



Using RCA and FMEA Processes for Maximum Benefit
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Summary: Demonstrations of how to complete an RCA and FMEA are shown, along with comparisons.

Nursing Implications:

- RCAs are reactive tools.
- FMEAs are proactive.
- Neither are punitive actions.
- Both provide safer processes for nurses to use.

Key Takeaways:

- Quality tools make it safer for nursing practice.
- RCA and FMEA are quality tools that are easy to use.
- RCA and FMEA have similar but different purposes.

Link: <https://library.amsn.org/amsn/sessions/5133/view>

References:

National Patient Safety Foundation. *RCA2: Improving Root Cause Analyses and Actions to Prevent Harm*. Boston, MA: National Patient Safety Foundation; 2015.

Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA) Tool, Institute for Healthcare Improvement, 2015.

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