Don't Let PICU UP! Get You Down

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Introduction/Background

The early mobilization of intensive care unit patients has contributed to fewer ventilator days, decreased delirium and led to more patients classified as independently functional at the time of discharge [1]. Implementing early mobility interventions in pediatric patients presents additional challenges related to variation in functional status and clinicians' awareness of safe activities and interventions. PICU UP! is an intensive care unit (ICU) early mobility program developed by Johns Hopkins Children's Center. This tool is traditionally used in a paper format. This quality improvement initiative includes a tiered activity plan based on multiple patient-specific clinical factors [2].

Methods

In rolling out PICU UP! at our organization, we strategized to transform this paper tool into a part of our EHR. The tool is in the development phase and will be added to the EHR using unique data elements, single select nomenclature, conditional logic and interpretation tools (Figure 1). The full PICU UP! reference document will also be added as reference text linked to the data element that denotes the PICU UP! prescribed activity level, leading users to specific interventions. Semi-structured interviews will be conducted with end-users when the tool is live regarding the tool's operation, the user's experience and patient care interventions implemented after the electronic assessment.

Figure 1: Electronic PICU UP! Tool

Results

The clinical decision support in the tool's design will support end users in assessing patients to determine a decisive level. Results from this work include the EHR tool and qualitative nurse reviews of the tool's functionality.

Discussion/Conclusion

Adding the PICU UP! tool to our EHR will allow for the seamless input of patient data, ensuring a single source of information for clinicians looking for the data output. The electronic PICU UP! tool is structured, captured in real time and allows for electronic data collection. We anticipate that including this tool in the EHR will promote real-time assessment and allow nurses to implement interventions efficiently and effectively.

References

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