

## Family Presence During Resuscitation Physician Perspective



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## Family Presence During Resuscitation Definition

- Family Presence : The physical presence of a family member in the Resuscitation Room before the end of CPR / secondary survey / invasive procedures
  - Trauma resuscitation
  - Medical resuscitation
  - Invasive procedures

## Family Presence During Resuscitation History

- 1982, Foote Hospital, Jackson, Michigan
- 2 separate incidents, family demanded to be present
- Positive feedback from family and staff
- FPDR program initiated at Foote Hospital
- Late 80s-90s, research increases , mostly surveys

## Family Presence During Resuscitation

- American Heart Association Guidelines, 2000
  - "...offering select family members the opportunity to be present during a resuscitation seems reasonable and desirable...
  - "Resuscitation team members should be sensitive to the presence of family members during resuscitative , assigning a team member to the family to answer questions, clarify information..."

## Family Presence During Trauma Resuscitation: A Survey of AAST and ENA Members

Journal of TRAUMA Injury, Infection, and Critical Care, Volume 48(5), June 2000.

- 1629 returned 18-question surveys
- Who believed that FP during all phases of trauma resuscitation was inappropriate?
  - 98% of AAST members
  - 80% of ENA members
- Who thought the experience was beneficial?
  - 18% of AAST members
  - 64% of ENA members

Conclusion: Implementation of a FP policy may create conflicts, ineffective trauma team.

## Family Presence During Trauma Resuscitation Perceived Risks

- Space at bedside insufficient
- Patient privacy may be violated
- Increased stress on staff
- Increased performance anxiety
- Risk of litigation will be increased
- Family will interfere with care
- Event too traumatic for family
- Discontinuing resuscitation difficult
- Family member syncope

## Family Presence During Pediatric Resuscitation

- Policy Statement (2006):
  - American College of Emergency Physicians
  - American Academy of Pediatrics

“The option of FAMILY MEMBER PRESENCE should be encouraged for all aspects of (pediatric) ED care.”

## The Effect of Family Presence on the Efficiency of Pediatric Trauma Resuscitations

Annals of Emergency Medicine, Volume 53(6), June 2009

- Prospective trial involving 705 patients
- Primary outcome measures
  - Time from arrival to CT scan
  - Time from arrival to resuscitation completion
- Family presence offered on EVEN days
- No family presence offered on ODD days
- No clinically relevant difference in CT or resuscitation time

Conclusion: Family presence does not negatively affect the time efficiency of the pediatric trauma resuscitation.

## Family Presence During Trauma Resuscitation: Ready for Primetime?

Journal of TRAUMA Injury, Infection, and Critical Care, Volume 69(5), November 2010

- Single-center, prospective study at Level 1 trauma center
- Data collected over 5 month period from 50 family members
- 25 family members present:
  - 18/25 commented positively; 0/25 commented negatively
- 25 family members NOT present:
  - 12/25 commented regarding desire to be present
  - 1/25 stated that they would not have wanted to be present

Conclusion: FP not too traumatic for family members, quality of care maintained.

## Family Presence During Trauma Resuscitation: Perceived Benefits

- Family provides information or act as spokespersons
- Provides opportunity to educate family on patient's condition
- Encourages professional behavior
- Provides a sense of reality to treatment efforts and clinical status of patient
- Provides a sense of closure
- “Everything possible was done”

## Family Presence During Resuscitation

Where do we go from here?

