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Nursing

C-ONQS

NCC Certified Obstetric and Neonatal Quality and Safety









Question: 383

A quality team is identifying measures for a preterm birth reduction initiative. Which measure is most appropriate for assessing program effectiveness?

- A. Rate of preterm births before 37 weeks
- B. Patient satisfaction with prenatal care
- C. Staff compliance with training modules

Answer: A

Explanation: Rate of preterm births before 37 weeks is the most appropriate measure, as it directly evaluates the clinical outcome targeted by the initiative. Patient satisfaction, while important, does not measure clinical effectiveness. Staff compliance with training is an indirect measure that does not directly assess preterm birth rates.

Question: 384

A multidisciplinary team is formed to address high rates of postpartum hemorrhage in a labor and delivery unit. The team includes obstetricians, nurses, and anesthesiologists, but there is resistance from some staff due to unclear roles. Which strategy is most effective in optimizing team dynamics and ensuring project success?

- A. Conduct a stakeholder analysis to clarify roles and align expectations
- B. Assign roles based on seniority to streamline decision-making
- C. Implement a top-down directive to enforce participation

Answer: A

Explanation: Conducting a stakeholder analysis to clarify roles and align expectations is the most effective strategy, as it identifies individual interests, influence, and responsibilities, fostering collaboration and reducing resistance. Assigning roles based on seniority may overlook expertise and create resentment, while a top-down directive risks disengagement by ignoring team input.

Question: 385

A nurse observes a colleague bypassing hand hygiene protocols but does not report it, fearing interpersonal conflict. What psychological factor is most influencing this decision?

A. Cognitive bias

- B. Fear of repercussions
- C. Situational awareness deficit

Answer: B

Explanation: Fear of repercussions, specifically interpersonal conflict, drives the nurse's decision not to report the violation, as the scenario explicitly mentions fear of confrontation. Cognitive bias and situational awareness deficit are not indicated, as the nurse is aware of the violation but chooses not to act.

Question: 386

A hospital is implementing the CDC's 2023 HAI guidelines to reduce surgical site infections (SSIs) post-cesarean. Which intervention is most critical?

- A. Routine postoperative antibiotic prophylaxis for 48 hours
- B. Administering preoperative antibiotics within 60 minutes of incision
- C. Weekly staff education on sterile technique

Answer: B

Explanation: Administering preoperative antibiotics within 60 minutes of incision is most critical, as CDC guidelines emphasize timely prophylaxis to reduce SSI risk. Routine postoperative antibiotics are not recommended, as they increase resistance risk. Weekly staff education is supportive but less impactful than timely antibiotics.

Question: 387

An obstetric unit implements a new protocol for managing shoulder dystocia. The team uses a control chart to monitor the time to delivery after diagnosis. What does this methodology primarily assess?

- A. Common versus special cause variation
- B. Most frequent causes of delays
- C. Performance gaps compared to benchmarks

Answer: A

Explanation: Control charts assess whether variations in a process, such as time to delivery, are due to common causes (inherent) or special causes (specific events). Identifying frequent causes uses Pareto or fishbone diagrams, and performance gaps involve benchmarking or gap analysis.

Question: 388

A hospital's peer review identifies gaps in neonatal transport safety. Which dissemination method best educates staff on new protocols?

- A. Simulation-based training with transport scenarios
- B. Annual report with transport data
- C. Staff memo with protocol updates

Answer: A

Explanation: Simulation-based training with transport scenarios provides hands-on learning, ensuring staff understand and apply new protocols. Annual reports and memos lack the practical engagement needed for safety training.

Question: 389

During a simulation for eclampsia management, the facilitator aims to align with adult learning principles. Which debriefing technique should be used to enhance learning?

- A. Deliver a lecture on correct procedures
- B. Facilitate discussions linking actions to outcomes
- C. Provide written feedback without dialogue

Answer: B

Explanation: Adult learning principles emphasize reflective, outcome-focused learning. Facilitating discussions linking actions to outcomes allows participants to reflect on their decisions and their impact, enhancing learning. Lectures and written feedback without dialogue are less interactive and reflective.

Question: 390

A quality and safety team is developing a remote training program for neonatal transport. To incorporate effective distance learning methodologies, which approach ensures active engagement and knowledge retention?

- A. Live virtual simulations with real-time feedback
- B. Asynchronous video lectures with no interaction
- C. Self-paced multiple-choice quizzes with delayed feedback

Answer: A

Explanation: Effective distance learning methodologies prioritize active engagement and immediate feedback to enhance retention. Live virtual simulations with real-time feedback allow learners to practice skills in a dynamic, interactive environment, closely mimicking real-world scenarios. Asynchronous video lectures and self-paced quizzes with delayed feedback lack the immediacy and interactivity needed for optimal engagement.

Question: 391

A quality improvement team is planning to implement a new protocol for maternal hemorrhage. What is the most effective way to ensure successful implementation?

- A. Implement immediately to address urgency
- B. Develop a detailed timeline with stakeholder input
- C. Train only senior staff to lead the change

Answer: B

Explanation: Developing a detailed timeline with stakeholder input ensures structured implementation, aligns expectations, and addresses barriers. Immediate implementation risks chaos, and training only senior staff limits engagement and scalability.

Question: 392

A neonatal unit aims to improve inclusivity after feedback about biased decision-making. What is the best approach to promote diversity and inclusivity in team processes?

- A. Establish a diversity committee to oversee all decisions
- B. Require all decisions to be approved by a diverse panel
- C. Implement bias training with follow-up accountability measures

Answer: C

Explanation: Implementing bias training with follow-up accountability measures addresses root causes of bias while fostering inclusivity through actionable steps. A diversity committee may add bureaucracy without ensuring cultural change. Requiring diverse panel approval is impractical and may delay critical decisions.

Question: 393

A postpartum unit is aligning with AWHONN's 2022 maternal health guidelines for hypertensive disorders. A patient develops severe postpartum hypertension (BP >160/110). Which action best reflects AWHONN recommendations?

- A. Administering oral antihypertensives and monitoring for 24 hours
- B. Initiating IV antihypertensive therapy immediately
- C. Reassessing blood pressure in 4 hours without medication

Answer: B

Explanation: Initiating IV antihypertensive therapy immediately aligns with AWHONN's guidelines, which recommend prompt treatment for severe hypertension to prevent complications like stroke. Administering oral antihypertensives is slower-acting and less appropriate for severe cases. Reassessing without medication delays critical intervention.

Question: 394

A nurse in the NICU bypasses a safety protocol to expedite a medication administration due to understaffing during a high-acuity shift. This behavior is an example of which human factor impacting safety?

- A. Workarounds due to staffing shortages
- B. Inadequate ergonomic design
- C. Fatigue-related errors

Answer: A

Explanation: Workarounds due to staffing shortages describe the nurse's decision to bypass a safety protocol to manage workload under time pressure, a common response to understaffing. Fatigue-related errors would involve cognitive lapses, not deliberate protocol bypass. Inadequate ergonomic design pertains to physical workspace issues, not staffing-related behavior.

Question: 395

A NICU team tracks central line maintenance compliance as a process metric. Which metric best evaluates the impact of this process?

A. Structure metric: Number of trained staff B. Process metric: Frequency of line audits C. Outcome metric: Rate of CLABSIs

Answer: C

Explanation: The outcome metric, rate of CLABSIs, directly evaluates the impact of central line maintenance compliance, as it measures the clinical outcome (infection rates) tied to the process. Frequency of line audits is another process metric, and the number of trained staff is a structure metric, both less directly tied to patient outcomes.

Question: 396

A NICU's overcrowding leads to equipment being placed in hallways, delaying access during an emergency. Which human factor is most impacting safety?

- A. Alarm fatigue
- B. Medical devices
- C. Overcrowding

Answer: C

Explanation: Overcrowding, with equipment in hallways, directly delays emergency access. Alarm fatigue and medical devices are not the primary issues.

Question: 397

A quality improvement project aims to improve breastfeeding rates in the postpartum unit. After selecting a bundle of interventions, what is the most effective method to plan implementation?

- A. Implement the bundle hospital-wide immediately
- B. Conduct a pilot test in one unit before full rollout
- C. Survey staff to finalize the intervention bundle

Answer: B

Explanation: Conducting a pilot test in one unit allows the team to assess feasibility, identify barriers, and refine the intervention before hospital-wide implementation. Immediate full rollout risks unforeseen issues, and surveying staff focuses on input rather than testing the intervention's effectiveness.

Question: 398

A hospital's perinatal quality team aims to improve population health by reducing neonatal sepsis rates. They implement a hand hygiene campaign but see no change in rates. Which metric best evaluates the campaign's effectiveness?

- A. Neonatal sepsis incidence rate
- B. Hand hygiene compliance rate
- C. Staff satisfaction with the campaign

Answer: A

Explanation: Effectiveness is measured by the impact on the targeted health outcome. Neonatal sepsis incidence rate directly assesses whether the hand hygiene campaign reduces sepsis, aligning with population health goals. Compliance rate measures process, and satisfaction is unrelated to effectiveness.

Question: 399

A hospital is implementing a sustainability initiative to reduce waste in the obstetric unit. The quality and safety leader notices resistance from staff due to increased workload. What is the most effective approach to ensure long-term sustainability of the initiative?

- A. Integrate waste reduction into existing workflows with staff input
- B. Enforce mandatory compliance with waste reduction protocols
- C. Offer financial incentives for staff who meet waste reduction targets

Answer: A

Explanation: Integrating waste reduction into existing workflows with staff input promotes sustainability by addressing workload concerns and fostering ownership, reducing resistance. Enforcing mandatory compliance may lead to resentment and burnout, undermining long-term adherence. Offering financial incentives may drive short-term compliance but fails to address workflow integration or intrinsic motivation, risking regression when incentives end.

Question: 400

A perinatal quality manager notices increased medication errors since implementing a new electronic medical record (EMR) system. Staff report difficulty navigating the interface during high-pressure situations. Which human factor is most likely contributing?

- A. EMR
- B. Medical devices
- C. Noise

Answer: A

Explanation: A poorly designed EMR interface can increase errors in high-pressure settings due to usability issues, a common human factor in healthcare. Medical devices and noise are unrelated to the EMR-specific navigation challenges described.

Question: 401

A neonatal unit experiences a medication error due to a nurse misinterpreting a handwritten order for phenobarbital. Which technology-based cognitive aid would most effectively reduce this type of error?

- A. Computerized physician order entry (CPOE) system
- B. Barcoding for medication administration
- C. Structured handoff checklist

Answer: A

Explanation: A computerized physician order entry (CPOE) system eliminates handwritten orders, reducing misinterpretation risks by standardizing and clarifying medication orders. Barcoding ensures correct administration but does not address errors originating from order transcription. A structured handoff checklist improves communication but is not directly relevant to preventing errors from handwritten orders.

Question: 402

An interprofessional team is conducting a unit drill for umbilical cord prolapse. Which facilitation technique enhances learning across disciplines?

- A. Shared debriefing with role clarification
- B. Discipline-specific debriefing sessions

C. Written feedback without discussion

Answer: A

Explanation: Shared debriefing with role clarification fosters interprofessional learning by allowing team members to discuss roles, share perspectives, and improve collaboration. Discipline-specific debriefing isolates learning, and written feedback without discussion limits interactive reflection.

Question: 403

During a unit drill for neonatal sepsis, the facilitator aims to align with adult learning principles. Which debriefing strategy should be prioritized?

- A. Deliver a summary of errors with corrections
- B. Facilitate reflective discussions on decision-making
- C. Provide written feedback only

Answer: B

Explanation: Adult learning principles emphasize reflection and experiential learning. Facilitating reflective discussions on decision-making allows participants to analyze their choices and outcomes, enhancing learning. Delivering a summary of errors is less interactive, and written feedback alone limits reflective dialogue.

Question: 404

A hospital's neonatal quality team identifies a gap in hand hygiene compliance. Which education campaign strategy is most effective for improving adherence among staff?

- A. Display posters with compliance statistics
- B. Implement real-time feedback audits with coaching
- C. Send monthly email reminders with guidelines

Answer: B

Explanation: Real-time feedback audits with coaching provide immediate, personalized intervention, directly addressing behavior. Posters and emails are less interactive and have limited impact on sustained compliance.

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