

Worksheet for Procurement IPE Activity

SPECIMEN TRANSPORT DELAY

Within the Mr. Johnson case, there was an issue concerning the procurement process. This issue was **specimen transport delay**. The sample was temporarily misplaced and sent to the lab 3 hours after the procurement. Within your team, work on the following questions. Aim to have all voices heard in order to determine the best course of action.

Questions	Answers
<p>How do specimen transport delays impact sample integrity and patient care?</p>	
<p>What are some common reasons for delays in specimen transport within a healthcare facility?</p>	
<p>In what ways can interdisciplinary collaboration between nursing and lab teams be improved to minimize specimen transport delays?</p>	
<p>On the following scale, please indicate what level of controllability is this misstep? In other words, can the misstep be avoided?</p>	
<p>Controllable Uncontrollable</p>	
1	2
3	4
5	6
7	8
9	10

PROLONGED TOURNIQUET USE

Within the Mr. Johnson case, there was an issue concerning the procurement process. The patient’s veins were very difficult to find and the **tourniquet had been applied for a long period of time** (more than 1 min). Results for several of the analytes were elevated not consistent with the clinical picture. Within your team work on the following questions. Aim to have all voices heard in order to determine the best course of action.

Questions	Answers																				
<p>What is the greatest risk to both the patient and the sample when the tourniquet is left on the patient?</p>																					
<p>What is the recommended amount of time for the tourniquet to be in place for blood procurement?</p>																					
<p>On the following scale, please indicate what level of controllability is this misstep? In other words, can the misstep be avoided?</p>																					
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IMPROPER ORDER OF DRAW

You receive a call from the lab reporting critically high potassium and critically low calcium for your patient. This doesn't make sense to you, the nurse, since there has been no significant clinical change in the patient. The lab suggests that the **order of draw** was not respected and that the sample is probably contaminated. You have to redraw the patient's blood.

Questions	Answers
What is the approved order of draw for specimen collection, and why is it significant in preventing contamination?	
Can you explain the consequences in the laboratory when samples are collected out of order?	
On the following scale, please indicate what level of controllability is this misstep? In other words, can the misstep be avoided?	
Controllable	Uncontrollable
1	2
3	4
5	6
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9	10

MISLABELED/PATIENT IDENTIFICATION

You get a call from the lab telling you that the specimens they received were likely **mislabeled** since there was a significant difference in all the results compared to previous results that cannot be explained by normal biological variations. The lab suggests that to be on the safe side, samples should be redrawn.

Questions	Answers								
<p>What challenges do nurses encounter when labeling specimens that may contribute to mislabeled samples?</p>									
<p>What steps can be put in place to ensure positive patient/specimen identification?</p>									
<p>On the following scale, please indicate what level of controllability is this misstep? In other words, can the misstep be avoided?</p> <p>Controllable Uncontrollable</p>									
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SAMPLE CLOTTED

The CBC sample for your patient was cancelled due to **clotting**. As the nurse who drew the patient's blood, you are convinced that there was no clot and frustrated that you must now redraw the sample, unsure if the lab is going to cancel it again.

Questions	Answers								
What is sample clotting, and why is it a concern in laboratory testing?									
What are the common reasons for sample clotting during blood collection and processing?									
What are the best practices for preventing sample clotting during venipuncture and sample handling?									
On the following scale, please indicate what level of controllability is this misstep? In other words, can the misstep be avoided? Controllable Uncontrollable									
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WORKFLOW AND TIME PRESSURES

To promote a culture of respect, it is crucial that we gain insight into the different **workflow challenges and time constraints** encountered in each of our respective fields on a daily basis. This understanding can shed light on circumstances that may contribute to the occurrence of errors. Within your team, work on the following questions. Aim to have all voices heard in order to determine the best course of action.

Questions	Answers								
<p>Identify and discuss factors that contribute to workflow and time pressures. For example, staffing levels, patient acuity, and so on.</p>									
<p>How can workflow and time pressures affect patient outcomes in specimen procurement?</p>									
<p>On the following scale, please indicate what level of controllability is this misstep? In other words, can the misstep be avoided?</p> <p>Controllable Uncontrollable</p>									
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DELAYED RESULTS / FAILURE TO FOLLOW UP ON RESULTS

Within the Mr. Johnson case, there was an issue concerning the procurement process. The results for the blood test are **significantly delayed** and nursing staff is growing increasingly frustrated as it impedes care. When you call to follow up, you learn that many of the results were critical. Within your team, work on the following questions. Aim to have all voices heard in order to determine the best course of action.

Questions	Answers								
<p>What are the most common reasons for delays in lab testing and result reporting?</p>									
<p>What are the procedures for reporting critical values in the lab, and how can nurses expedite the notification process?</p>									
<p>How can we improve communication between nursing and the lab regarding the importance of timely results?</p>									
<p>On the following scale, please indicate what level of controllability is this misstep? In other words, can the misstep be avoided?</p> <p>Controllable Uncontrollable</p>									
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HEMOLYSIS

You receive a call from the laboratory stating that your patient's potassium tests were cancelled due to gross **hemolysis**. The patient's sample must now be redrawn.

Questions	Answers								
What is hemolysis, and why is it significant in laboratory testing?									
What are some of the common causes of hemolysis in collected specimens?									
To nurses: After discussing the common causes, what steps in your procedure do you feel need some adjustment?									
On the following scale, please indicate what level of controllability is this misstep? In other words, can the misstep be avoided? Controllable Uncontrollable									
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QUANTITY NOT SUFFICIENT (QNS)

The lab has informed you that your specimen must be cancelled due to **inadequate sample volume**.

Questions	Answers								
Why is it so crucial for specimen tubes to be adequately filled? Doesn't the lab only need a few drops?									
What barriers or factors exist in a nurse's daily work that would affect their ability to collect sufficiently filled specimens?									
Are there any tests that are particularly susceptible to false results due to underfilling?									
On the following scale, please indicate what level of controllability is this misstep? In other words, can the misstep be avoided? Controllable Uncontrollable									
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LOST SAMPLES

The Nurse calls the lab asking for the patient's results. The lab says that the **samples were never received**. The Nurse becomes angry, accusing the lab of losing samples yet again.

Questions	Answers								
What are some of the most common causes for losing samples?									
What can both nursing and labs do to ensure samples do not get lost?									
On the following scale, please indicate what level of controllability is this misstep? In other words, can the misstep be avoided? Controllable Uncontrollable									
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