

AACN CSI Academy Influences Practice Change in India

New Delhi hospital patterns an early mobility project on a CSI Academy initiative from North Carolina's Duke Raleigh Hospital.

It's rewarding to bring about positive change in your unit or facility. For Karen McQuillan, AACN president-elect and clinical nurse specialist at R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center (STC), University of Maryland Medical Center, Baltimore, satisfaction also comes from helping nurses half a world away improve patient care — especially when the improvements build upon the success of frontline nurses who participated in AACN Clinical Scene Investigator (CSI) Academy.

McQuillan first traveled to India in 2009 to teach at the Trauma International Congress and Annual Conference in New Delhi. She returned for each of the next three years committed to improving the quality of care. With colleagues from STC, she established an international infection-reduction collaborative with Jai Prakash Narayan Apex Trauma Center (JPNATC) to decrease central line-associated bloodstream infection rates.

Participants wanted to do more after the 18-month project accomplished its objectives, so McQuillan proposed a new initiative inspired by the achievements of AACN CSI Academy. Since patients rarely left their beds due to lack of room chairs, mobilization equipment and practice protocols, STC nurses and their JPNATC colleagues focused on early mobility to reduce mechanical ventilation, pressure ulcers and falls.

Earlier this year, several JPNATC nurses traveled to Baltimore and learned mobility and assessment techniques, performance improvement strategies and metrics analysis. With their American colleagues, the nurses developed an action plan to increase mobility based on a review of AACN CSI Academy projects and toolkits. Based



Jai Prakash Narayan Apex Trauma Center


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on similarity of patient populations, they patterned the project on the early mobility initiative at Duke Raleigh Hospital, North Carolina.

JPNATC plans to purchase chairs and mobility resources, share mobility techniques with clinical team members and deepen interdisciplinary collaboration. As a result, the team expects to achieve significant gains in patient mobility and decrease complications of critical illness.

From this project, JPNATC nurses have experienced the pride of serving as leaders who spearheaded change that drives optimal outcomes in their facility.

"CSI Academy demonstrates the power of bedside nurses to create change that improves patient outcomes," McQuillan says. "It's exciting to realize that, as a beautiful unintended consequence of their success, nurses in North Carolina helped change clinical practice in India."

Learn more about the nurse-driven initiatives that inspired the JPNATC nurses in the CSI Academy Innovation Database, at www.aacn.org/csiacademy. 

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