Improving Perioperative Nursing Practices in Hong Kong: An Innovative Project

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Introduction
Healthcare is a global concern among both developing and developed countries and nursing is a global profession as evidenced by the flow of healthcare professionals across international boundaries. Healthcare is becoming increasingly specialized. As Healthcare spending continues to rise, innovation is much needed and international collaboration is becoming a necessity. Healthcare leaders from different countries are looking to the US for the latest innovations in models of care, new products and new approaches to improve health outcomes.

Objectives
The aims of this project are: 1). To provide Hong Kong Hospital Authority visiting scholars an understanding of advancements in perioperative nursing in the US; 2). to include observation of how advances are being implemented in the hospital setting.

Methodology
The visiting scholars were provided classroom instructions and observational opportunities. The program contents included an array of healthcare practices and technologies that drive quality and safety of care. This project highlighted best practices in the perioperative areas at UCSD Health System. On completion, scholars returned to HA with a list of recommendations based on observation. Two months after the conclusion of the program exchange, the host organization sent a survey via Survey Monkey to enquire about application of learning.

Result
All six scholars in different HA affiliated institutions responded to the survey: Two scholars implemented patient and family centered care in PACU; two scholars implemented a nurse led discharge program; two scholars reported improve
standardization of perioperative policies. Future plans include implementation of open visitation in pediatric PACU, electronic documentation of nursing procedures and nurse led discharge programs. Healthcare managers, clinical and nursing leaders of the host institution benefited from gaining a broader and deeper understanding of cross-cultural nursing.