

Development & Implementation of a Critical Care Cheat Sheet as a Visual Learning Tool

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Introduction

Transition to the critical care environment for new and redeployed nurses is challenging due to the complex knowledge, skills and technical abilities that underpin safe and effective practice (Deacon et al, 2017).

Our critical care unit has encountered significant staff turnover in the past 12 months, as well as increased patient numbers and acuity of illness secondary to Covid 19. Lack of a designated clinical nurse educator is an added constraint and adds pressure to experienced critical care nurses to provide education and support to new and redeployed staff.

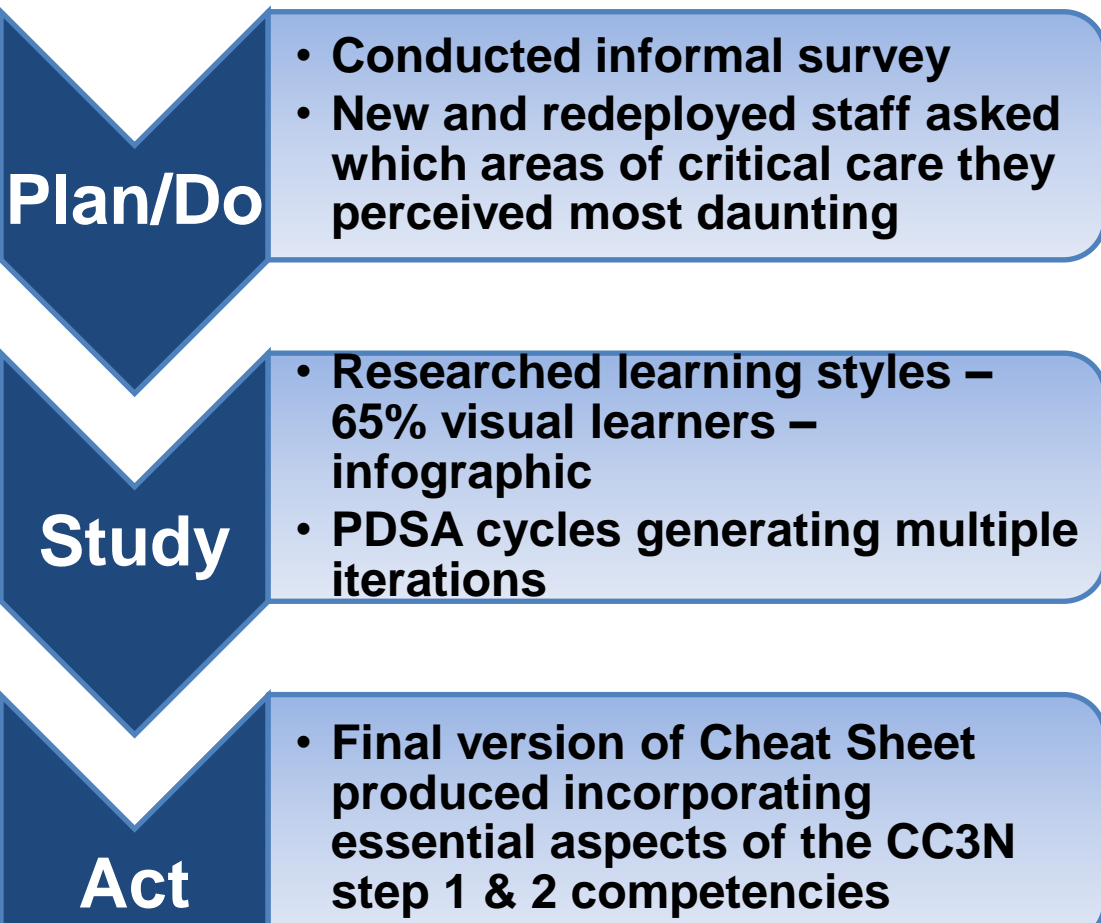
Aims

Develop a visual learning tool to display complex information in a manner that could be quickly consumed and easily understood

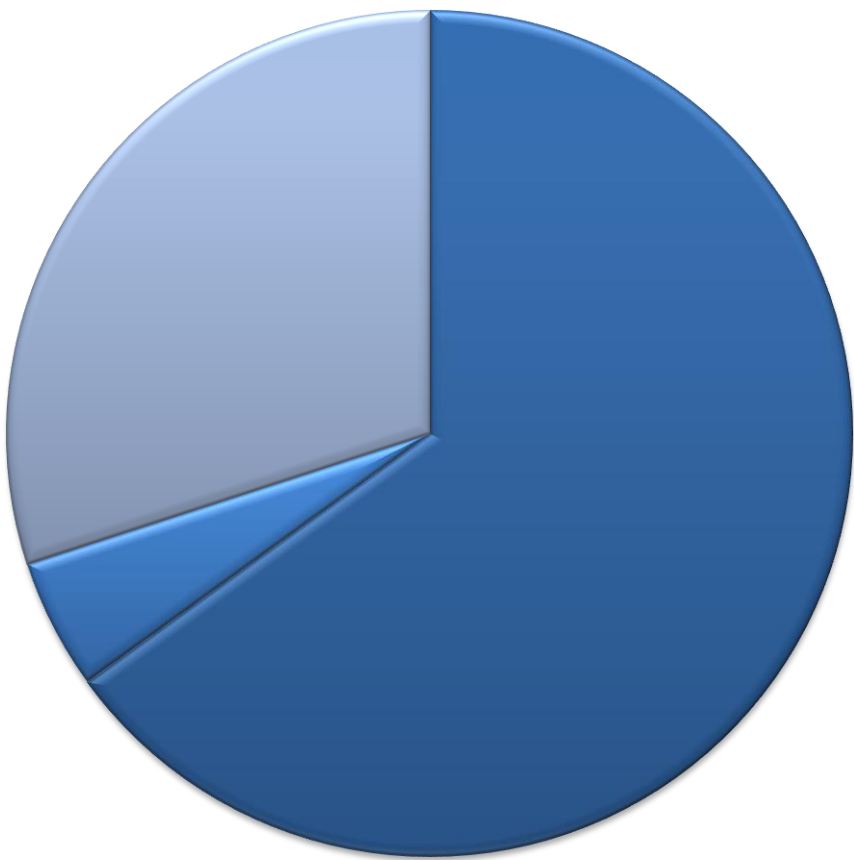
Enhance quality of learning and retention of the material

Engage staff, aid comprehension and encourage further information seeking

Method



Learning Styles



“Infographics are fundamental for teaching in nurse education” (Bradshaw & Porter, 2017)

- Visual
- Kinesthetic
- Auditory

Discussion & Results

Staff have reported that patients are receiving treatments more quickly due to the presence of the Cheat Sheet

Extensive qualitative feedback has been universally positive and we have had significant interest from other Critical Care Units

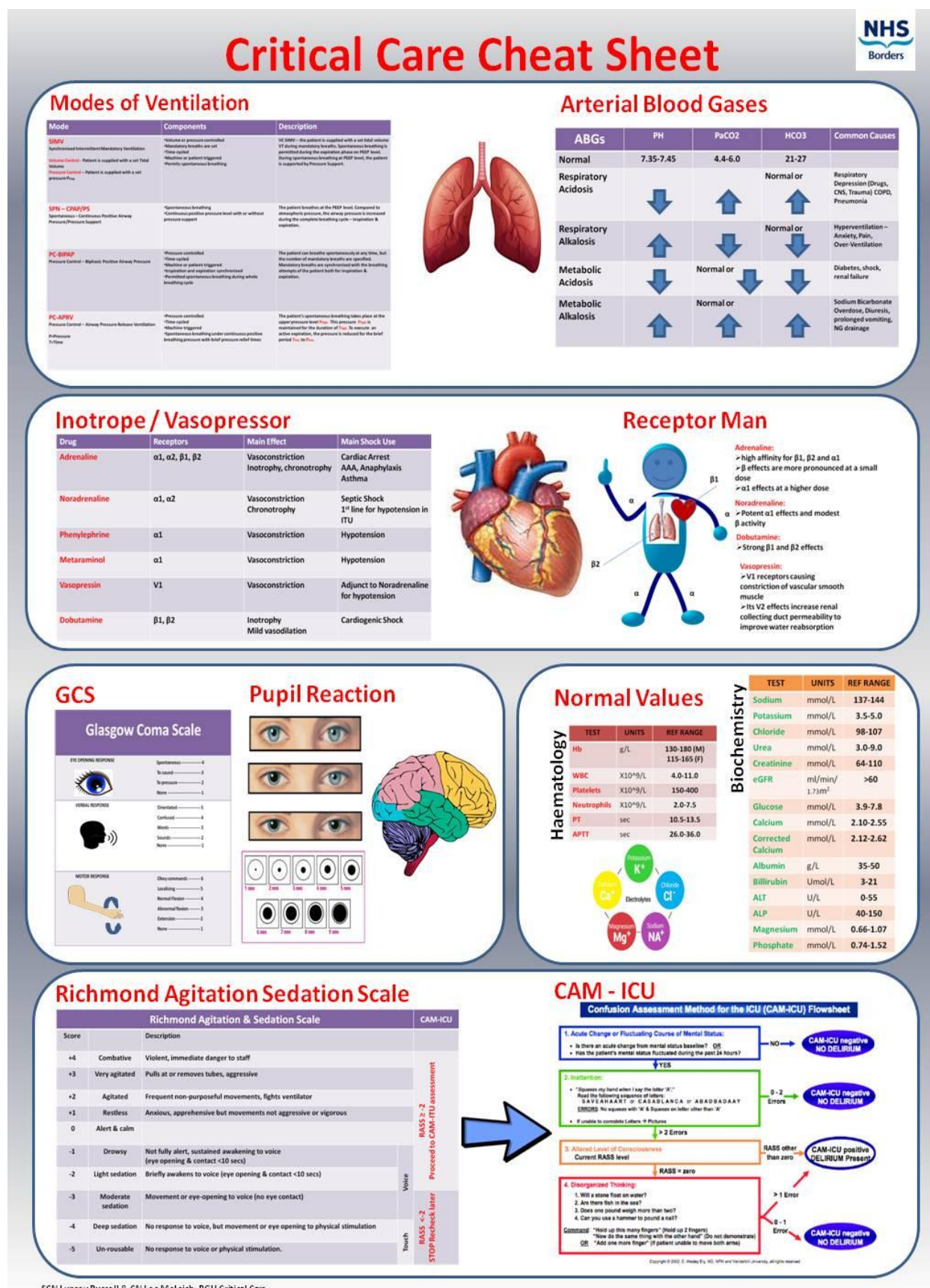
Electrolyte replacement is initiated promptly and early stages of delirium are picked up and treated appropriately

The infographic Cheat Sheet has been added to our organisation’s teaching app which all hospital staff can access for reference

The Cheat Sheet has been uploaded on to the British Association of Critical Care Nurses website so it can be utilised throughout the UK

Cheat Sheet

The Critical Care Cheat Sheet can be found on the British Association of Critical Care Nurses (BACCN) website in Covid 19 Nurse Educational Resource Centre – Resources – ITU Cheat Sheet Poster



Conclusions

The infographic Cheat Sheet:

- Enhances patient safety
- Improves patient journey and may help reduce length of stay
- Contributes to the education of bedside nurses and enhances their ability to provide safe, high quality care
- Is appreciated by the multidisciplinary team and sparks further teaching and conversation
- Conveys complex information in an easy to understand format
- Can be utilised by critical care staff nationally

References

Bradshaw MJ, Porter S (2017). Infographics. A New Tool for the Nursing Classroom. Nurse Educator. 42 (2): 57-59

Deacon KS, Baldwin A, Donnelly KA, Freeman P, Himsworth AP, Kinoulty SM, Kynaston M, Platten J, Price AM, Rumsby N, Witton N (2017). The National Competency Framework for Registered Nurses in Adult Critical Care: An Overview. Journal of the Intensive Care Society. 10: 1-15

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