



Flip Chart: Visual Guide to Identify Surgical Instruments

Introduction

Surgical instruments are wrapped, labelled and sent for autoclaving. Once back from Central Sterilization Service Department they are stored till use.

Staffs were unable to recall the name of the Surgical instruments that were used less frequently and often mislabeled.

There is delay in wrapping and sending the surgical instruments as staffs wait for someone who is familiar with the instruments to help identify name of the instruments.

Problem Statement

Mislabeling of instruments leading to delay in preparation for Minor Surgical Procedures (MSP) and hence delay in providing patient care.

Aim

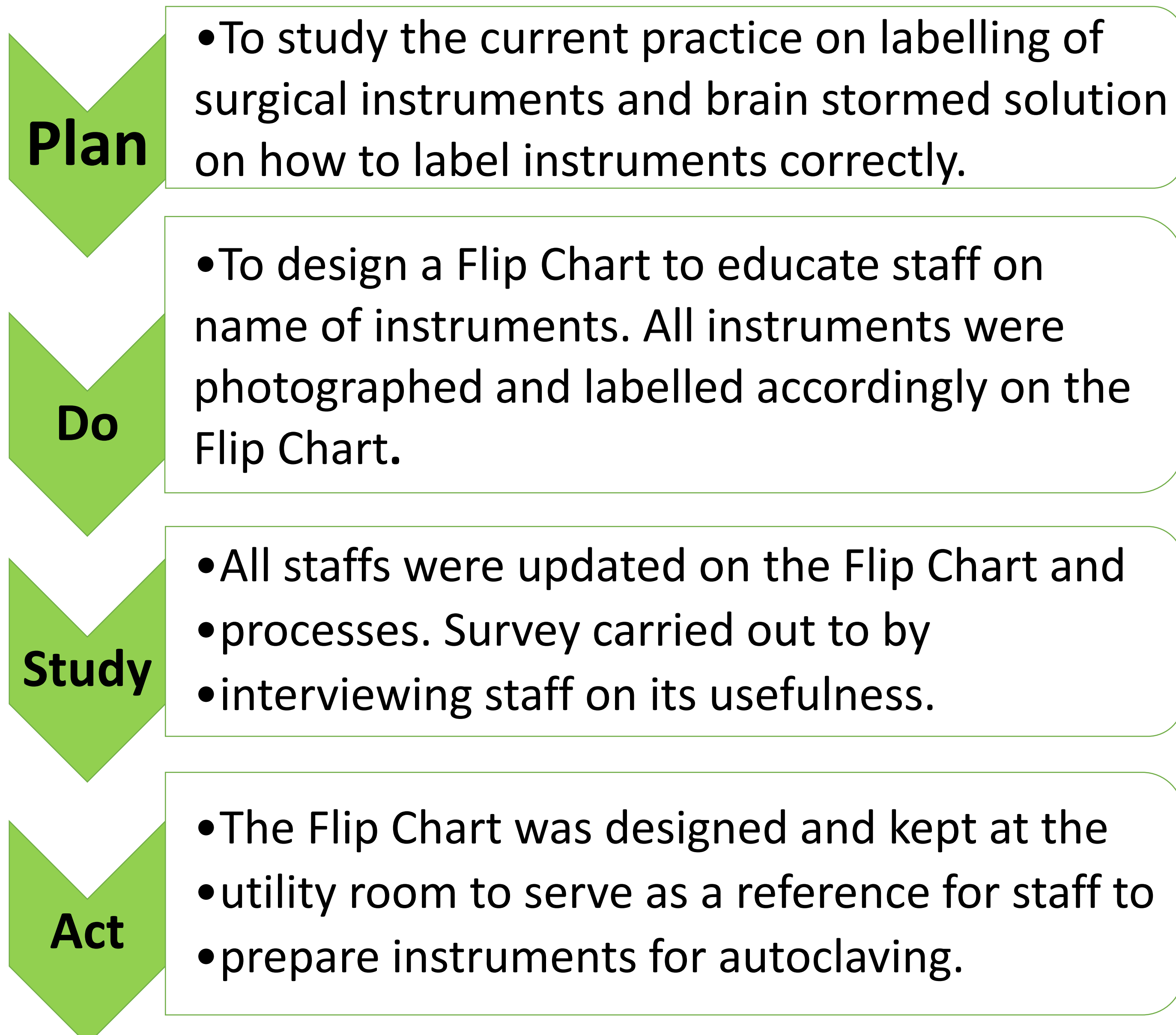
1. Minor surgical procedures are commenced without delay.
2. Ensure instruments are not “missing” due to mislabeling.
3. Provide a visual guide for nurses to identify and label surgical instruments correctly

Methodology

A team was formed to rectify the issue and find a solution to improve the process.

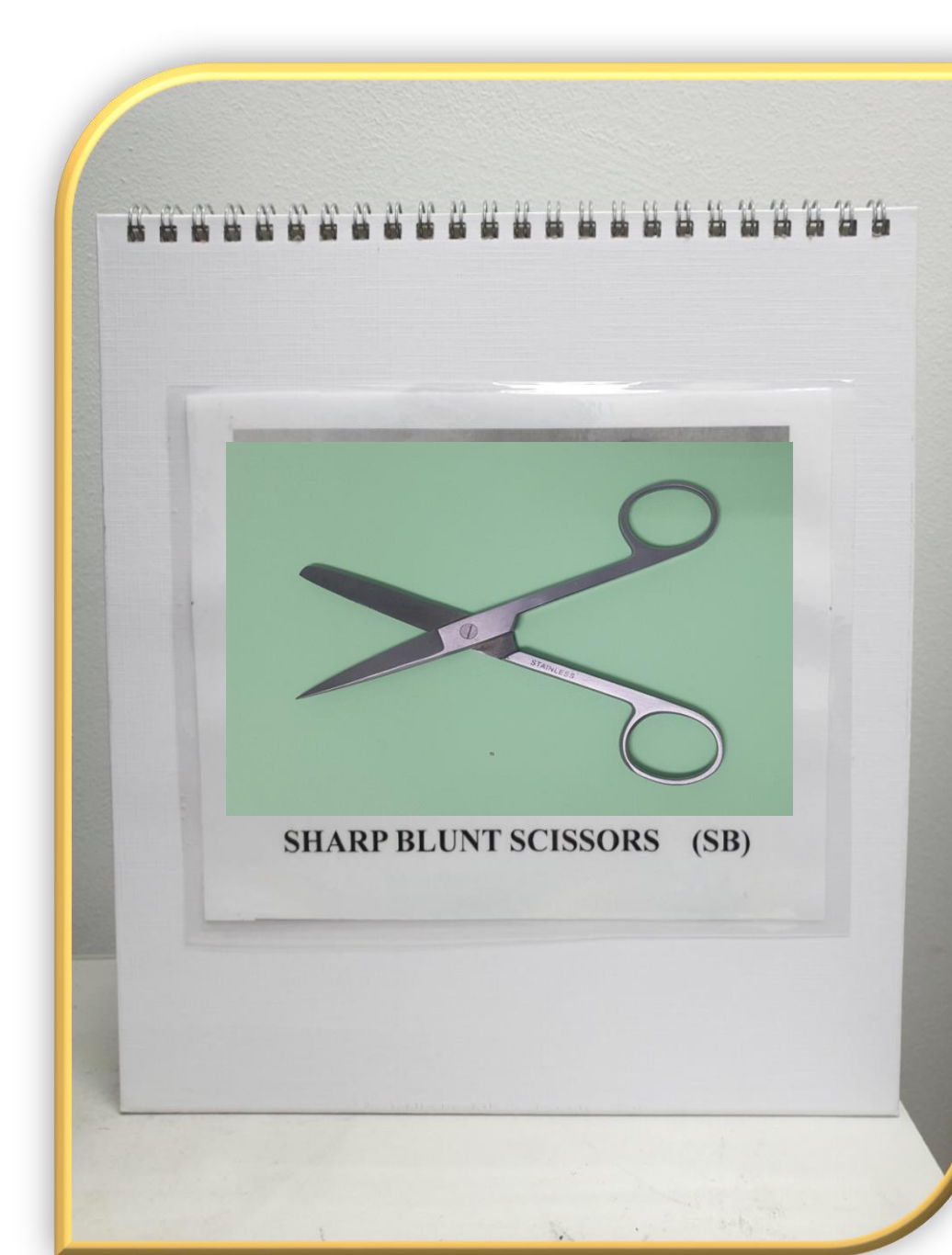
Cause and effect analysis was done.

The team went through many PDSA Cycles.



Results

- ✓ To date, there is no incident of mislabeled “missing” instruments.
- ✓ Improve productivity- No rewashing and rewrapping instruments that are mislabeled.
- ✓ Cost saving- No mislabeled surgical instruments sent for re-autoclaving.
- ✓ Flip Chart used as orientation tool for new recruits attached to MSP room.
- ✓ Hassle free in maintaining inventory of surgical instruments.



Conclusion

1. Minor surgical procedures were commenced without delay.
2. No more missing instruments.
3. The Flip Chart has served as a visual guide for staff to identify and label surgical instruments correctly.
4. This has increase staff confidence and satisfaction when assigned to minor surgical procedure room.