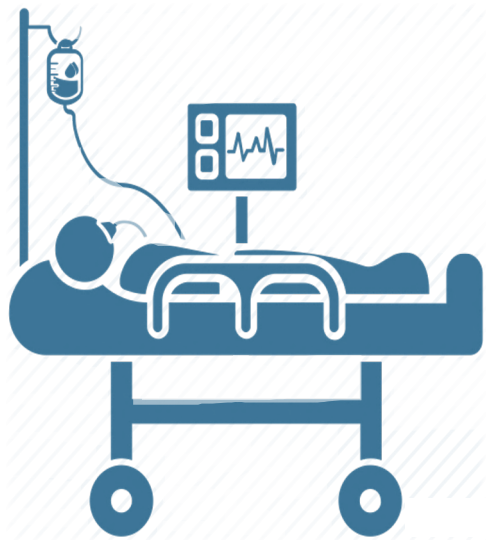




Promoting Communication in the Intensive Care Unit between Nonspeaking Patients and Healthcare Providers

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Goals



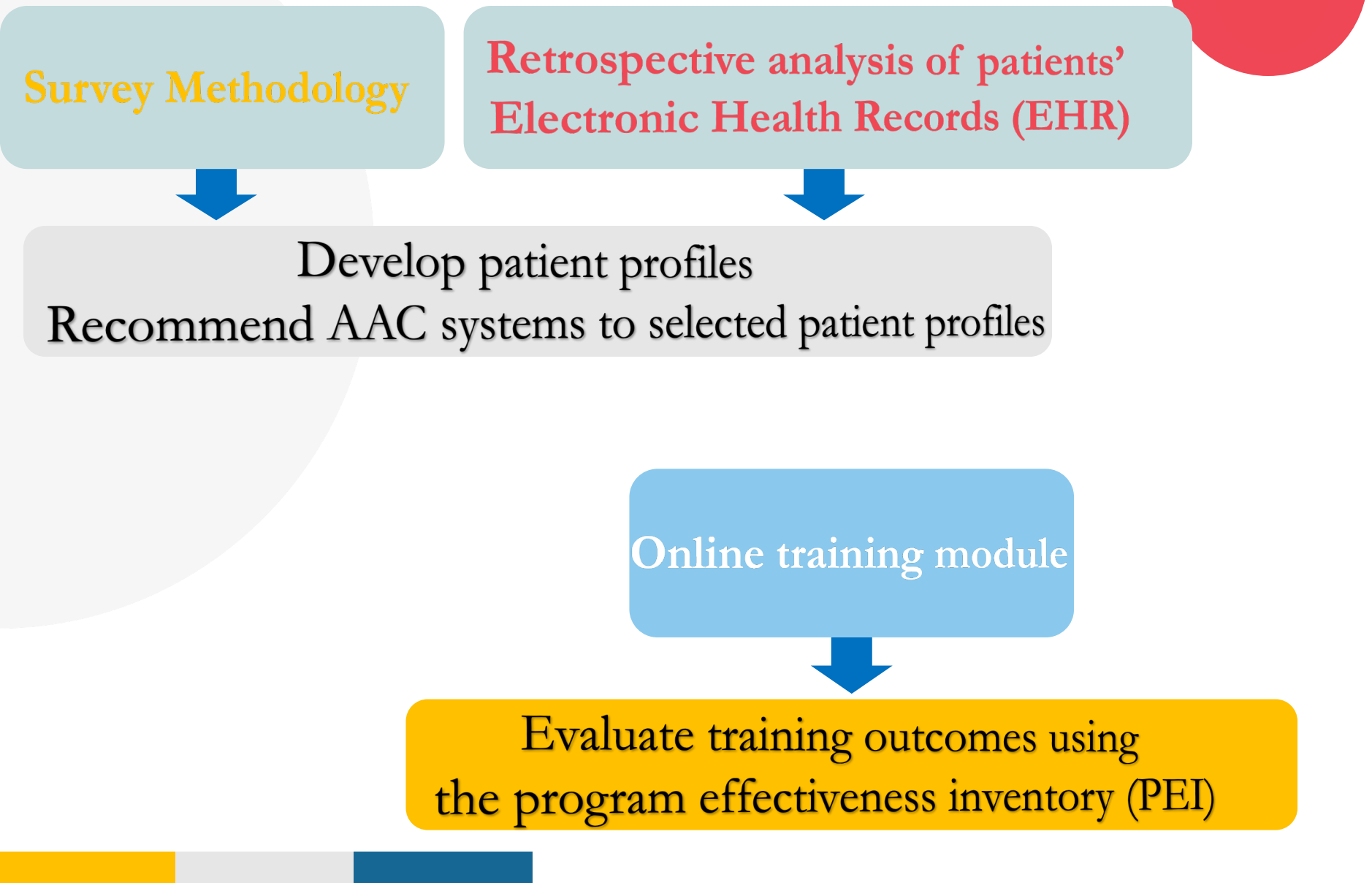
- Develop a comprehensive list of communication needs and barriers using survey data obtained from discharged patients and healthcare providers
 - Review patient charts to develop patient profiles with the goal of matching AAC methods to patients' capabilities and needs
 - Provide an online training module to healthcare providers so that they are able to select appropriate AAC methods for nonspeaking patients in the ICU
- 

Research Questions



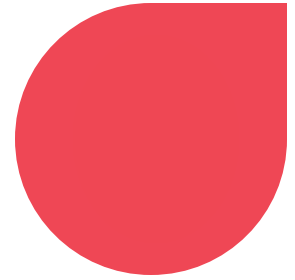
- What are the primary communication needs and barriers listed by discharged nonspeaking patients and healthcare providers (i.e., nurses and physicians)?
 - Is there a difference in the type and frequency of communication needs and barriers between temporarily nonspeaking patients and patients with severe neurological impairment?
- Are patient profiles predictive of reported communication needs and barriers, as well as appropriate AAC methods?
 - Is the selection of AAC methods influenced by the relatively temporary or long-term nature of a communication impairment?
- What are the impacts of an online training module on healthcare providers' willingness to use AAC methods in the ICU?

Research Methods

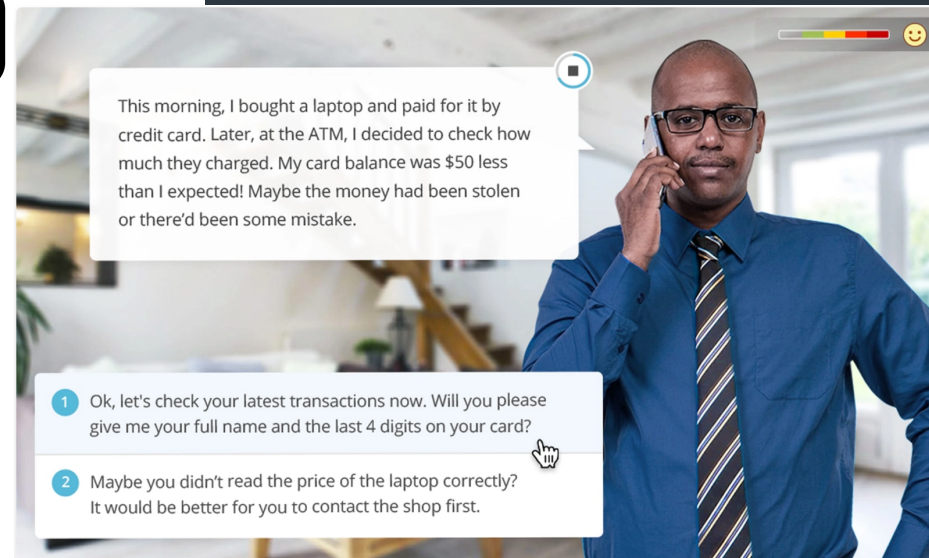
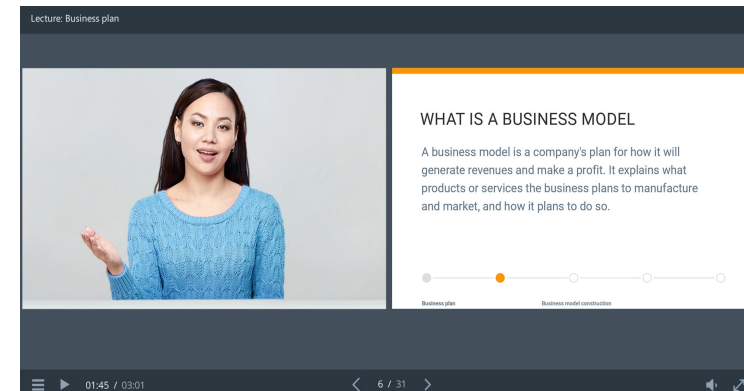
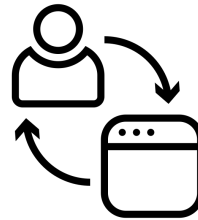


Research Methods

Online Training Module



- Significance of effective communication in the ICU
- Overview of AAC Systems
- Video demonstration
- Checklists and flowcharts
- Context simulations
- Interactive assessment quizzes
- Access to resources
- * Group discussion
- * Exchange of experiences



Research Methods

Survey Questionnaire

- Likert scale questions
- Ranking questions
- Open-ended questions



Research Setting, Participants and Data Collection

The **patients (n=100)** admitted to the surgical and medical ICU at **Dell Seton Medical Center** and the **healthcare providers (n=20)** will serve as our participants

Data collection from patient participants

- Survey data will be collected from patient participants after being discharged (both hard copy or electronic version of the questionnaire will be used)
- EHR data will be gathered from patients providing an informed consent

Data collection from healthcare providers

- Survey data will be collected prior to online training
- Training effectiveness data will be collected after in-person and/or online training

Data Analysis

Thematic analysis
for answers to
open-ended questions

Non-parametric tests for
answers to Likert scale
questions and ranking questions

Etiological variables, clinical,
and behavioral characteristics
are analyzed to develop
patient profiles

Training outcomes will be
determined by the results from
the program effectiveness inventory
and/or a follow-up survey

Survey

Patients and
healthcare providers

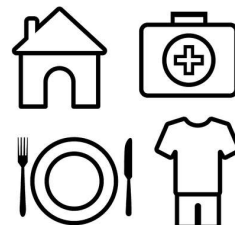
Electronic Health Record

Patient profiles regarding etiology,
clinical and behavioral symptomatology

AAC methods, strategies and techniques

An online training program

- Promote evidence-based AAC rehabilitation technology infusion in ICU settings
- Provide resources and communication training to ICU healthcare providers with the goal of facilitating communication and reducing adverse medical events
- Promote patient wellness through the provision of evidence-based clinical strategies to healthcare providers in the ICU.



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