



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

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Application of Fall Prevention Program in Private Wards: An Evidence-based Project

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Introduction

Patient falls is a worldwide problem. Hospitalized people have high risk of fall as their risk factors increase with hospitalization. In our private ward settings, fall incidents happen every month, leading to unnecessary suffering and increased costs. Hence, fall prevention interventions are essential to the improvement of patient safety.

Objectives

(1) To increase nursing awareness about strategies that prevent patient falls by proposing multifactorial interventions among private ward patients; (2) to reduce the number of fall incidence and to improve the quality of care by maintaining patient safety

Methodology

Fall risk assessment using the Morse Fall Scale was performed for every patient upon admission and on change of condition. Based on the reviewed evidence, a new Intervention for Fall Prevention Record was constructed. The multifactorial interventions were comprised of general measures, referrals to allied health profession and prevention of delirium. When the patient's fall risk score was higher than 45, multifactorial interventions were applied according to the individual needs. The record form was reviewed daily.

Result

From November 2017 to January 2018 (13 weeks), there were 58 patients admitted to private wards assessed as high risk of falls and there was none fall incident happened to them with multifactorial interventions. However, one fall incident happened to a patient assessed as not at risk. In conclusion, multifactorial fall prevention interventions were effective in reducing the number of fall incident. It was recommended to apply to all patients regardless of their fall risk score.