Literature Review of Nosocomial Infections Passed Through Nurses' Personal Items

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Literature Review of Nosocomial Infections Passed Through Nurses’ Personal Items

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Abstract
Nosocomial infections are infections whose development is favored by a hospital environment.

Problem Statement
In 2002, nosocomial infections killed approximately 80,000 people in the United States and represented about 1.7 million cases of hospital-acquired infections. Nurses are in contact most with patients and pose the greatest risk to their patients’ health. In event of handwashing being the standard precaution, there is still a risk of transferring pathogens through their scrubs that they take home, their stethoscopes that are not being sanitized between patients, and their cell phones.

Literary Findings

Stethoscopes
- There was pathogenic bacteria found on all of the stethoscopes’ diaphragms.
- The literature concluded that all stethoscopes worn by nurses and other healthcare providers should be sanitized between each patient.
- Stethoscopes have the potential of being a fomite.

Cell Phones
- One article found that the cell phones used in the hospital by nurses carried pathogenic microbes.
- The other two studies found that no pathogenic microbes were found on their phones.
- For these studies, their phones were never to have any pathogens microbes before the phones were used.
- The smooth surfaces of new smart phones do not play a role in the count.
- The literature stated that the cleanliness of the cell phones was not different in the cleanliness of the employees’ hands.

Scrub
- Pathogenic bacteria was found on all scrubs.
- Majority of the bacteria was found on pockets (pants and shirts), area of the abdomen, and the crotch area.
- Literature found that it was not on the scrubs that was the problem, but it was with hand hygiene compliance.

Literary Proposal

Research Proposal
The research design will be a quantitative survey design and the instruments, created to this end, are found in all the literature review that was read the two things that nurses need to make a policy to follow when proper hand washing and using alcohol to clean their stethoscopes between patient contact. There are 1.7 million cases a year that are traced back to nosocomial infections, and hospitals need to do more education and put more of an importance on the cleanliness of all employees’ hands.

Indications for Clinical Practice
The importance of this study is to see if nurses have the time to properly don the correct PPE while working and if nurses are washing their hands as much as they need to. In all of the literature review that was read the two things that nurses need to make a policy to follow when proper hand washing and using alcohol to clean their stethoscopes between patient contact.

Survey
- There are many situations where you have not applied the PPE between patients’ rooms.
- How likely are you to use the proper isolation precautions when walking into a patients’ room from 0-10?
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References

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