**Safety Performance Improvement/Change Theory**

**Group Project**

**NUR 490W Nursing Leadership**

**Purpose of Assignment**

To identify a safety issue within a health care organization that needs to change to promote better delivery of patient care; to demonstrate an ability to collaboratively problem-solve in an interdisciplinary environment while working towards resolution of a common problem.

**Student Approach to Assignment**

This group assignment worked towards improving patient safety and enhance safe practices among healthcare workers. Together, we identified hospital acquired infections (HAIs) to be a consistent concern in any acute care settings. We recognized the detrimental effects of improper handwashing and how it is the number one reason for HAIs. As nurses, we are aware of the interventions that are in place to prevent the spread of HAIs and yet this is still a major problem. However, there can be improvements in the prevention of HAIs through education. This includes regular in-service training, and handwashing check offs, staff members holding one another accountable for not washing hand and patients holding physicians and nurses accountable using the “high five” method.

**Reason for Inclusion of this Assignment in the Portfolio**

This group assignment was included in the portfolio because it highlights efficient teamwork and working together to problem solve with recent quality research and evidence-based practices. We were able to designate a team leader, divide the responsibilities, gather pertinent information, conduct interventions, and evaluate the changes into practice to decrease the spread of HAIs. This assignment shows the attention to details in patient care and the ability to work in a group setting.

**Curriculum Outcomes**

**Teaching**

* ***Evaluates the efficacy of health promotion and education modalities.*** This group project evaluates the efficacy of health promotion and education modalities because the topic chosen was and currently is a problem that acute care facilities deal with. HAIs cost the hospitals more money and the prevention is as simple as handwashing before and after contact with each patient. A theory was utilized with this project as we realize number one reason people forget to do the basic things is because of change. We as a group realized that change is hard because people are set in their ways. Even now with a pandemic handwashing or the use of hand sanitizer is not as prevalent as it should be not only in acute care settings, but in any setting. Working in a group about this topic allowed each of us to explore our own thoughts, beliefs and practices with reducing the spread of HAIs.

**Research**

* ***Applies research-based knowledge from the arts, humanities, and sciences to complement nursing practice.*** There was a lot of research in many areas of the assignment. This included researching the problem of spreading HAIs, causes, prevention. We recognized that there would be supporters and opposers to what we proposed as ways to decrease the spread of HAIs. We had to understand everyone’s role in assisting in finding a solution to this problem. Research was used from several evidence-based sources to include the Joint Commission, the Journal for Nurses in Professional Development, and other credible peer-reviewed sources to develop our teaching plans.