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Impact of an educational intervention on operating room staff knowledge related to intraoperative bundle to reduce surgical site infection

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Nurses and surgical technologists play vital roles in preventing surgical site infections during surgical procedures. Updating and increasing their knowledge of an intraoperative bundle to reduce infection episodes enhanced integrity of results. Findings in literature delineated the importance of the roles of operating room staff in improving outcomes through education. This project explored the impact of an educational intervention on operating room staff knowledge related to a newly introduced intraoperative bundle to reduce surgical site infection among gynecology oncology surgeries. A ten-item pre-test given to a surgical team (n = 20) one week before conducting the educational module determined the baseline level of knowledge, and a post-test after attendance was used to determine the module's impact on learning. The baseline level of knowledge of participants towards the intraoperative bundle was 69%. Results showed a significant gain in pre and posttest difference ($p=0.007$). The baseline level of knowledge was attributed to 75% of the nurses who had substantial knowledge on using separate instruments during fascia and skin closure and 45% who knew appropriate re-dosing of intraoperative antibiotics. Their years of experience in their roles paved a way for them to easily grasp the new techniques and concepts introduced. In a fast-paced, precision-driven operating room environment, an impactful educational intervention based on classroom setting significantly increased knowledge base.

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