



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

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Delegation in Nursing: IPMOE Standing Order for Administration of 5% Emla Cream on Patients Undergoing Sentinel Lymph Nodes Biopsy

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Introduction

Breast cancer is the most common malignancy for Hong Kong women. Sentinel lymph node biopsy (SLNB) has been used as a minimally invasive surgical alternative for identifying lymph node metastasis due to its high accuracy. During mapping, the injection of a radioactive tracer to differentiate the SLN is painful. The use of 5% Emla cream to reduce the injection pain has been reported effective.

The IPMOE (In-patient Medication Order Entry), an electronic system for administering medications, standing order for administration of 5% Emla cream on patients undergoing SLNB developed in ward 2B since 26/4/2016.

The standing order for administration of 5% Emla cream as a written protocol authorizes qualified nurses to order in CMS and administer 5% Emla cream to patients with scheduled SLNB appointment. Its objective is to ensure timely application of 5% Emla cream in order to prepare patients undergoing the procedure and operation smoothly.

Objectives

To evaluate the effectiveness of implementing the IPMOE standing order for 5% Emla cream administration on patients undergoing sentinel lymph nodes biopsy

Methodology

Retrospective data review of IPMOE history illustrated patients who had successfully undergone sentinel lymph nodes biopsy by using the IPMOE standing order 5% Emla cream administration from 26/4/2016 to 31/12/2017.

Conduct a satisfaction survey on implementing the standing order to ward 2B nurses.

Result

A total of 130 patients were recruited in the data review from 26/4/2016 to 31/12/2017,

with 100% patients were administered 5% Emla cream timely and safely before the procedure.

In conclusion, the IPMOE standing order for administration of 5% Emla cream on patients undergoing sentinel lymph nodes biopsy is effective and efficient for patients undergoing breast surgery. Traditionally, the cream must be prescribed by doctors. The standing order empowers surgical nurses to provide safe, timely, effective, high-quality patient care. It benefits healthcare teams by providing nurses with the autonomy to follow preapproved physicians' order. All nursing staff is well trained and audited before administering the standing order. Regular audit is conducted every year.

From the survey conducted, 100% nurses agreed the standing order is effective and the training is useful making nurses felt competent for using the standing order.