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A Mobile Nursing Museum Enhancing Child-Nurse Relationship and Developing Positive Attitude About Hospitalization

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Introduction

In the perspective of healthcare staff, hospital is a well-equipped working place with advanced technology. However, hospital remains a mysterious place to children, where painful procedures take place. Children often feel anxious in such unfamiliar environment especially upon their first visit, while parents feel distressed. Hence, paediatric nurses find it difficult to implement their nursing care on these children and much more effort is needed. Preparing children psychologically in advance may be effective in reducing their stress, allowing them to be more cooperative, thus facilitating nursing care.

Objectives

- (1) To provide psychological preparation of children for hospitalization
- (2) To enhance child-nurse relationship

Methodology

Mobile Nursing Museum is a hour health education workshops. It divided into three parts: (1) introduction to hospital environment, infection control practice, common nursing procedures; (2) practice session and (3) reflection session on their ideal hospital. Outcomes were defined by (1) anxiety level by Venham Picture Score and (2) personal protective equipment. A 'pre-test' and 'post-test' design was employed to measure the outcomes.

Result

Results:

7 kindergartens with a total of 580 preschool children have attended this workshop since January 2016, and have enjoyed the 3 practice sessions. They paid attention in listening to heart beats in the 'Have a closer look at the body' session and were enthusiastic in the simulation training '360o in-touch of medical device'. Lastly, all of them passed the 'You do, I do' hand hygiene and surgical mask wearing challenge. The 'post-test' Venham Picture Score for anxiety level was reduced from 3-5 to 0-1. A

teacher also gave feedback that 2 students showed more confidence and less agitated during hospitalization for fever. She requested for more similar workshops to be held for other students.

Conclusions:

A nursing museum can prepare children psychologically prior to hospitalization. Children could learn effectively through the interactive workshops with hands-on experience. With the positive feedback from children and teachers and the lack of such healthcare museum in Hong Kong, a mobile nursing museum can be considered a favourable option in enhancing child-nurse relationship and changing childrens attitude towards hospitalization.