



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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Innovative program to enhance quality of Electronic Patient Assessment Form (ePAF)

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Introduction

Nursing assessment is essential to identify patient's problems and needs. Its accuracy is crucial for nurses to make appropriate clinical judgment. In the past, the responsibility of evaluating the quality of Electronic Patient Assessment Form (ePAF) rested on ward managers to review the ePAF one by one manually. There are approximately 100 new admissions in North District Hospital every day, it will take 500 minutes per day for checking ePAF even if the ward managers only spend 5 minutes on one case. It is a tremendous workload and obviously impossible. With the use of Clinical Data Analysis and Reporting System (CDARS) and Excel, a comprehensive analysis from a massive data could be done in only a few minutes with a few steps.

Objectives

The aim of this program is to evaluate the quality of Electronic Patient Assessment Form (ePAF) by analyzing the completeness of it in a time-saving way. Areas of improvement and common errors can be identified and shared with nursing staff instantly.

Methodology

ePAF of patients who were admitted in January 2017 to specialties including Surgical, Medical, Orthopedics & Traumatology, Accident and Emergency and Intensive Care Unit were retrieved by using CDARS. The data was categorized into 11 core components including: 'Allergy history', 'Level of consciousness', 'Elimination', 'Emotion / Mood', 'Risk of Malnutrition', 'Mobility / Self-care ability', 'Pain assessment', 'Fall risk assessment', 'Skin / Pressure sore risk assessment', 'Suicidal risk assessment' and 'Infection risk assessment'. With the use of a modified preset Excel formula, the data was analyzed to identify common errors and missing items easily. The results were emailed to Ward managers daily for monitoring the standard of patient assessment.

In February, random sampling of 162 in-patients ePAF from the specialties mentioned previously were retrieved and analyzed. The results were compared with those in 2016.

Result

The overall completeness rate increased from 97.0% in 2016 to 99.8% in 2017. In 'Mobility / self-care ability', there is a drastic increase from 66.9% to 100%. Only two items with a compliance rate below 100% (Mobility/ self-care 93.8%, Infection risk 94.4%). The results show a positive impact of this program. This simple and user-friendly Program can be used for maintaining a high level standard of nursing assessment in an efficient way.