



Service Priorities and Programmes
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A Two Years In-service Training Program to empower Paediatric Nurses to provide better Diabetes Care

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Introduction

Global Report on Diabetes by World Health Organization in 2016 noted both the number of cases and prevalence of diabetes have been steadily increasing over the past few decades. Poor diabetes control in childhood results in early occurrence of diabetes complications in adulthood. Optimal diabetes control in childhood is vital. To increase paediatric diabetes care capacity, an In-service Diabetes Care Training Program for paediatric nurses was held in 2016 and 2017.

Objectives

1. To equip nurses with skills and knowledge in paediatric diabetes care.
2. To enhance supervision of junior nurses to care for patients with diabetes.

Methodology

A two-year identical, In-service Diabetes Care Training Program for paediatric nurses was held at monthly interval in the department. Four nurses per year with over two years of paediatric nursing experience and dedicated to paediatric diabetes care were recruited. Speakers included physicians, diabetes and adolescent nurses, dietitian etc. The monthly one-hour lecture provided knowledge in diabetes care and skill-based trainings. Non-designated training program nurses were also welcome as drop-in audience. The training program required designated learners' full lecture attendance,, pass in quiz examination and skill-based re-demonstration, and diabetes nurse shadowing in two consultations with clinical data logging and re-demonstration of interviewing skills of two other patients. Nevertheless, learners who had completed the program had been assigned to be the primary nurses to the newly diagnosed diabetes patients in the ward with supervision and partnership of the junior associated nurses. The program was evaluated by course attendance, quiz results, clinical shadowing and re-demonstration log book records and post-program evaluation forms.

Result

Eight designated nurses attended all lectures. Four learners in 2016 had passed the

quiz examinations (scores from 72% to 94%) and completed the shadowing and re-demonstration. Four learners in class 2017 had just finished attending the lectures, and the shadowing of diabetes nurses will be arranged in 2018. General feedback showed that all eight learners agreed the program as achieving the objectives and being applicable for work. All were satisfied with the program. Three learners suggested to extend the lecture time to more than one hour. These positive feedbacks indicated that the tailor-made program was useful and of value for future training.