

Improving Atrium Health CRNAs’ Access to Professional, Educational, & Leadership Resources



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BACKGROUND & SIGNIFICANCE

The operating room (OR) is a high-risk environment that involves highly specialized personnel to care for the approximately 368 million patients who undergo surgery every year. OR leaders face countless challenges which include decreased reimbursements requiring cost containment strategies, staff retention, and achieving quality care metrics. Leadership development supports leaders in facing these daily challenges by facilitating knowledge sharing. Formal healthcare leadership training and resources have evolved over the past 15 to 20 years; however, information regarding these programs remains fragmented and difficult to access. Nurse anesthesia leaders at individual facilities are responsible for remaining current in this ever-changing field.

Leadership development opportunities for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) at Atrium Health currently exist; however, they are dispersed across multiple areas within the information management system. A dedicated site to archive shared knowledge is vital for leaders to access valuable resources. Healthcare organizations struggle to maintain a centralized, easily accessible leadership development platform, creating a barrier for their leaders. Additionally, inadequate physical resources negatively affect health care provider’s perceptions of the practice environment. Literature reveals that a dedicated site to store shared knowledge is vital for leaders to access valuable resources. Our objective is to consolidate these resources into a centralized database, thereby facilitating easier access to information and potentially increasing utilization amongst nurse anesthesia leaders and staff CRNAs.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Currently, nurse anesthesia leaders of Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Hospitals (AHWFBH) access leadership development resources across multiple sites and platforms. This may make access to educational information cumbersome and frustrating. Therefore, locating external resources, integrating internal resources across the Atrium Health enterprise, and storing them in a centralized location will improve access to these resources.

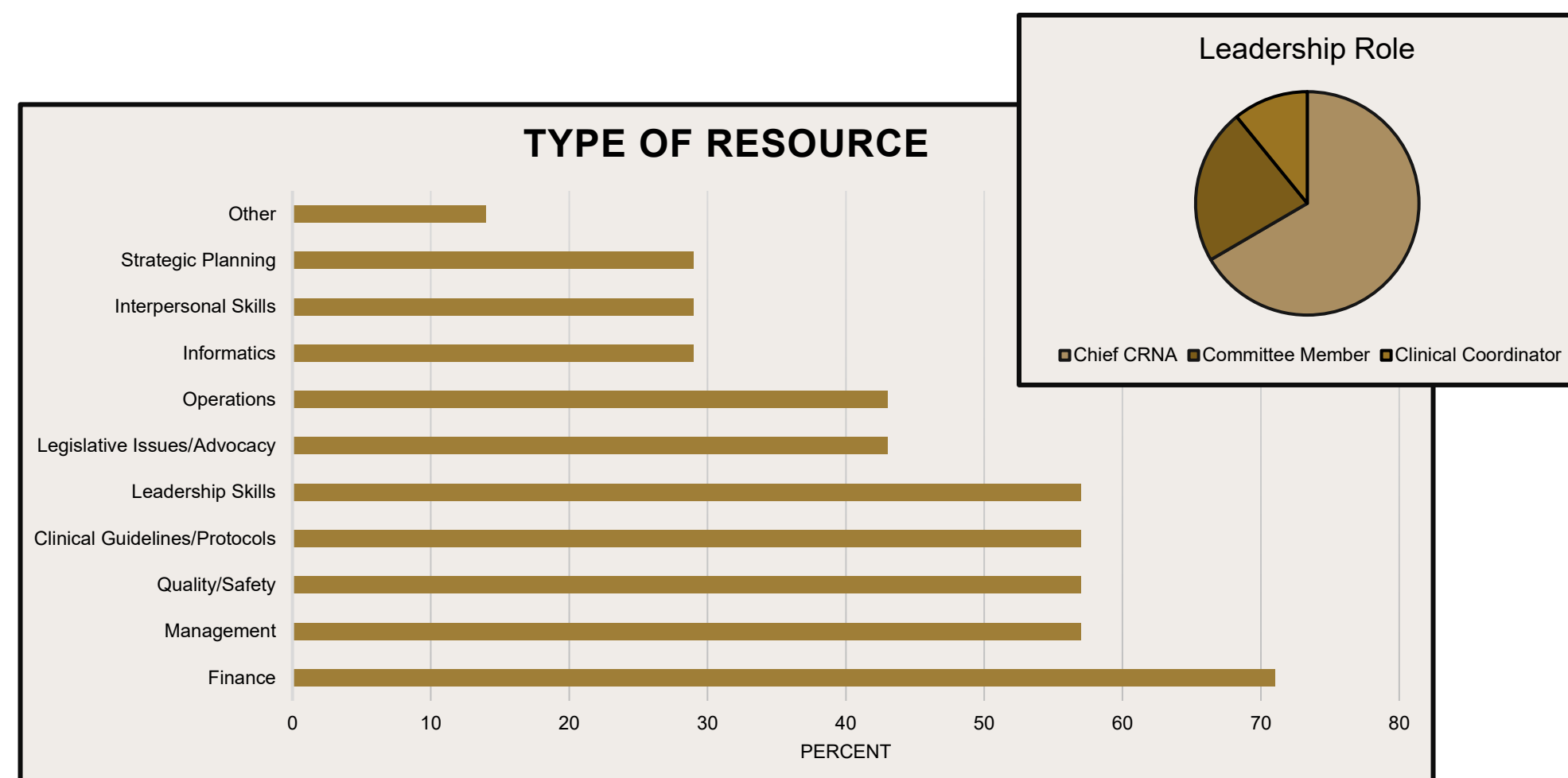
ACCESSING RESOURCES AT AHWFBH

A RedCap® survey link was be sent via email to the Director of Nurse Anesthesia at AHWFBH, Marc Caruana, DrPH, MSN, CRNA. He disseminated the survey link to all nurse anesthesia leaders at AHWFBH sites. The survey included 7-point Likert scale style questions about the tools CRNAs use to access resources, where they access resources, the organizations that publish resources they access, and their desires for an AHWFB resource database.

RESULTS

Project participants were chief nurse anesthetists, committee members, and clinical coordinators within the Atrium Health Wake Forest system. Survey e-mails were sent to chief nurse anesthetists, committee members, and clinical coordinators. The response rate for the survey was 50% of participants.

Majority respondents were CRNAs that had practiced for over 16 years (58%) and served as the Chief CRNA (85.7%). All respondents utilized their mobile device to access resources with majority of topics accessed related to finance (71%,) and topics such as interpersonal skills (29%) and strategic planning (29%) accessed the least. AANA Leadership topics were the most utilized resource out of all resource locations (86%).



Resource Locations		
Topic	<i>n</i>	Percent (%)
AANA Leadership Topics	6	86
Atrium-Health Resources	3	43
NCANA Leadership Topics	3	43
Open Web Resources	2	29

PROJECT OUTCOME

Our research indicated an online database, accessible via phone, was required at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Health System. The survey highlighted the need for better resource navigation and improved accessibility. This project aimed to enhance accessibility to leadership development resources for nurse anesthesia leaders and staff of AHWFBH by creating a comprehensive leadership development resource website. We chose to use the online platform, Articulate Rise® to be the application to provide leadership resource links to CRNA leadership.

The first phase focused on the development of the website. Using evidence from the literature and the result of the survey, we developed a resource website using Articulate Rise® . The website is the same resource used by Atrium Health Enterprise for disseminating educational resources. The second phase focused on implementing the website.

SUMMARY & FUTURE IMPACT

The purpose of this evidence-based project was to provide a resource for CRNA leaders at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Hospitals (AHWFBH) to use for leadership development. Articulate Rise® was chosen to be the application to provide leadership resource links from Advocate Health, AANA, NCANA, and open sources from the internet. The site was developed and implemented. However, assessment of the utilization of the website was not to be conducted by the research team.

Overall, the website may serve to increase access to leadership resources by CRNA leaders at AHWFBH sites. Future evaluation will provide the tools’ use and impact on the organization.