

October 10, 2018

ICU RESEARCH Newsletter

Dear ICU Team,

We would like to thank all of the ICU units for their help in recruitment of patients and caregivers. We have completed our first research study, and we could not have done it without your partnership! We look forward to working with all of the ICU units in the future!

-ICU Research Team



Breanna Hetland, PhD, RN, CCRN-K
Assistant Professor
College of Nursing/Omaha Division
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Phone: 402-559-5460
breanna.hetland@unmc.edu

THE RESEARCH TEAM



Jen Heusinkvelt
BSN, RN



Erin Grotts
BSN, RN



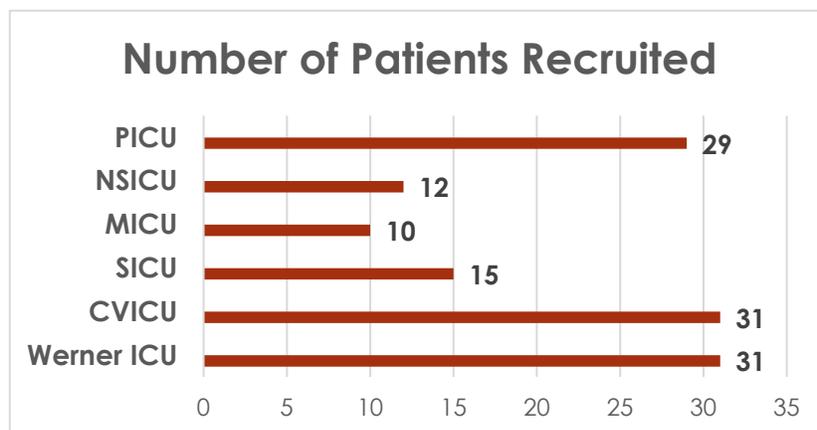
Ellie Rubenfeld
BSN, RN, CCRN

Research Project 1

Exploration of Psychophysiological Factors that Influence Caregivers' Willingness to Participate in Patient Care in the ICU.

Study Completed. We were able to enroll 128 patient/caregiver pairs to our research study. See graph for recruitment for each unit. **Congratulations to CVICU and Werner ICU who tied for the win!**

We are currently analyzing data for statistical significance. Over the next couple of months, we will start writing manuscripts to disseminate the results of the study. This study has enhanced our current understanding of the clinical and psychological variables that may influence caregivers' active involvement in hands-on care that is appropriate for caregivers to perform in the ICU.



Research Project 2

Evaluation of a Web-Based Intervention to Promote Family Caregiver Engagement in Symptom Assessment and Management during Mechanical Ventilation in the Intensive Care Unit

UPDATE on Progress: We have partnered with Omaha Media Group to develop a web-based intervention app and are currently in the development phase.



- The app features an ICU orientation, as well as teaches family caregivers how to assess their loved one for thirst and anxiety – two common symptoms experience by ventilated patients. Lastly, they will be guided to select and execute an intervention related to those symptoms.
- We will be conducting a two-year pilot study to test the feasibility and acceptability of the web-based app. For the study we will need **60 patient caregivers** from the Werner ICU. We hope to have the web-based app developed and ready to be piloted by December 2019. We will give you more information when we get closer to recruitment.

Volunteers Needed: Before conducting the study, we need your input in **FOCUS GROUPS** that will occur in November/December. We are looking for **5 adult ICU nurses** who interact with mechanically ventilated patients and their family caregivers on a weekly basis.

What's Involved: We will host 2 separate focus groups within a 6-month time frame.

- Approximately 90 minutes
- Will be audio recorded
- Gift cards are offered to participants after the completion of each focus group

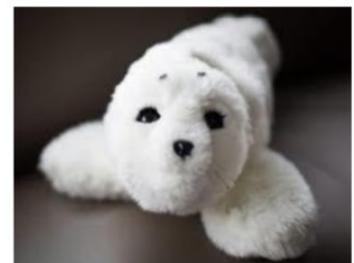
Contact Dr. Hetland at 402-559-5460 or email at breanna.hetland@unmc.edu if you are interested in volunteering.

Here is a link to the press release regarding the ICU Caregiver App:
<https://www.unmc.edu/news.cfm?match=22273>

Research Project 3

Animal Assisted Interaction with a Robot Seal During Physical and Occupational Therapy Sessions in the Pediatric ICU

UPDATE on Progress: We partnered with the infectious disease department to explore the best cleaning process for our upcoming study involving the PARO™ Robot Seal.



- The specific aims for this research study is: Examine the therapeutic effect of PARO™ Robot Seal on Pediatric patient's psychological variables (pain, anxiety), physiological variables (heart rate, blood pressure, respiratory rate, oxygen saturation), and sedative and analgesic medication requirements.
- For the study we will need **30 PICU patients** between the ages of 5-18 who are receiving physical or occupational therapy. We hope to start recruitment in September 2019.