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SCOAP Community Speaks Up Advanced Pain Control

Surgeons at Sacred Heart in Spokane have asked "Is pain control getting in the way of recovery?"

Over the last five years, SCOAP has collected data to signal hospitals about their use of advanced pain control. SCOAP recognizes that effective pain control reduces complications, decreases length of stay and improves patient comfort, satisfaction and outcome. [Read more...](#)

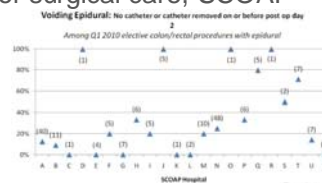
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SCOAP Making a Difference: Voiding Epidurals

In trying to improve the quality of surgical care, SCOAP has been focusing on the use of advanced pain control technology (epidural catheters). When epidurals are not in the proper position, they can limit a patient's functional recovery. Tracking on the use of "voiding" epidurals - the percentage of patients with an epidural who are voiding spontaneously on day 2 - is an effective way to improve the quality of epidural catheter use (figure - [click here](#) to view). The vast majority of SCOAP hospitals had fewer than 40% of their patients who met this criteria, indicating that there is much work to be done in SCOAP around this issue. This month's SCOAP Community Speaks Up article ([click here](#) to view) outlines work being done in SCOAP to track and feedback best practices on this and other advanced pain control issues.



SCOAP Post-Discharge Module

SCOAP is extending the window of post-surgery surveillance through the implementation of a new automated post-discharge module. This module tracks on post-discharge occurrences including respiratory, urinary, CNS, cardiac, bleeding and infection, as well as patient-reported outcomes such as pain related to incision site, nausea, vomiting, and satisfaction related to cosmesis and surgical experience. The post-discharge surveillance will integrate with any inpatient SCOAP module by triggering web, phone, mail, or text follow-up of patients. This will be particularly valuable when paired with the developing ambulatory SCOAP module. By expanding the window of

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outcomes surveillance beyond the inpatient period, hospitals gain better insight into variation of outcomes, patient satisfaction and influence of at-home care. By making this an automated function, SCOAP is decreasing data abstractor burden. For more information or to participate in this module, [contact Rosa Johnson](#).

About Us

SCOAP is the future of surgical quality improvement. It is a physician-led, voluntary collaborative creating an aviation-like surveillance and response system for surgical quality. SCOAP's goal is to improve quality by reducing variation in process of care and outcomes at every hospital in the region.



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