

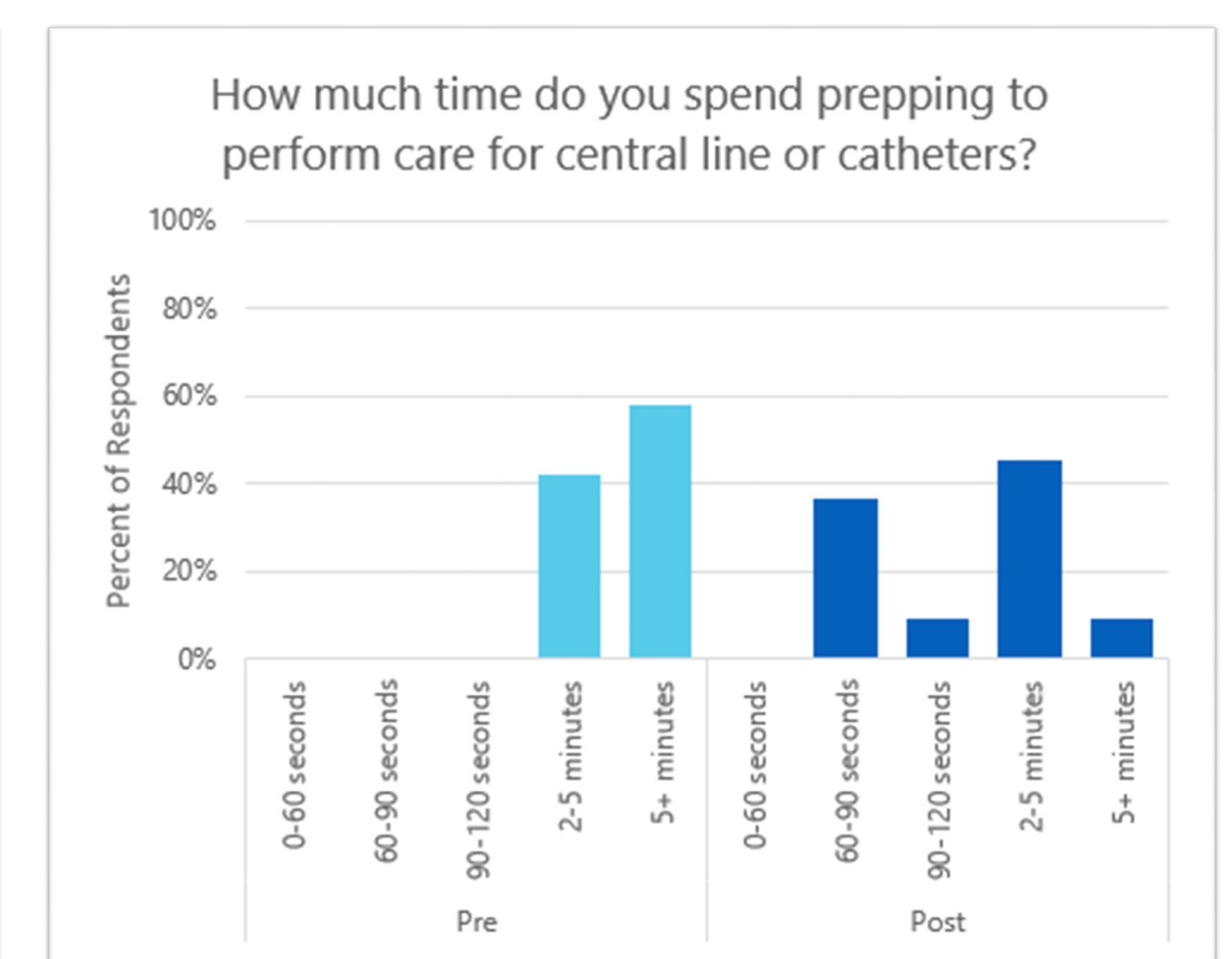
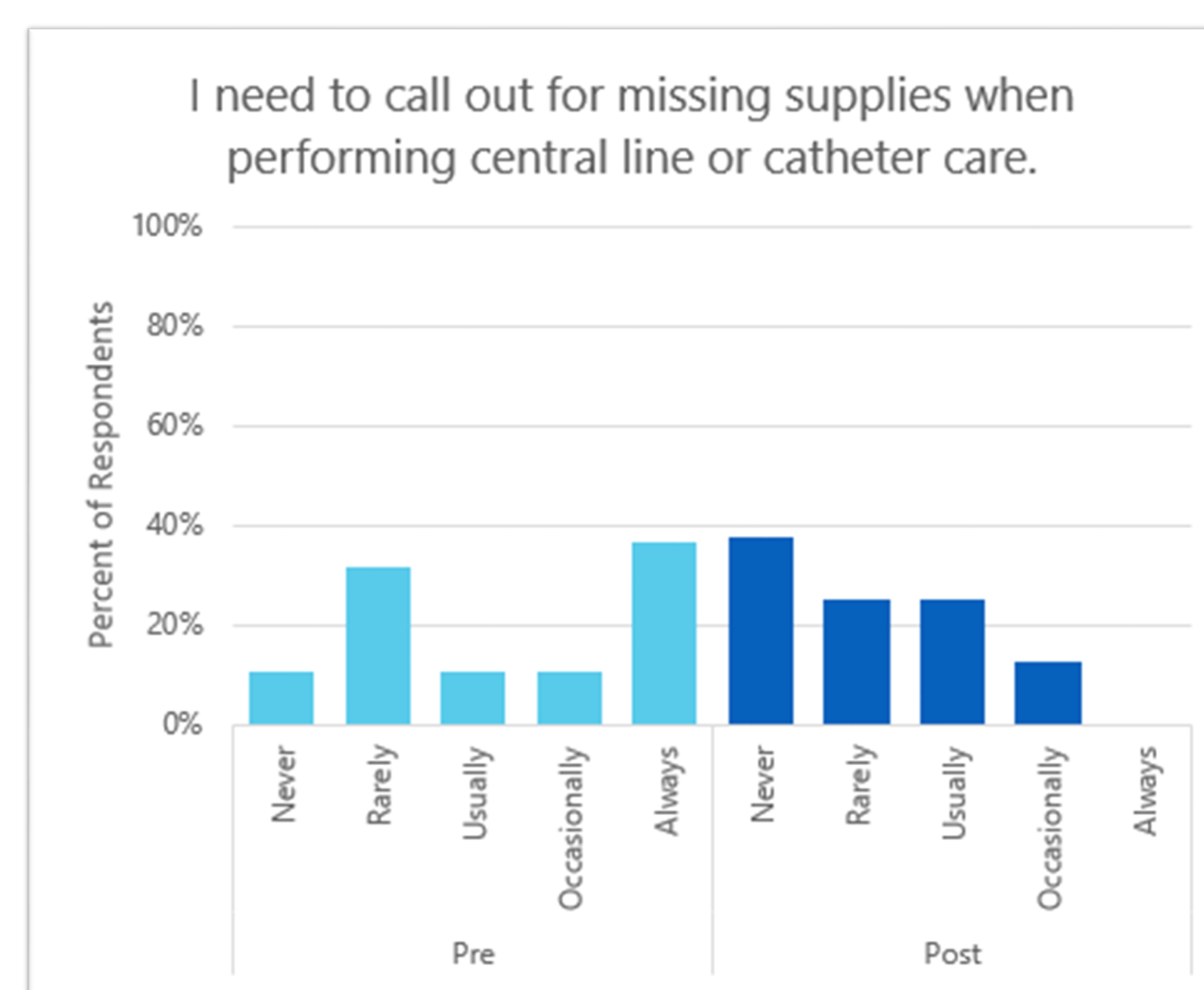


Background

- **Problem:** Nurses on a pediatric surgery/trauma unit spent excessive time gathering supplies, preparing patient education, and creating clean workspaces for central line care (cap and dressing changes).
- **Impact:** Missing supplies required nurses to call for assistance, prolonging procedures and risking disruption of the sterile field, increasing infection risk. Additionally, patient and family education handouts were sometimes omitted due to time constraints.
- **Aim:** Reduce preparation time for central line care, decrease need to retrieve forgotten supplies, and improve consistent distribution of patient education materials.

Results

The quality cart was associated with decreased missing supplies, decreased task preparation time, and increased patient education distribution.



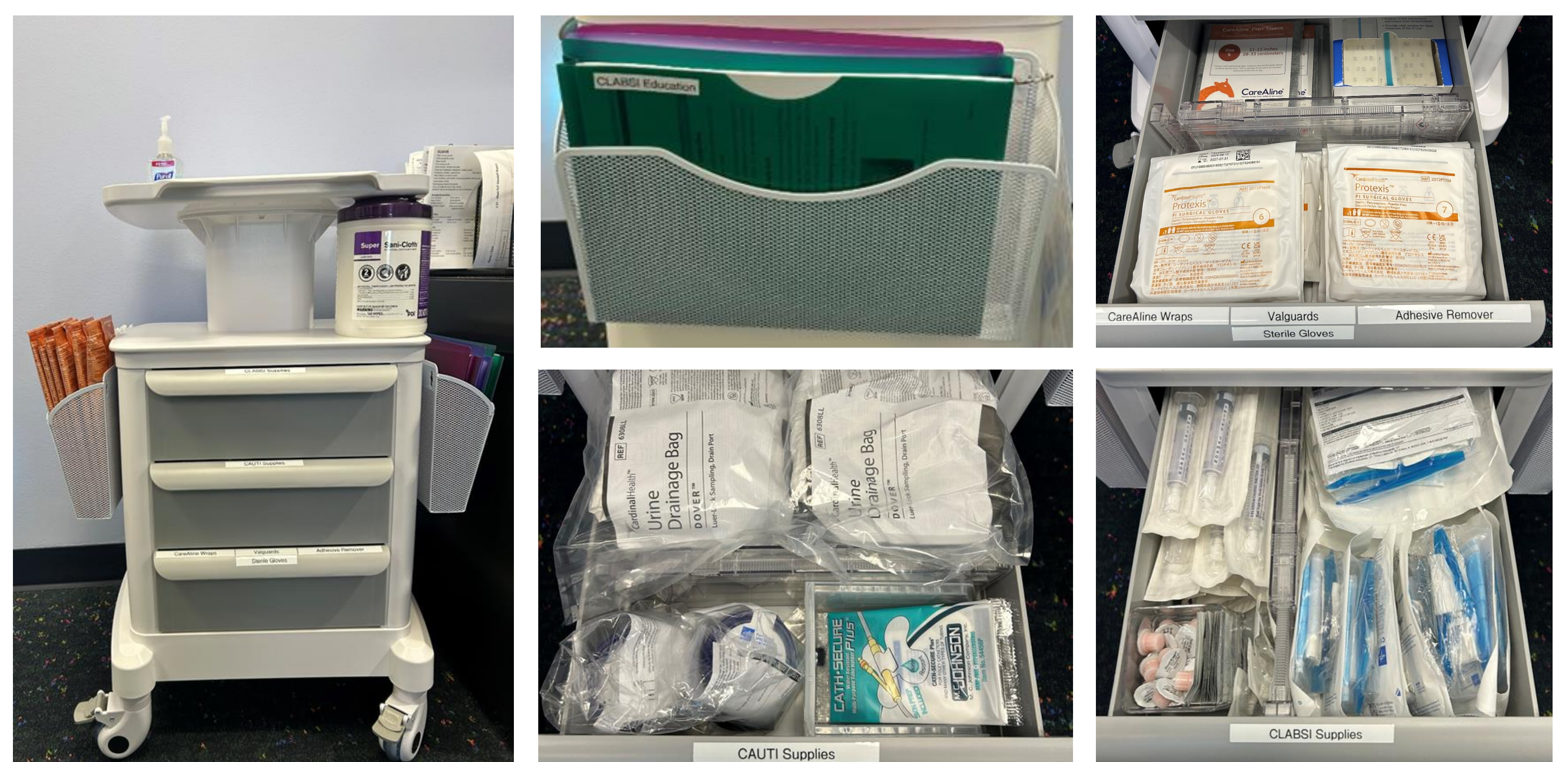
Methods

The Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) method was used:

- P A frontline nurse advocated for a quality cart containing all necessary supplies with a dedicated sterile field surface.
- D A quality cart was created and included central line supplies, infection prevention materials, patient education handouts, and evidence-based care instructions. Staff education was distributed through email, staff meetings, and leadership rounding.
- S Outcome measures, collected using a 5-point Likert scale, included preparation time, frequency of forgotten items, and increased distribution of patient education handouts.
- A A second quality cart was purchased to allow multiple nurses to utilize the standardized resources concurrently.

Staff Feedback:

- "I absolutely love the new quality carts!"
- "Having a fully stocked cart makes the workflow seamless."
- "I think the cart has been very useful."
- "Can we add a stop sign to place outside the room during sterile procedures to prompt visitors to pause."
- "In the future, can we get an extra cart that can move up and down to adjust for tall or short users?"
- "I'm so happy we have infection prevention supplies available in the cart."

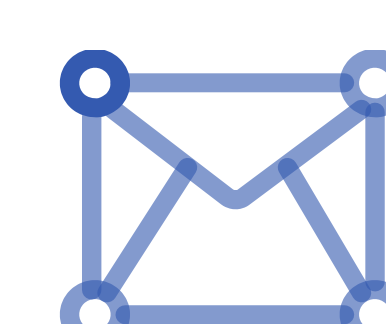


Conclusions

By streamlining processes and providing resources to support quality care, nurse leaders promote best practices, reduce drift, enhance patient safety, support staff efficiency, and ensure consistent patient education in a complex healthcare environment.

References

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