

Dear Review VB,

Thank you for the opportunity to revise and resubmit our manuscript, titled “*Enhancing Patient Safety Through Effective Communication: The Role of the SBAR Handover Tool*”.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to you and the reviewers for the time and effort spent evaluating our work and for the constructive feedback provided. We have carefully considered all comments and made corresponding revisions to the manuscript.

Please find attached the following documents:

- **Response to Reviewers** – a detailed, point-by-point response to each comment raised by the reviewers.

In our response document, we have clearly indicated how each comment has been addressed. Where appropriate, we have revised the text accordingly and provided justifications for areas where no changes were made. I did remove several of the areas that were noted in the reviewers response due to shortening the article and making it more concise.

We are pleased to see that our revisions were accepted and published in your journal. We look forward to working with you again the future.

Thank you once again,

Dr. Erica Brown

## Enhancing Patient Safety Through Effective Communication: The Role of the SBAR Handover Tool

### Reviewer VB

Thanks for the opportunity to review this work. The topic is timely and relevant to improving health outcomes.

In general, many of the citations are older than 5 years old and there is more updated literature on the topic.

I have numbered the lines in the document to make it easier to follow my comments. See attached.

Page 1, line 11: There is clarification needed. Up to 60% of hospital adverse events... is noted on page 1, line 11, but on page 2, line 44, it mentions Research has shown up to 80% of medical errors.... Are both of these statistics correct or was the % in the 2017 article calculated in the 2018 article? **Updated with a more recent article from 2024.**

Page 1, line 20: The JC have updated their information since 2017. **Updated with a more recent article from 2024.**

Page 2, line 27: Is the sentence specially about handoff communication or is it general information? The information reported about the patient... **Removed this statement from the article.**

Page 3, line 47: Are the estimated 250,000 deaths annually related to communication mistakes or is it general information? The writing could be stronger if we knew how many deaths were caused based on miscommunication mistakes. **Removed this statement from the article.**

Page 3, line 55: What does the power of communication mean? What power? **Removed this statement from the article.**

Page 3, lines 60-62: error rates were reduced from 180 to 112, In what kind of situation did the error rates drop? Was it specifically when SBAR was used by nurses or the whole medical team? Was it used in a hospital setting or outpatient? **Removed the numbers from this article and cited a different area.**

Page 3, line 65: I think a better way to say this sentence (Improving the effectiveness of the handoff tool...) would be An effective handoff tool... I do not think the writing is about improving the handoff tool. **Improved the wording of this statement**

Page 3, line 67: is more effective when compared to face-to-face communication, Are we still talking about time with this sentence? **Removed this statement from the article.**

Page 3, line 68: This sentence needs to be reworded better. since nurses pick a written note and follow the content within the tool **Removed this statement from the article.**

Page 4, lines 76, 77: Enhancement of communication, using the SBAR tool, benefits nurses by ensuring that no information is omitted. This is not always true. **Improved the wording of the sentence.**

Page 4, lines 80-82: A meta-analysis looking at nurse job satisfaction found that nurses were much more satisfied with their job when they were able to deliver care that was not missed or delayed. Is this

related to handoff communication or just a general statement? **Removed this statement from the article.**

Page 4, line 85: the passion for being involved in particular positions. This sentence is unclear, which positions? **Removed this statement from the article.**

Page 4, line 88,89: Nothing brings satisfaction to nurses more than providing high-quality health care to patients. This sentence needs a citation. **Removed this statement from the article.**

Page 5, line 92, 93: conducting their handoff conversations in a noisy environment making it difficult for a nurse to comprehend all the information shared with them. This sentence needs a citation. **Cited a more updated study from 2024**

Page 5, line 93: typo standardizes = standardized- **Corrected the spelling**

Page 5, line 101: interpersonal tensions. This is a new topic and needs some discussion. **Removed this statement from the article.**