**EP2-11 PROCESS IMPROVEMENT TEAM**

**PROGRESS REPORT**

**Positioning in Labor**

**Date initiated: January 2013- 1st Q 2013**

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| **F** | Find A Process To Improve |
|  | Positioning in labor is a skill that a labor nurse acquires over time. Regular and appropriate position changes can be difficult with a pt who has received and epidural. We have a 71% epidural rate for our patients (2012 SFMC Data). A small group of L&D RNs set out to find guidance on how to best position pts with epidurals during labor, hoping to improve outcomes: shorten length of labor and decrease the C/S rate for laboring patients. |
| **O** | Organize A Team |
|  | A few RNs who were passionate about positioning in labor took on the task of investigating different positioning options and educating the staff. |
| **C** | Clarify Knowledge of the Current Process |
|  | We have a high rate of epidural administration for our laboring patients. This limits the options we have for positioning, since they cannot get out of bed. |
| **U** | Understand Variation |
|  | Each RN has a different level of education on positioning depending on their work history and experiences. |
| **S** | Select An Improvement Strategy |
|  | The group starting investigating the use of a “peanut” shaped birthing ball that was primarily used to labor patients who become confined to bed due to regional anesthetics. 2 of these peanut balls were purchased for the unit and education was given to staff regarding their use. |
| **P** | Plan The Pilot Improvement And The Data Collection |
|  | Education was provided in the form of fliers around the unit which included pictures of how to appropriately use the ball for positioning and instruction on how often to change positions. General discussion about the new peanut balls while on shift also greatly increased the staff’s awareness of the new product. |
| **D** | Do The Pilot Improvement And Collect The Data |
|  | Success will be determined through the following:  Reduction in the length of labor and the length of 2nd stage. Also a reduction in the rate of cesarean sections in the laboring population.  January Primip Data  January Multip Data  Not enough time to compare section rates yet |
| **C** | Check The Results Of The Implementation |
|  | Data collection continues. Will be evaluated and compiled monthly. |
| **A** | Act To Hold The Gain And Continue Improvement |
|  | This is an on going indicator that continues to be monitored monthly. |