NR 361 Week 2 Discussion: Experiences with Healthcare Information Systems

This week's graded discussion topic relates to the following Course Outcomes (CO).

- CO3: Define standardized terminology that reflects nursing's unique contribution to patient outcomes. (PO #3)

- CO4: Investigate safeguards and decision-making support tools embedded in patientcare technologies and information systems to support a safe practice environment for both…

Share your experiences with healthcare information systems, past or present. Has it been an easy transition or difficult? Why do you believe your experience has been positive or negative? If you are currently not working in a healthcare setting, how has the medical record exposure in nursing school impacted your current knowledge?

Answer:

My experience allowed me access to several healthcare information systems from EMR, EKG, onsite lab testing devices. There are many moments these items work effectively well and of course other times they do not. We have moved forward in technology from paper charts to EMR, this was helpful to better understand the simple things like staff handwriting. EKG devices went from manual entry and visual interpretation to digital upload and with possible outcome results on the report. One of the best upgrades in information technologies that have been a great help for it has allowed us to find out results asap regarding certain lab criteria to allow immediate treatment of care. Having immediate access to test results has resulted in good outcomes for example clients heading into surgery we need to know the simplest lab result of H&H and type and cross. I have received results with a H&H and showed server anemia that it was unsafe for clients to have elective surgery and have been postpone. The other result for type and cross assist when we have served blood loss in surgery, we can transfusion and knowing a patient blood type & cross allows for the correct blood to be administered to save a life.

With all the advancement in technology of healthcare informatics there needs to be standardized terminology & safeguards in place. EHR can collect and store this information which can be used to improve quality and safety of care as well as identify best practices vs areas in need of