### Purpose
The purpose was to develop an Addiction Recovery Program (ARP) care area to support individuals with complex medical diagnoses while maintaining the therapeutic interventions necessary for the ARP client.

### Background
- The original inpatient ARP area was an isolated 14 bed unit that lacked advanced physiologic monitoring capabilities.
- Increasing patient acuity and co-morbidities displayed by the ARP population could no longer be safely managed in a stand alone unit.
- The increasing patient acuity led to a decision to integrate the dedicated ARP unit into an established medical unit.

### Challenge
The challenge was to ensure that medical nurses had the skills needed to provide physiologic and psychological care to the ARP patient population and their families.

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### Process Time Line:

**January - April, 2013**
- Identified 6 North as the physical relocation for the ARP unit
- Developed a comprehensive educational plan for all staff
- Educated 6 North nurses and support staff to care for ARP patients in a well established medical unit

**April – June, 2013**
- Completed education for all staff
- Transitioned ARP patients to the existing inpatient medical/telemetry unit, that offered 24 hour on-site medical coverage
- Provided nursing expertise supported by:
  - telemetry
  - continuous oxygen saturation monitoring
  - advanced pharmacology to enhance management of withdrawal
- Integrated addiction care and medical co-morbidity management
- Improved addiction care to all hospitalized patients through specialty consultation

**June, 2013 - Present**
- Develop quarterly 2 day ARP educational programs for all members of the health care team
- Establish monthly ARP team meetings to evaluate the program, recommend changes, and assure continuous quality improvement

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### Outcomes/Findings
- The treatment of substance abuse within a medical unit can provide a holistic and inclusive plan of care that emphasizes addiction as a chronic treatable illness.

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### Advancing the Practice
- The ARP educational program continues to provide comprehensive learning opportunities to all staff within Brigham and Women’s Faulkner Hospital (BWFH)
- The success of the ARP program at BWFH allows us to:
  - fully support patient and family centered care.
  - provide educational opportunities beyond BWFH.
  - share this success through professional programs at local, regional, and national levels.

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#### Didactic Sessions
- Peer to peer learning support for all staff

#### Direct peer support for CAM, CIWA-Ar, and COWS assessments

#### Case Studies and Case Reviews

#### Recovery: Patient Centered Care