

Taking the Confusion Out of Transfusions



Impact on the Critically Ill Patient



- Blood administration is one of the most commonly performed procedures in the US
- New Joint Commission "Performance Blood Management Measures" address safety related to blood management
- Process improvements and education for staff, patients, and families impacts the critically ill patients in any setting

Purpose

The purpose of the 2013 Nursing Case Reviews was to:

- explore the challenges inherent in the delivery of blood products to patients.
- identify opportunities to improve nursing practice related to transfusion therapy.

Initial Case Review: "Transfusion Confusion"



February 2013:

Eight staff nurses conduct a peer review of safety reports related to blood transfusion errors

March 2013:

Audit results presented during a two hour "Nursing Case Review":

- Direct care staff discussed three significant cases and identified process gaps
- 53 RN participants at case review confirmed current findings
- Ten specific areas of concern were identified to address patient safety
- Current principles of blood management and education regarding best practice for blood transfusions were provided

Follow Up

April – September 2013

- Small interdisciplinary task force worked collaboratively to find solutions to identified process gaps

May 2013

- Follow up "Nursing Case Review" held to share planned process improvements with nursing staff

September 2013

- Final resolutions completed for nine of the ten identified gaps in the process of blood transfusion administration



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Key Outcomes

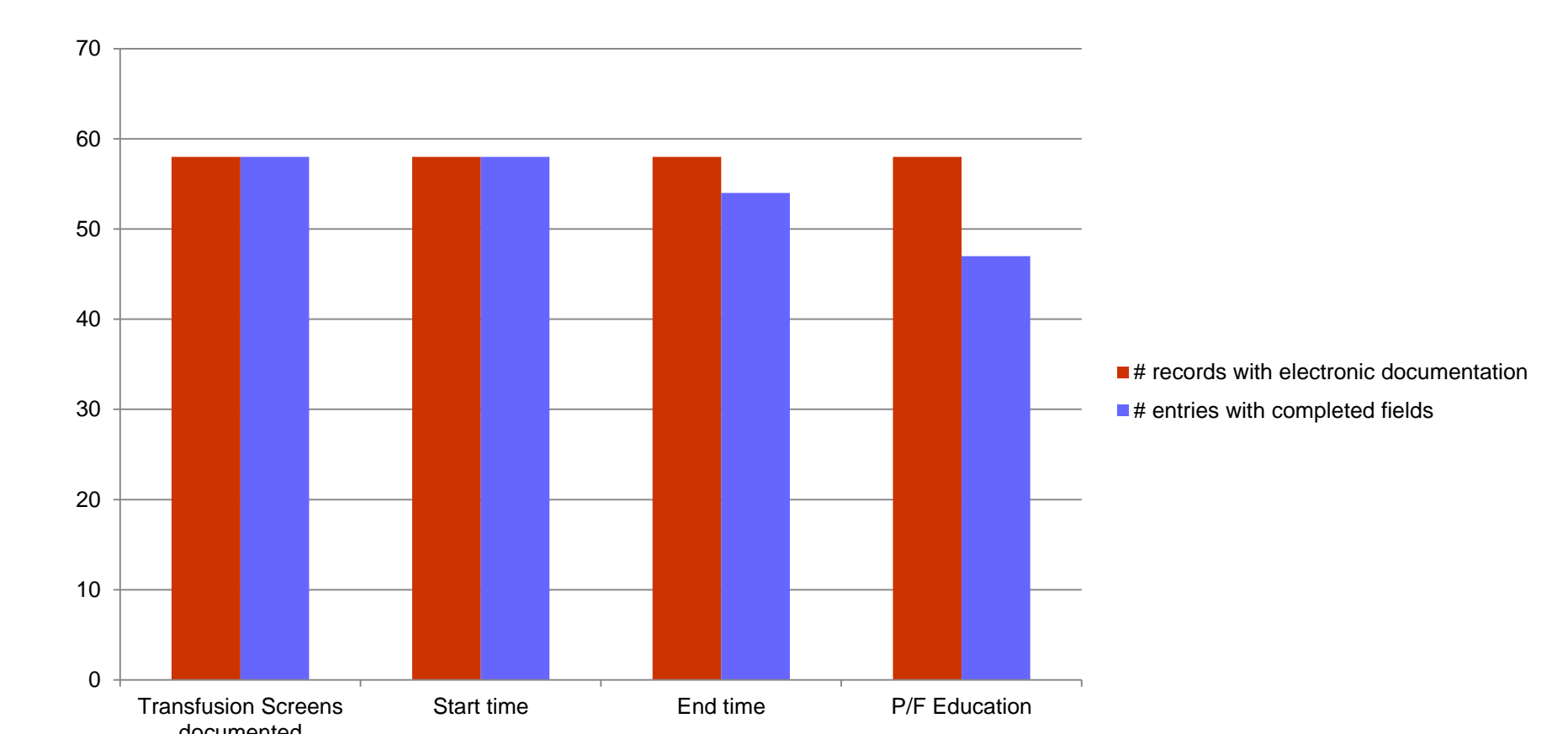
Nursing Education:

- Two separate *HealthStream* web based educational competencies developed
 - Administration of Blood Products
 - Blood Transfusion Reactions
- 90% compliance to educational requirement within one month

Policies and Procedures:

- Extensive review and updates to two existing policies
- All policy revisions addressed current standards of The Joint Commission and the AABB
- New "Guiding Principles" were added to the administration policy to address best practice for blood management
- New "Transfusion Therapy" electronic resource folder on Faulkner 411 web site

Electronic Documentation: Three months post implementation: 66% of records had electronic documentation.



Next Steps: Additional follow up will continue focusing on annual educational competencies, electronic documentation and issues related to compliance.