

8.7 Article Discussion on A 36-Hospital Time and Motion Study: How Do Medical-Surgical Nurses Spend Their Time?

Use a current article as the basis for your time with your mentee if:

- ❑ Your mentee wants evidence related to his or her practice
- ❑ Your mentee likes to read outside of work
- ❑ You want to bring more content into your meetings
- ❑ You feel like your time with your mentee needs more structure

This article provides data on how medical-surgical nurses spend their time. Discussing how your mentee spends his or her time, in light of this article, may provide insights as to how he or she can more effectively use time.



The article attached to this 8.7 discussion is entitled: *Feet Don't Fail Me Now! Time and Motion of Medical-Surgical Nurses* by Valerie Leek (In module 8). **-OR-**

A 36-Hospital Time and Motion Study: How Do Medical-Surgical Nurses Spend Their Time? by Ann Hendrich, Marilyn Chow, Boguslaw Skierczynski and Zhenqiang Lu (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3037121/>) addresses increasing efficiency and effectiveness of nursing care related to hospitals and the delivery of safe patient care. This time and motion study identified three main areas for improving efficiency of nursing care: documentation, medication administration and care coordination.



1. Before embarking on this discussion with your mentee, make sure that he or she is committed to reading the article.
2. Make a copy of the article for your mentee. Tell him or her why you would like to discuss this particular article on time management.
3. At your next meeting, begin summarizing the article together according to each of the main sections.
4. Ask your mentee what jumped out at him or her from the article.
5. Does your mentee agree with the article? For example, does he or she travel the same distance each shift?
6. Does your mentee spend the majority of his or her time at the nursing station coordinating care?
7. Discuss his or her perception of how much time each day is spent on documentation, medication administration and care coordination. How much time does your mentee feel he or she spends in "hunting and gathering?"
8. Using this article as your starting point, discuss possible ways to increase efficiency.

Source: *A 36-Hospital Time and Motion Study: How Do Medical-Surgical Nurses Spend Their Time?* by Ann Hendrich, Marilyn Chow, Boguslaw Skierczynski and Zhenqiang Lu.