Effects of Nurse-Physician Collaborative Rounding
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Summary: Nurses in acute care areas perceive there is frequently miscommunication or lack of communication between physicians, patients, and nurses regarding the plan of care. Teamwork and interdisciplinary collaborative relationships are essential components for safe patient care. A method used on one unit was to post a sign with a photo of the nurse assigned to the patient and her phone number on the patient’s door. The physician called the nurse on arrival to the unit so that the nurse could participate in rounds. The goals of this project were to decrease the number of calls from the nurse to the provider and improve the patient’s perception of nurse communication, physician communication, and staff teamwork (based on Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems scores).

Nursing Implications:
• Signs were made with the nurses' photos and phone number asking that the nurse be called when the physician arrived to round.
• The nurses posted the signs on the door of all their assigned patients daily. On arrival to the unit, the physician called the nurse to round with them.
• Data regarding phone calls was collected before and after implementation of the signs. The number of phone calls decreased over 50% after implementation of the signs.
• HCAHPS data for nurse communication, physician communication and overall teamwork increased on all units participating in the project.

Key Takeaways:
• This study shows how collaborative rounding can improve HCAHPS scores and decrease interruptions to nurse/physician workflow.
• There was an increased patient perception of communication with physicians and nurses.
• There was increased communication with all disciplines, patients, and family.

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