ICU Liberation Using Epic

The goal of the ICU Liberation initiative from the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) is to "liberate patients from the harmful effects of pain, agitation/sedation, delirium, immobility, and sleep disruption (PADIS) in the intensive care unit (ICU)." Epic worked with the SCCM and a number of Epic organizations to build the ICU Liberation tools, making it easier for your IT team to implement this important change.

Facilitate Team-Based Care

Critical care physicians, nurses, and other users like respiratory therapists and pharmacists all see the same target arousal level in Epic for a patient, which helps keep the multidisciplinary team focused on the goal of getting the patient awake and alert. The patient's target arousal level appears in multiple places, including alongside the documented arousal level to allow for easy comparison.

Embed Evidence-Based Best Practices

Critical care nurses can document every element of the ICU Liberation’s ABCDEF bundle in flowsheets, allowing them to use existing workflows to see responses over time. From the new ICU Liberation activity, critical care clinicians can review all the elements of the bundle during multidisciplinary rounding or family member conferences.

Care for the Whole Patient

The ICU Liberation initiative helps clinicians see a fuller picture of a patient’s wellbeing and understand their care over time and beyond an individual user’s area of expertise. Nurses and physicians can see a visual map of a patient’s breathing and awakening trial process, including the patient’s progress so far and their upcoming milestones, treatments, and interventions related to their intubation.

Help Clinicians Stay on Track

Epic’s ICU Liberation bundle includes a checklist to show which elements have been documented for a patient, so care providers and managers can ensure that all important steps have been completed. Use this summary to see how your team is doing with ABCDEF compliance and quickly identify which patients are ready for extubation.

Outcomes

Studies show a number of dramatic outcomes with implementation of the ICU Liberation bundle, including:

- 15% higher chance of both survival and being delirium- and coma-free per patient with each 10% increase in bundle compliance.
- 3 days average reduction in ventilator time per patient.
- 65% fewer infection-related ventilator-associated complications.

To get started with ICU Liberation at your organization, ask your IT department to scan the QR code below.

Foundation System

Epic’s Blueprint for Success

Epic added these tools to its Foundation System, which means organizations installing Epic now have these tools out-of-the-box. If your organization is already live with Epic, your IT team can use a tool to move this content into your system quickly.