

# Trust Me...I'm a Trauma Nurse

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## Background

Swedish Medical Center is a Level 1 Trauma Center. There is a large number of staff in the Emergency Department. The Emergency Department has experienced high turnover rates and many different areas of focus which lead to inconsistencies in the care and documentation of care for trauma patients.

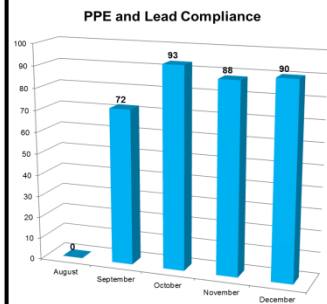
## Purpose

- ◆ Develop a small group of specially trained Emergency Department nurses to provide expert care for trauma patients and initiate the quality improvement process at the bedside.

## Method

- ◆ Course content was researched, developed and approved.
- ◆ Highlights of the course:
  - Standardization of trauma care
  - Trauma activation criteria
  - Damage control resuscitation
  - Documentation
  - Quality Improvement
  - Communication
- ◆ A bedside trauma quality form was developed and implemented.

## Results



## Results

### Staff turnover

- ◆ First year nursing staff turnover decreased from 31.4% to 6.5% during the implementation of the Trauma Nurse Program
- ◆ Current turnover for trauma nurses is 0%

## Summary

- ◆ Developing a core trauma nurse program has created a specialized group of nurses who are invested in providing high quality care for every trauma patient, every time.

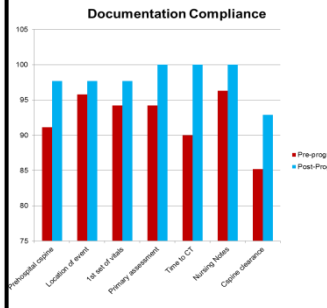
## Implications

- ◆ Future plans include additional classes for nurses and development of a trauma specialty for ED techs.
- ◆ The team meets monthly with a focus on education and the implementing of new processes and initiatives.

## References

- ◆ Gurney, D. (2014). *Trauma nursing core course (TNCC): provider manual*. Des Plaines, IL: Emergency Nurses Association.
- ◆ *Resources for optimal care of the injured patient*. (2014). Chicago, IL: American College of Surgeons, Committee on Trauma.

## Results



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### Projects Initiated by Trauma Nurses

- ◆ Trauma flowsheet revision
- ◆ PPE and lead compliance
- ◆ Charting compliance
- ◆ Supply stocking plan
- ◆ Revisions to trauma simulations
- ◆ Debriefing process
- ◆ Substance abuse screenings

