

Pacific Perioperative Nursing Standards Implementation Workshop
15th to 18th August 2016, Suva, Fiji

Patient safety has been reported as a serious global public health issue because of the increased accounts of patient harm while receiving hospital care. Aligned with WHO's "Safe Surgery Saves Lives" Initiative¹ SSCSiP focused on the development of practice standards to improve surgical patient outcomes in the PICs.

The lack of operating theatre (OT) standards was one area of concern highlighted in various visiting medical team's reports. In November 2015, a generic set of standards called the Pacific Perioperative Practice Bundle (PPPB) was developed by group of experienced PICs OT nurses in collaboration with Health Education & Learning Partnerships (HE&LP). The PPPB was distributed at all 14 PICs in January 2016.

The concept of a bundle was decided after several discussions on the best achievable outcome taking into consideration a very limited budget that was available for the activity. The HE&LP consultants suggested the development of a small number of standards that when practiced well would greatly improve patient outcome, and could be easily implemented by all of the 14 PICs.

The 'bundle' approach to infection prevention was defined as a structured way of improving the processes of care and patient outcomes. It generally consisted of 3 to 5 interventions, that when performed collectively and reliably, have been proven to improve patient outcomes. The bundle approach has been widely adopted and shown to be an effective way of reducing hospital acquired infections (HAI).²

This workshop was organised to train operating room nurses to implement and maintain the standards in the perioperative environment. SSCSiP worked closely with HE&LP and ACORN to deliver training to OT nurses in the PICs. The workshop was held from the 15th to 18th August, 2016 at the Colonial War Memorial Operating Theatre lecture room and also at the Hoodless House conference room. A total of 20 participants from 14 Pacific Island Countries were represented at the workshop.



Pacific Perioperative Standards Implementation Workshop Participants and Facilitators

¹ World Health Organisation, Safe Surgery Save Lives

² Resar et.al 2012, Using Care Bundles to Improve Health Care Quality