

Problem & PURPOSE

Postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) remains a leading cause of maternal mortality and morbidity globally. Inaccurate documentation and delayed response contribute to poor outcomes.
The purpose of this project was to implement a standardized PPH recording document aimed at improving nurse knowledge, comfort, and response during hemorrhage events.

Available Knowledge & Rationale

Evidence supports that standardized tools (e.g. guidelines, checklists) improve maternal outcomes by promoting timely and accurate responses to hemorrhage (Phan & Weeks, 2024).
The current PPH recording sheet lacks critical guidance on medication usage and tamponade devices, which can result in errors and increased nurse stress, particularly for less experienced staff.

Methods

- **Context**
 - Setting is a nonprofit hospital in the Midwest, delivering approximately 400 babies/month with a Level 3 NICU. Unit is a labor and delivery unit with 24 labor rooms, 2 operating rooms.
- **Intervention**
 - A standardized obstetrical postpartum hemorrhage recorder worksheet including:
 - Medications used for hemorrhage
 - Tamponade device protocols (e.g. Jada System, Bakri balloon)
 - Dosages, routes, cautions, and side effects
- **Study of Intervention**
 - The worksheet was used for 5 weeks across labor and delivery rooms and operating rooms. Pre and post surveys measured knowledge and comfort levels.
 - Survey tool had five multiple choice questions and five Likert scale statements
- **Measure**
 - Knowledge and comfortability of nurses in handling PPH events (survey results before and after interventions)
 - Paired t-tests for pre/post survey comparisons

Data Analysis

Small increase in comfort ($M = 18.55 \rightarrow 19.27$) and knowledge ($M = 4.55 \rightarrow 4.91$), but no statistical significance ($p > 0.05$).

Descriptive statistics for Likert scale, inferential analysis for multiple choice.

Results

- No statistical significant change in nurse comfort or knowledge after using the worksheet, but a slight positive trend was observed
- Nurses expressed that the worksheet was helpful in orienting new nurses during real-time hemorrhages

Discussion

- **Interpretation**
 - The worksheet improved nurse preparedness, but larger sample sizes and longer implementation periods are needed for clearer outcomes
- **Limitations**
 - Small sample size
 - Limited timeframe
 - Potential survey fatigue affected participation rates

Conclusions

- **Impact**
 - Despite lack of statistical significance, the intervention showed promise in improving comfort and knowledge for PPH management
- **Next steps**
 - Expand the intervention to other units (e.g., Gynecology, Mother-Baby), refine the worksheet, and conduct further studies with larger participant groups