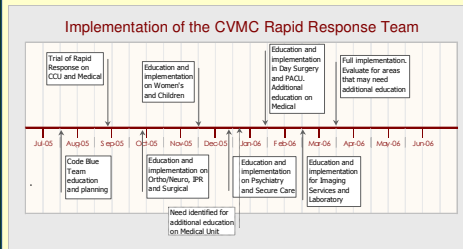
- Brings clinical expertise to bedside
- Provides early intervention of clinical deterioration
- Promotes collaboration among members of health care team

GOAL of RRT

To prevent deaths of patients, who show signs of clinical deterioration, outside of an intensive care setting

IMPLEMENTATION of RRT

- Developed by the Code Blue Committee
- Timeline established for implementation in the individual nursing and ancillary units



Source: Mary McDaniel, RN, MBA, CCM
CVMC Clinical Resource Management Director

RRT at CVMC

- "Code Purple"
- Activated by hospital operator

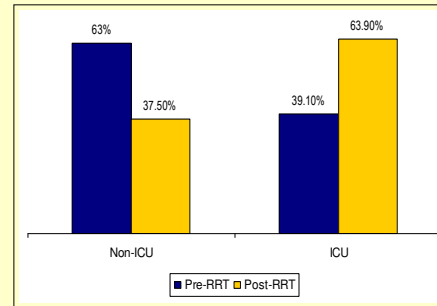
CVMC'S RAPID RESPONSE TEAM

- Critical Care Nurse
- Registered Respiratory Therapist

Staff Education

- Power Point Presentation
- Rapid Response Education Notebook

REDUCTION of ARRESTS with RRT

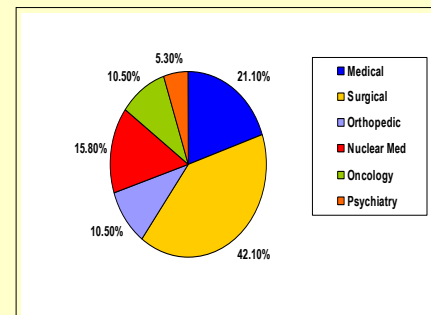


• Data showed a 26.4% reduction in cardiac and respiratory arrests of patients hospitalized in non-intensive care areas

• Chi square analysis revealed a significant interaction between the use of RRT and cardio-pulmonary arrest

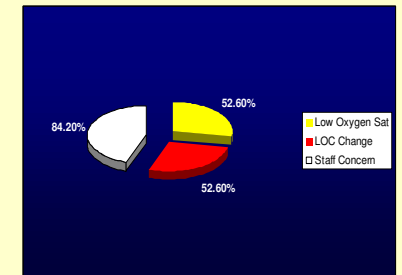
$$\chi^2(1) = 4.029, p < .05$$

FREQUENCY & LOCATION of RRT CALLS



COMMON REASONS for RRT CALLS

- Low O₂ Saturation
- Level of consciousness change (LOC)
- Staff concern



• Out of 19 RRT events reviewed, 18 recorded more than one reason for calling the "code purple"

IMPLICATIONS for NURSING

- RRT offers a strong support system
- RRT can improve patient outcomes
- Empowers nurses
- Provides early intervention
- Promotes collaboration
- Enhances communication
- Opportunities for mentoring & coaching

CONTACT INFORMATION

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