



**Sustaining Evidence-Based Practice: Clustered Assignments –  
A New Care Delivery Model**

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**Summary:** This presentation explored one institution's development of an updated care delivery model using budgeted allocated resources to optimize patient safety, patient satisfaction, and staff engagement.

**Nursing Implications:**

- Creating a clustered assignment workflow for nurses that is geographically centric will improve patient outcomes, increase staff engagement, and can impact patient satisfaction.
- Nurses working a geographic area are closer to patients to prevent falls and increase responsiveness.

**Key Takeaways:**

- Involving staff nurse participation in the identification, planning, education, and implementation of an EBP project increases nurse engagement.
- Involving all stakeholders (nurse manager, assistant nurse manager, CNS, RN, PCA, and unit clerk) in an EBP workgroup will promote staff engagement and facilitate a successful project.
- Fall rates decrease when nursing assignments are geographically clustered to decrease the area that a nurse needs to travel while providing patient care.
- Developing a plan for EBP will help in sustaining the practice change in the ever-changing healthcare landscape.

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**References:**

Fineout-Overholt, E., Melnyk, B., Stillwell, S., & Williamson, K. (2010a). Evidence-based practice, step by step. Critical appraisal of the evidence: Part II: Digging deeper--examining the 'keeper' studies...sixth article in a series [corrected] [published erratum appears in AM J NURS 2010 Nov;110(11):12]. AJN American Journal of Nursing, 110(9), 41-48.  
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