



Service Priorities and Programmes
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Refresher Training Program on Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT) in Intensive Care Unit

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Introduction

Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT) is a common dialysis modality used in Intensive Care Unit (ICU) to treat critically ill patients with renal compromise.

Nurses in the unit were trained through an intensive in-service CRRT training program with theoretical knowledge and practical skills. A CRRT refresher training program was conducted in 2017 to further equip nurses to assure quality care to patients undergoing CRRT.

Objectives

1.To enhance nurses' competence in "Temporary Disconnection Procedure" during CRRT. 2.To improve nurses' competence in handling trouble-shooting alarms during CRRT such as (i) "Air in blood", (ii) "Main power lost".

Methodology

CRRT assessment tool on trouble-shooting was formulated in Sep 2017. Two simulated scenarios were designed relating to CRRT trouble-shooting alarms. Five designated renal nurses were trained as assessors by Nurse Specialist (ICU) individually. All nurses trained with CRRT were recruited. A work station with primed CRRT circuit was set up to facilitate individual nurse's assessment. The alarms of "Air in blood" and "Main power lost" were simulated and practical skills on handling the alarms were assessed. Besides, the participants were assessed on the competence of performing "Temporary Disconnection Procedure" during CRRT. Debriefing was done afterwards. Evaluation was conducted after all the assessment had been completed.

Result

The program started from Sep 2017 to Dec 2017. A total of 56 (100%) of the target participants were assessed. Participants were satisfied with the program with a mean

score 5.38 out of 6. Besides, participants gave encouraging feedbacks and comments. Their comments included "I liked the way of refresher training with demonstration set and simulated scenarios with hand-on practice instead of reading didactic lecture notes", "I enhanced my skill in handling "Temporary Disconnection Procedure" with hand-on practice since the machine did not prompt me with related tips". "The program was useful", "Good objectives focused on less commonly occurred scenarios e.g. disconnection and power lost". Conclusion: The refresher training program on CRRT trouble-shooting alarms was firstly introduced in the unit with objectives achieved. Scenario-based simulated clinical situation of CRRT trouble-shooting alarms training was a recommended strategy to sustain nurses' competence on CRRT related care.