

Nurse Led Collaboration and Innovation: Creating Standardized Care for Same Day Joint Arthroplasty Patients

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Background

- A paradigm shift in care of patients undergoing joint arthroplasty has led to the need for enhanced recovery programs that allow for same day discharge of selected patients.

Problem

- After launching a successful same day joint (SDJ) replacement program, orthopedic surgical teams were requesting to have a group of dedicated perianesthesia nurses to provide care for the SDJ patients.
- It was identified that there was a lack of standardized practice and resources available for nurses to facilitate a safe and efficient discharge home for patients.

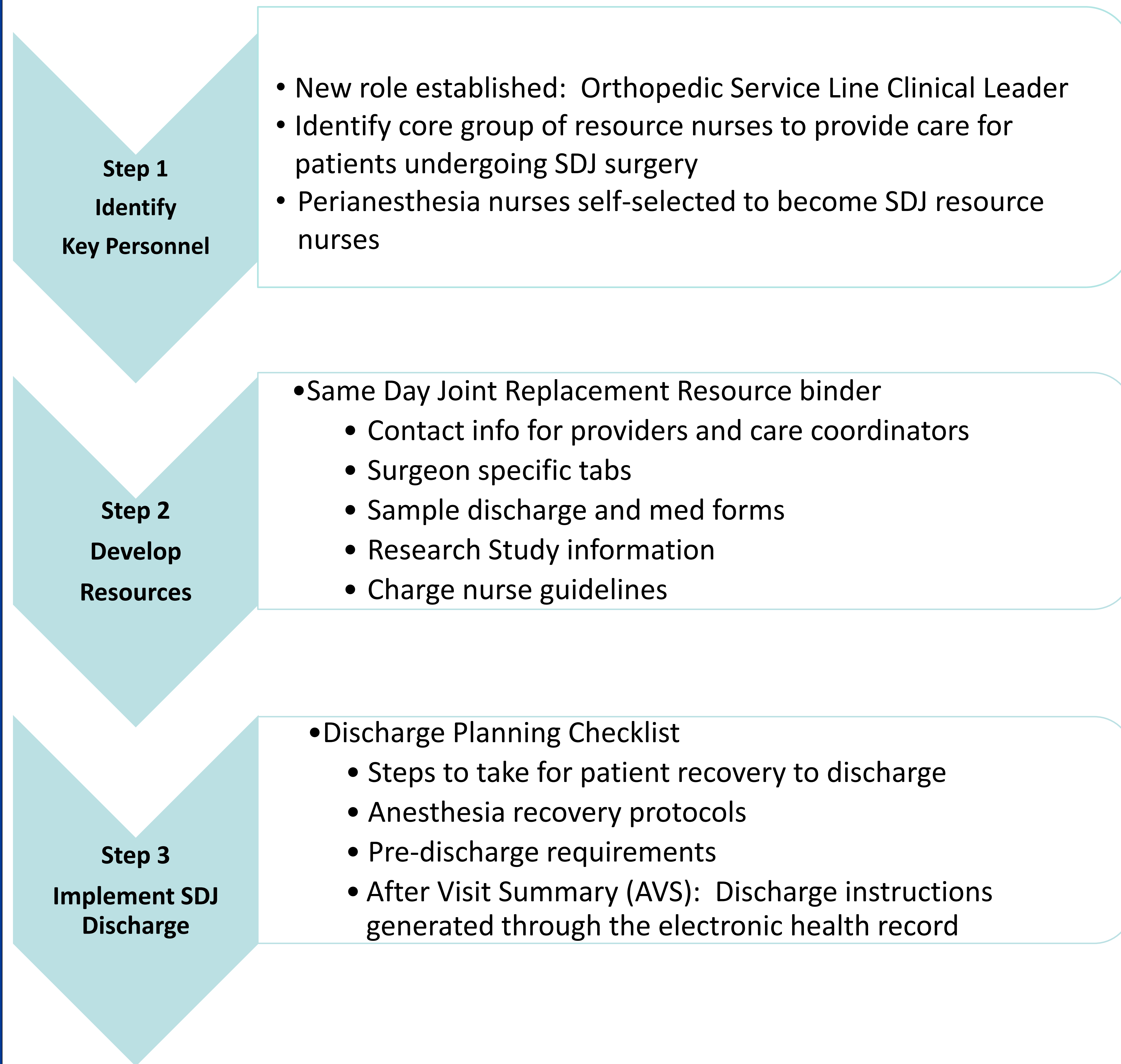
Setting

- 171-bed Magnet® designated community teaching hospital partner of Brigham and Women's Hospital located in Boston, MA
- Member of the Mass General Brigham integrated healthcare system
- FY21:
 - 18,499 surgeries; 357 SDJ surgeries

Project Objective

- To develop and implement a revised process for patients undergoing SDJ to ensure a safe discharge home.

Process



Step 1
Identify
Key Personnel

- New role established: Orthopedic Service Line Clinical Leader
- Identify core group of resource nurses to provide care for patients undergoing SDJ surgery
- Perianesthesia nurses self-selected to become SDJ resource nurses

Step 2
Develop
Resources

- Same Day Joint Replacement Resource binder
 - Contact info for providers and care coordinators
 - Surgeon specific tabs
 - Sample discharge and med forms
 - Research Study information
 - Charge nurse guidelines

Step 3
Implement SDJ
Discharge

- Discharge Planning Checklist
 - Steps to take for patient recovery to discharge
 - Anesthesia recovery protocols
 - Pre-discharge requirements
 - After Visit Summary (AVS): Discharge instructions generated through the electronic health record

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Statement of Successful Practice

- With the implementation of core resource nurses, a resource binder and checklists, the PACU staff have been able to standardize care and identify any deviation from the pathway that might impede a successful discharge home.
- Anecdotal feedback from perianesthesia nurses indicates that they feel more confident in caring for SDJ patients and preparing them for discharge since the addition of these standardized resources.
- Providers from the orthopedic teams have reported fewer phone calls to clarify post-op orders and instructions as well as more successful discharges.

Implications

- Perianesthesia nurses are collaborative and innovative in creating and designing systems and processes to safely care for and discharge patients home.

Next Steps

- Collaborate with Orthopedic Service Line to create standardized orders and discharge instructions for all same day joints replacement patients.