

Introduction

Nurses experience additional challenges when care partner visitation is limited. We do not currently know the best practices to address this problem.

Practice Question

What are best practices to reduce undue burden on nurses related to limited care partner visitation in the hospital setting?

Search Strategy

The JHH EBP Model was utilized for this review. The team queried PubMed, Embase, PsycINFO and CINAHL for English-language articles published between 2017 and 2022 that answered the EBP question. Articles were included from adult and pediatric inpatient settings.

Level and Quality of Included Evidence



The search yielded 994 unique articles. The team completed a title and abstract screening, full text review, and final appraisal. Of the synthesized articles, 10 were Level III quality-A/B evidence and 5 were Level V-A/B evidence.



Synthesis

Evidence supports up-to-date and consistent visiting policies, communication planning, staff support and training, and creation of a family liaison role as strategies to reduce nurse burden during periods of limited visitation

Recommendations for Translation into Practice

- Develop a workgroup to evaluate and manage existing visitor policies
- Standardize communication plans for updating care partners in periods of limited visitation
- Provide nurses with communication skills and resilience training
- Evaluate feasibility of a liaison role to support patients, families, and staff