

## Showing caring behind the scene

How the operating room nurse implements caring to the unconscious patient

Haider Mohtaseb Mukassed Hospital Jerusalem

Background- OR nurses have to be very creative in order to show how much they care for their patients. The surgical patients they meet are mostly unconscious and are not aware of all the caring and considerate practices the nurses perform. The OR nurse's caring is subtle and they do not receive feedback to evaluate if their kind measures are effective or not. They must be diligent and strong and never decrease their determination to keep high standards of caring measures.

Method- this presentation will discuss and elaborate the extensive caring practices that OR nurses perform in their daily works which promote their caring towards patients undergoing surgery. Daily practices like environmental control- appropriate temperature of the room to avoid hypothermia because patients cannot tell us they are cold and in addition hypothermia causes many adverse events like acidosis and clotting abnormalities. Another practice is Positioning- assuring that there are no pressure areas lifting the head, arms, legs- putting gel bands and silicone pillows in every vulnerable spot. A further measure is providing special attention when applying diathermia plate in order to prevent fire, pain, and burns. Considerable awareness is applied regarding sterility when opening kits and equipment in the most evidenced based fashion to assure preventative infection complication measures. Specific caring measure which I personally practice are being proactive when anxious family members of patients undergoing surgery ask me questions and need reassurance. I believe that an OR nurse should care for the family of the unconscious operated patient as well as the patient himself.

Conclusion When nurses treat unconscious patients, they should never reduce their diligence and determination in providing the highest standard of caring practices. This talk will offer tips to all nurses showing caring behaviors in a complex environment.

1-

2-

3- Sometime the nurses has to remind the physician of current sterile measures- our job in protecting the patients from the physicians

4- In our hospital there is no designated area for families to wait – but I take it upon myself to communicate with the family- I always make an effort to contact families and let them know yesterday a woman was looking for her husband having

thyroidectomy at 17:00 who entered the OR at 11:00. She met me and asked me "what is going on with my husband I am worried" I looked for her husband and returned to tell her that the surgeons need another hour. She was very grateful and told me that she had asked many people to help her and no one answered her I was the first person who helped her

5-