

Pediatric Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy Float Nurse Role

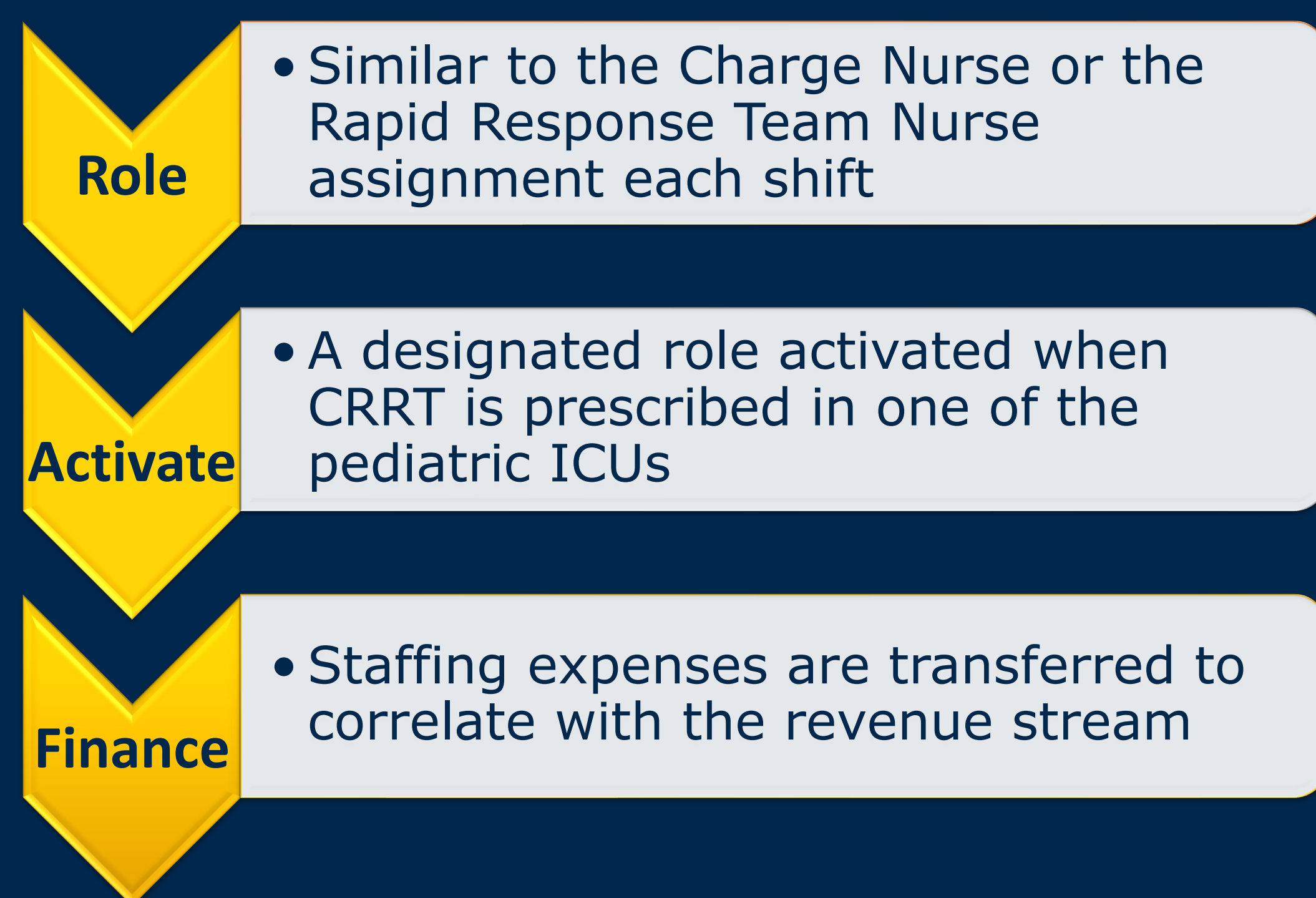
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Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT) is a low-use, high-risk therapy in many pediatric hospitals

METHOD

Designed and implemented a clinical nursing model that supports pediatric critical care nurses providing care to patients receiving CRRT. The Pediatric CRRT Float Role was created to support safe delivery of CRRT.



BACKGROUND

There are limited CRRT devices available for use to deliver pediatric CRRT. C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, like our colleagues nationally, adapt current CRRT technology to safely care for patients weighing less than 20 kilograms. Greatest adaptation is needed for patients weighing less than 8 kilograms.

The CRRT Float Nurse Role was created in response to patient safety events surrounding filter starts or care of the pediatric CRRT patient. These safety reports highlighted the need for protected time to:

- Focus on filter starts
- Calculate fluid removal
- Troubleshoot alarms
- Manage regional anticoagulation delivery and monitoring

CRRT FLOAT NURSE ROLE

Nurse leaders from this institution identify the CRRT Float Nurse as a valuable support to the bedside nurse caring for the pediatric CRRT patient.

The CRRT Float Role is:

- Filled by a CRRT superuser
 - Defined as a pediatric intensive care nurse with advanced training in CRRT filter starts
- Able to prepare for filter starts in consultation with the pediatric nephrologist
 - Perform filter starts without interruption
 - Provide just in time support for the bedside CRRT nurse
 - Respond to unexpected CRRT circuit work, and provide early intervention
 - Provide rapid dissemination of practice changes to bedside caregivers



CONCLUSION

The CRRT Float Nurse role is a vital component of this institution's CRRT nursing model, providing structured support for nurses caring for pediatric CRRT patients and contributing to safe delivery of CRRT.