Acute retention of urine: is it a must for in-patient management?
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Introduction
Acute retention of urine (AROU) is a frequent problem presenting to Accident and Emergency Departments (A&E) worldwide. The admission rates for this condition are increasing. However, due to the excessive demand for hospital bed in recent years because of various reasons, e.g. winter surge, infectious diseases etc. Therefore, AROU cases may be a target group to shift from in-patient to outpatient management. For those non-complicated AROU cases, most of them will be admitted to the short stay unit (e.g. Emergency Medicine Ward [EMW]) for management instead of admitting to surgical unit in recent year due to the overcrowding in general ward. However, is it a must for the AROU patient to have an in-patient management (in EMW) or they can be treated in out-patient setting (A&E)?

Objectives
The aim for this program is to reduce the admission rate to EMW for the AROU patients

Methodology
This is a join program between A&E and Urology Unit in NTWC. By introducing a new AROU management workflow, using of a new drug Alfuzosin and adding the package of education material for out-patient urinary catheter care since April 2014, the admission rate of AROU cases to EMW is markedly decreased.

Result
The admission rate for AROU case before new workflow was 91%, reduced to 57% after service launched. No adverse event reported from the target group and the A&E re-attendance rate is low.