An audit on administration of intravenous medication in cluster hospitals

LEUNG PNC(1)(2), ABOO GH(1)(2), HKEC Working Group on Nursing Audit(2)
(1) Nursing Services Division, Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital, (2) Hong Kong East Cluster

Keywords: audit on administration of intravenous medication, nursing audit

Introduction
Administration of intravenous medication correctly and safely by nurses involves basic “5 Rights” checking principle, valid prescription and allergy history checking. In addition, medication is given in correct dilution at a prescribed rate aseptically, nurses educate patient on necessary precaution, monitor and report any adverse effects, and maintain accurate documentation are essential components. HA prioritized a nursing audit on intravenous medication in 2014/15, audit was conducted by individual cluster hospitals to monitor nurses’ compliance on intravenous medication.

Objectives
(1) study nurses’ compliance to the Nursing Standard for Patient Care (G6.6) on intravenous medication (2) provide feedback to the nursing management and all nurses (3) recommend strategies for continuous improvement

Methodology
Working group members developed audit plan and utilize approval tool by COC (N) on Nursing Standard for Patient Care (G6.6). All in-patients units with a maximum of five samples in each ward / unit were recruited from 17 to 19 September 2015 in six HKEC hospitals. Qualified auditors collected data through observation, reviewing patient records, and interviewing with nurses, patients or their relatives.

Result
252 samples with 99.75% compliance, 100% compliance on critical items were noted in six HKEC hospitals. 12 non-conformances, items on educating patient on the necessary precaution and reporting any discomfort, explaining the reason, therapeutic effect and adverse effect of the injection and documenting patient’s response and the care given were noted. Conclusion & Recommendation: Compared
with previous audit in 2009 (99.70%), similar results were found particularly in items related to patient education. It was seen in the Hospital-based Patient Satisfaction Survey 2013. More effort strived at enhancing nurses’ knowledge on medication and improving their capabilities to provide medication knowledge to patient and relatives is noted. Working Group members suggest nurses to get quick reference of medication information via HKEC pharmacy webpage, include medication safety and medication knowledge at the departmental induction program and department / ward consider organize and conduct periodic medication safety quiz to refresh nurses’ medication knowledge, self-directed learning on the common medications used in department. Encourage and support team nurses to education patient / relatives about the medication during visiting hours. Perform bedside supervision and coaching on medication safety to maintain accurate documentation, and regular audit.