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ClinicalKey Helping Nurses Work Smarter and Faster – 5 Questions with Breach Candy Hospital Trust

What were some of the major challenges faced by nurses before the implementation of ClinicalKey?

Before the implementation of ClinicalKey, the hospital's library was the main access to resources for our nurses. However, at Breach Candy, nurses work 12-hour shifts. Their busy work schedules mean that making a trip to the library or browsing books for answers is a time-consuming option. Besides that, the library only stays open for a certain number of hours, making it challenging for nurses to update themselves with current information on a regular basis.

We wanted to ensure that our nurses are well-informed and well aware of various patient needs and the care that each of them require. Some of the nurses expressed challenges such as, looking for key information related to the patient’s medical conditions. They would rely on Google search to find information. However, this process can be very tedious as there is an ‘ocean of information’ and sometimes the information may not be what you’re looking for, or want to know. Also, it is not a very tangible way to attain information as a lot of time is spent searching, which may result to a loss of interest.

In the last year, Breach Candy has been in the process of switching over to digital records, along with the implementation of ClinicalKey for Nursing, which has helped improve efficiency.
How has the implementation of ClinicalKey addressed some of these challenges, and improved the nursing practice at Breach Candy?

Elsevier's ClinicalKey for Nursing is an easy-to-use reference solution that offers quick access for nurses via the desktop, or mobile phone. Aside from some initial challenges experienced by senior nurses who have not been exposed to such technology, ClinicalKey is very user-friendly. With some training, even the senior nurses are able to use it now, giving our nurses access to timely, accurate, and relevant information at the point of care. They can even access information on drugs without having to spend time searching for the information in books.

Our nurses have also come to realize the benefits of additional tools and features, such as the Presentation Maker to prepare their weekly presentations. The Disease Overview Pages and Mosby's Evidence based Nursing monographs are very helpful as they can easily look up new and unfamiliar terms, and instantly get clarity on what it actually means. The same goes for Nursing Care Plans – if a nurse is unfamiliar or unsure of a particular condition, he or she can find out more very easily.

Many people are still of the impression that physicians are the biggest users of technology to improve patient care and outcomes. How are the nurses at Breach Candy using ClinicalKey to enhance their practice, and maintaining the hospital’s care quality?

Breach Candy has a 67-year strong tradition and patient satisfaction is paramount to us. Patients rely heavily on nurses for clarifications at different care touch points. As patients become more knowledgeable, nurses need to be equipped with comprehensive information to deal with more in-depth questions. Being cared for by a nurse who is well read and knowledgeable gives the patient the confidence that the nurse knows what he or she is experiencing. Access to such current information is only possible with resources such as ClinicalKey for Nursing. Our nurses are able to use ClinicalKey via their mobile, or desktops throughout the hospital, and they find that it really adds value to their work, giving them greater confidence, while also improving patient interaction and satisfaction.

Tell us which features and tools of ClinicalKey you like the best

I personally like Clinical Updates, and I think it’s the same for most of the nurses. It really helps you to be kept updated and current. ClinicalKey for Nursing also features patient education handouts – simplifying the information that nurses are required to know about a patient. The best part is that it gives nurses the option of customizing handouts to ensure the relevance and usefulness of the information when speaking to a patient. The content can be printed for patients to take home. I also like the journals that are available, and so do my oncology nurses who find them very useful. They are able to save or bookmark a piece of content and revisit it at their convenience. Such a tool has helped our nurses save time in terms of searching for information that is most current and evidence-based.

Would you recommend ClinicalKey, and if so, what advice would you give someone looking to implement it?

ClinicalKey for Nursing is an essential solution for healthcare institutions and nurses that strive to improve patient care.

I feel that it is a motivating factor to have an institutional access to ClinicalKey. Any nursing leader should think about access which will lead to improved nursing engagement in the institute. Many nurses have also told me that using ClinicalKey has been a great resource that is at our disposal anytime.

I would recommend healthcare institutions to implement ClinicalKey for Nursing as it helps new nurses to connect with the institution, giving them assurance that they are part of a workplace that cares for their career development.

For more information about ClinicalKey for Nursing, visit https://www.clinicalkey.com/info/clinicalkey-for/nursing-leaders/