AORN SYNTEGRITY AND ASSOCIATION OF PERIOPERATIVE REGISTERED NURSES (AORN) QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT

AORN Syntegrity and AORN are dedicated to quality improvement activities that enhance patient-centered, effective, safe, timely, equitable, and efficient perioperative nursing practice and improves the outcomes of surgical patients.

AORN Syntegrity and AORN believe that:

- Quality improvement is a responsibility of all perioperative nurses and is fundamental to enhance perioperative patient care.
- Documentation of nursing practice should capture patient outcomes and demonstrate the use of the nursing process to support quality and performance improvement initiatives.
- Sharing lessons learned with others supports wide-scale, rapid improvement that benefits all patients and perioperative nursing practice.

The AORN Syntegrity and AORN Quality Improvement Grant supports initiatives that follow a quality improvement methodology and contributes to the implementation or enhancement of the Perioperative Nursing Data Set (PNDS) in an Electronic Health Record (EHR). Awards are administered by AORN. Allocation of funds is based on the:

- congruence of the quality improvement project to focus on the implementation or enhancement of the Perioperative Nursing Data Set in an EHR.
- quality of the grant proposal,
- ability of the applicant to conduct the project, and
- applicant's justified budget.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- The quality project lead is required to be a registered nurse with a current license, either working in a perioperative setting or one who is focused on perioperative practice issues.
- Existing license to the PNDS or ability to obtain a license.
- Willingness to share the PNDS build in the EHR with the AORN Syntegrity Team.
- Acute care facility (both large and small).
- If the project involves multiple healthcare facilities, all facilities must have a relevant role and the requesting facility must have a key role in the project.
- Members of the AORN Nursing Research Committee and members of the AORN Board of Directors are ineligible for funding during their term of service.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

1. All applications must be submitted via the online submission system. Additionally, all submitted information must be in English. Applications sent in by other methods (i.e., US Postal Service, email, fax, etc.) will not be reviewed or considered for funding.
2. Late submissions will not be accepted.
3. Applications must adhere to requirements for format, content, length limitations, and necessary supporting materials as outlined in the checklist below. Failure to follow the guidelines for preparation of the grant proposal will result in the application not being reviewed.

   Checklist for Grant Application Submission:
   ☐ Use Times New Roman with 12-point font.
   ☐ Adhere to the word limit. Proposals that exceed the word limit will not be reviewed.
   ☐ The AORN Syntegrity/AORN Quality Improvement Grant has a limit of 2,500 words for the proposal body and should include the following:

   o Outline of Quality Improvement Plan to implement or enhance the PNDS in an EHR to include:
      ☐ Facility's approved QI process (Ex: SOAP, Plan-Do-Study-Act cycles, Six Sigma, Lean, Model for Improvement etc.).
      ☐ Goals of the QI project.
      ☐ Specific implementation or enhancement ideas related to the PNDS.
      ☐ Briefly describe the specific actions to carry out the project.
      ☐ Possible barriers and plans to address or overcome these barriers.
      ☐ Anticipated outcomes and specific measures to be used in monitoring the project progress and success.

   o Project budget with itemization and justification of expenses. Do not include expenses incurred prior to submitting the grant application.

   o Project timeline (tasks, target date, date completed) reflecting project completion within 1 year of funding.

   o Project Team/Stakeholders
      • Project leader and Executive Sponsor
      • Team roles identified and responsibilities.

   o Reporting plan to include format and cadence for project reporting.

   o IRB approval letter, if the project involves human participants.

   o Any charts/tables/graphs that help illustrate proposal.

   o Appendices must be uploaded to the proposal application as applicable. Legible scanned copies of required forms will be accepted. None of the Appendices are included in the word limitations for the proposal body.

4. In addition to progress updates, a final report will be due within 90 days of project completion.
5. If a grant is awarded as the result of this application, the applicant becomes the grantee and assumes all legal and financial accountability for the awarded funds and for the performance of the grant-supported activities. Any deliberate withholding, falsification, or misrepresentation of information and could result in loss of grant funding eligibility.
6. Upon completion of the project, grantees will be expected to:

- Submit a proposal for either a poster or podium presentation at the AORN Global Surgical Conference and Expo or submit a quality improvement manuscript to the AORN Journal for review and consideration of publication;
- Submit a proposal for presentation at the facility's EHR User Group Meeting; and
- Participate in authoring a white paper or case study with the AORN Syntegrity team.

Contact Information
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