Abstract

Many aspects of perinatal nursing put nurses at risk for injuries, including frequent repetitive bending, lifting of clients, and exposure to potentially large amounts of body fluids such as blood and amniotic fluid. Violence is also a potential risk with stressful family situations that may arise around childbirth. Workplace injuries put a health care facility at risk for staff turnover, decreases in the number of skilled nurses, client dissatisfaction, workers’ compensation payouts, and employee lawsuits. Through the use of safety equipment, improved safety and violence training programs, “no manual lift” policies, reinforcement of personal protective equipment usage, and diligent staff training to improve awareness, these risks can be minimized. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.nwh.2015.12.003

Keywords

perinatal nursing | safety | violence | workplace injuries
Priority #1 Safety

Laura Harold, MSN, BS, APRN, FNP-C, is an instructor; Helen Hurst, DNP, RNC-OB, APRN-CNM, is an associate professor and graduate coordinator; both authors are at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in Lafayette, LA. The authors report no conflicts of interest or relevant financial relationships. Address correspondence to: lbh2231@louisiana.edu.

Consumers. Workplace injuries resulting in compensation claims are expensive, with hospitals paying approximately $0.74 per $100 for injury claims, for an average facility loss of $7,770 per claim (Aon Risk Solutions, 2014). The total cost to a health care organization to replace a nurse after an injury is estimated to be $25,450 to $38,280 (Morgan & Chow, 2007).

A nurse who sustains an injury may endure acute and chronic pain, temporary or permanent disability, loss of income, loss of mobility, emotional stress, job dissatisfaction, and decreased quality of life. Some employees never file claims but continue to work with unreported injuries and chronic pain, often resulting in major career changes or a decision to change within the field of nursing.

Employers bear the burden of costs related to staffing changes, overtime pay of current nurses, training of new nurses, loss of productivity, increased use of sick time and call-ins, workers’ compensation filing, and employee lawsuits. The cost to train a perinatal nurse is generally thought to be expensive because of the additional training time for specialty skills beyond typical medical–surgical care, such as fetal heart monitoring. Turnover of nurses in a specialty field is estimated to cost $64,000, which is more than in a nonspecialty field (Strachota, Normandin, O’Brien, Clary, & Krukow, 2003; The Advisory Board Company, 2000). Because the obstetric area is one of the areas at highest risk for potential litigation, it is vital that health care facilities retain experienced perinatal nurses to ensure patient safety and quality of care.

Issues Specific to Perinatal Nursing

Perinatal nurses may be at risk for injuries specific to their specialty nursing duties, such as moving heavy equipment including beds, infant warmers, instrument carts, and infant resuscitation equipment; transferring pregnant women (who have gained weight during pregnancy) who may be immobile from epidurals and spinals; repetitive bending over cribs; and other
دانلود مقاله

http://daneshyari.com/article/2634267

امکان دانلود نسخه تمام متن مقالات انگلیسی
امکان دانلود نسخه ترجمه شده مقالات
پذیرش سفارش ترجمه تخصصی
امکان جستجو در آرشیو جامعی از صدها موضوع و هزاران مقاله
امکان پرداخت اینترنتی با کلیه کارت های عضو شتاب
دانلود فوری مقاله پس از پرداخت آنلاین
بسته بندی کامل خرید با بهره مندی از سیستم هوشمند رهگیری سفارشات