



**Service Priorities and Programmes**  
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**Nursing Clinical Handover Form in Medical Wards, Coronary Care Unit and High Dependence Unit at Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital**

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**Introduction**

Based on the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards, effective clinical handover is a critical component of continuity of care ensuring safety to patients. Nurses should have a standard framework for clinical handover between shifts. However nurses use homemade reminder between shift handover in daily operation.

**Objectives**

1. To provide a standardized structured handover template to nurses especially for fresh graduates in general medical wards, Coronary Care Unit and High Dependency Unit.
2. To ensure nursing clinical handover providing accurate information is in place to meet continuity of safety care.

**Methodology**

In 2017, Nursing Clinical Handover Task Group had been formed in Medical Department. The progress of handover was reviewed. A clinical handover form (pilot) has been designed in which provides a structured template for nurse to give handover and replaces informal nursing reminder. The form is one of medical record of the patient's profile. The design of the handover form is based on Identification, Situation, Background, Assessment, Recommendations (ISBAR) format.

Identification: patient identifiers

Situation/ background/ assessment: diagnosis; status of guardianship, infection, allergy, risk including fall, pressure injury, suicide attempt, DNACPR and ACP

Recommendations: special nursing care, drug modification, appointment, consultation, health education, interview with carer and discharge plan

After implementation a survey had been conducted about nurses' perceptions on shift handover with and without the Nursing Clinical Handover Form.

**Result**

Staff who less than 4 years' experience agreed that using this handover form, it helps them provides handover to another staff in a structured way. However, staffs that have more than 4 year' s experiences regard the form is unnecessary. It was planned to conduct the compliance rate audit in 2Q of 2018.