Evidence-Based Simulation Program Aiming to Improve Healthcare Provider Confidence Performing Compassionate Extubations

Introduction

- Compassionate extubation (CE): The discontinuation of life-sustaining ventilatory support that occurs when curative treatment for a patient is exhausted to allow a natural death
- Includes difficult conversations and dynamic symptom management
- Ultimately a child will die after a CE demanding the procedure be handled with the utmost care
- Given the intricacies involved and limited opportunity for practice, this procedure may cause unease for healthcare providers and there may be significant variation in practice
- Prior to this project there were no formal training opportunities for this procedure within pediatrics at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC)

Project Question

- For healthcare providers in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), does participation in one compassionate extubation simulation with a roadmap as a resource improve confidence with performing this procedure?

Methods

- Setting: 5 bed Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at MSKCC
- Design: One group pretest-posttest
- Intervention: Participation in one CE simulation where participants discussed CE with family and then performed procedure using roadmap
- Dependent Variable: Confidence with performing CE
- Measured prior to and following intervention
- Measurement Tool: Confidence Scale (C-Scale)
- Data Collection Method: REDCap
- Data Analysis Method: Wilcoxon signed-rank test and descriptive analysis

Results

- 3 simulations completed capturing 4 RNs, 4 Advanced Practice Providers (APPs), 1 nursing supervisor
- Wilcoxon signed rank test determined there was a statistically significant median increase in C-Scale score after simulation participation (median = 20) compared to C-Scale prior (median = 12), \( W = 45, p = 0.007 \)

Conclusion

- For healthcare providers in the MSKCC PICU, participation in one compassionate extubation simulation training while using a roadmap as a resource was associated with an improvement in confidence with performing this procedure

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Simulator Training for Compassionate Extubation in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit

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