A Proposed Pro Re Nata (PRN) Psychotropic Medication Workflow in the Electronic Health Record

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Background

- ❖ 80% psychiatric patients are likely to receive PRN psychotropic medications due to agitation[1]
- ❖ Side Effects include: [2,-4]
    - ❖ Sedation,
    - ❖ Increased confusion,
    - ❖ Falls
    - ❖ Anticholinergic and cardiac side effect
    - ❖ Death
- ❖ Nurses have a lack of clarity, confusion, and poor documentation practices surrounding PRN psychotropic medication workflow[5]

Purpose

- ❖ Enhance upon the current workflow to
    - ❖ Document reasons why the PRN was given
    - ❖ Document alternative ways to re-direct an agitated patient
    - ❖ Evaluate if the PRN was effective or not.

Functional Area of Nursing Informatics

- ❖ **Education and Professional Development**
    - ❖ Apply nursing informatics concepts and theories to building new work flow
    - ❖ Implement and evaluate new workflow
- ❖ **Coordination, Facilitation and Integration**
    - ❖ Serve as bridge between informatics solution users and IT experts
    - ❖ Serve as project coordinator to facilitate workflow changes

Time Frame

Months	Goal
1-2	Informatics team should decide how they want the new work flow to look like
3-6	Informatics team should collaborate with CERNER to build the new workflow
7-8	Test the new workflow
9-10	Training Staff
11	Deployment, Go Live of new workflow
12	Auditing, Re-education as needed

Steps to Implementation

- ❖ Create a committee
- ❖ Make sure the proposed work flow complies with all regulations
- ❖ Build the prototype with the CERNER team
- ❖ Test the prototype using simulations
- ❖ Create teaching tools to educate the staff about new workflow
- ❖ Train the staff

Current Workflow

- ❖ When a nurse scans a PRN medication they must click modify in order to free text the reasons for giving the medication.
- ❖ One hour later the nurse must remember to click modify again to free text if the PRN was effective or not

Proposed Workflow

- ❖ Pop up form for nurses to document the Pittsburgh Agitation Score (PAS)
- ❖ Research has shown the PAS items have good reliability at assessment (interclass correlation coefficients between 0.60 and 0.77. [4]
- ❖ One hour later there will be a pop up reminder for the nurses to reassess using the (PAS)
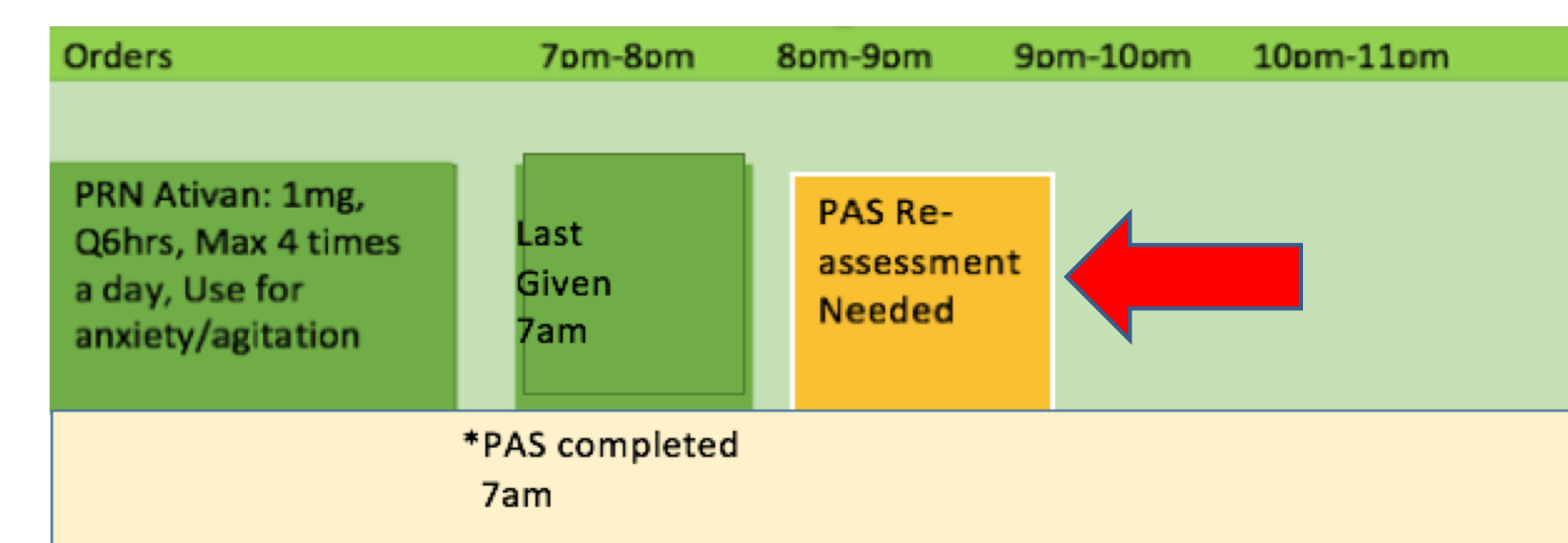
Modified Pittsburgh Agitation Scale (PAS)

- ❖ The nurse will collaborate with the CERNER team to create a PAS computer form

Stakeholders

- ❖ Patients
- ❖ Nurses
- ❖ Hospital Administrators
- ❖ Companies that create electronic health records (i.e. CERNER)

Nurses Feedback of Proposed Changes

- ❖ 8 psychiatric staff nurses were interviewed
- ❖ 4 of the nurses knew the correct workflow to document at time of administering PRN and re-evaluate 1 hour after
- ❖ All nurses liked the new proposed work flow
- ❖ All nurses were familiar with the PAS

References

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