

Does Implementing a Paper Time-Out Sheet Improve RN/Physician Compliance with Pre-Procedure Time-Out Prior to Invasive Bedside Procedures?



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Background

- Routine checking of common safety issues and team communication could improve patient safety and perioperative morbidity/mortality.
- Using a surgical checklist makes medical professionals pause and go through each aspect of the time out prior to proceeding with the procedure.
- Time outs focus on the patient's individual case and helps prevent medical errors.
- Surgical checklists have been shown to improve patient safety, reduce near misses, and increase patient satisfaction.

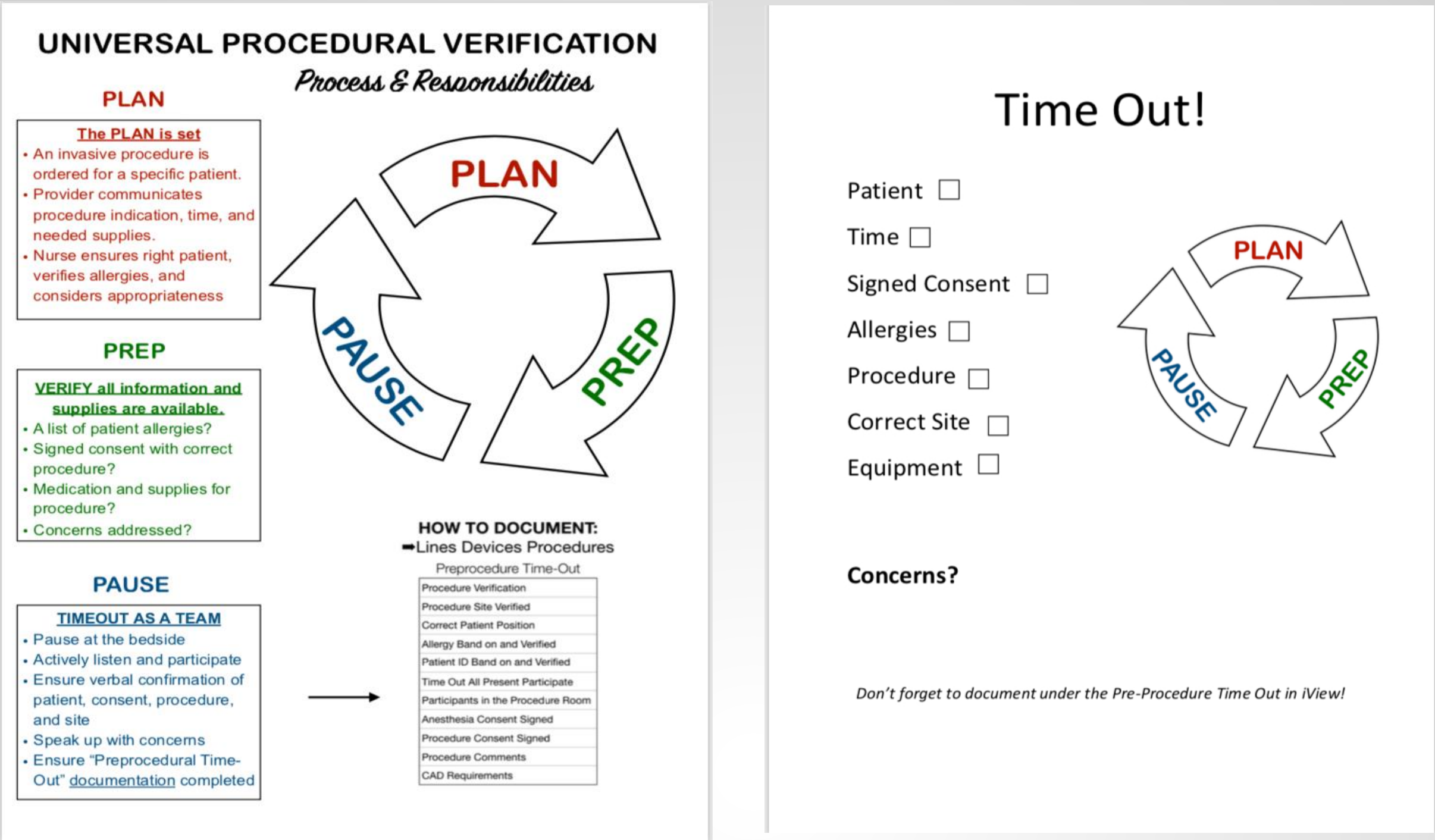
Practice Change

Increasing RN/Physician time out compliance by providing education to staff and having a paper checklist available as a reminder to actively do the time out properly.

Methods

- Administered anonymous paper pre-surveys to RN's 1 week prior implementation of educational flyers and paper checklists.
- Educational flyers posted on the nursing unit and paper checklists placed on invasive procedure carts for 1 week.
- Anonymous post-surveys were administered after 1 week of educational flyers and paper checklists in circulation

Measures and Results



Eastern Maine Medical Center

Pre Survey (n=31)

Has a Time Out been done before every invasive procedure that you have participated in?

Yes: 77% No: 23%

Are Time Outs usually documented in real time in the Electronic Medical Record?

Yes: 29% No: 71%

Do you think a visual aid will help increase the compliance of Time Outs during invasive procedures?

Yes: 80% No: 16% Unsure: 3%

Do you feel like you understand your role in a Time Out? Yes:100%

Post Survey (n=12)

Do you think Time Out compliance has improved since implementing a visual aid reminder?

Yes: 66% No: 16% Had not done a time out with change in place: 16%

Do you think that the use of this Visual Aid is beneficial when documenting the Time Out?

Yes: 91% No: 8%

Do you better understand your role in a Time Out after the implementation of the visual aid?

Yes: 66% No: 8% No answer: 25%

Summary/Discussion

This work was a preliminary investigation focused on methods to increase Time Out compliance. Moving forward, several areas require further analysis. Future efforts should include::

- Providing more education for a longer period of time.
- Providing more awareness to the issue and the change needed.
- Exploring other methodologies to improve compliance from staff..

Feedback:

“It's not realistic to documented in real time in patient room when usually only 3 staff and both sterile for procedure”

“Having a visual aid placed on the line and circumcision cart was helpful as a reminder and sequence when implementing Time Out”

Conclusion

- This project proved to be inconclusive. Further studies need to be completed and increased participation are required to determine the effectiveness of these measures.
- There was a mix of opinions on the idea of a paper visual aid used during a Time Out from the staff of NICU, L&D, and ICU. Some staff found the visual aid helpful, whereas others felt it was too much task duplication.

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