



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

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Submitting author: Miss Mei Ling FU

Post title: Registered Nurse, UCH, KEC

Electric Medical Equipment Safety Enhancement Program in an Acute Medical Ward

*Fu ML, Tse KW, Yuen YL, Tsang WL, Mak CC, Mak LS, Leung WM
Medical Ward 12B, United Christian Hospital*

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Introduction

The use of electric medical equipment with mismatched plugs and flexible cords may cause electrical shock or fire resulting in serious burn, injury or even death to person. Actually, there were some incidents related to misuse of electric medical equipment in the hospital last year. However, most of these misuses of electric medical equipment can be avoided by clear labeling on the electric medical equipment and their plugs. The increasing application on advance electric medical equipment due to the development of medical technology gives impact on clinical operation management. Clear labeling on electric medical equipment and plugs can enhance the working efficiency in a busy working environment.

Objectives

1. To classify and label the existing electric medical equipment and plugs.
2. To enhance the awareness of safety use of electric medical equipment with correct plugs.
3. To reduce incident caused by misuse of electric medical equipment and plug.
4. To increase the working efficiency
5. To provide safe and quality nursing service.

Methodology

1. Discussed the labeling method and job distribution with colleagues.
2. Organized and classified the existing electric medical equipment including 170 equipment with asset number, and 40 equipment without asset number.
3. Set priority for such large amount of electric medical equipment. Those with asset number were labeled first for their high frequency use for patient care.
4. Demonstrated the labeling method which is using permanent marker pen and high quality sticker to groupmates.
5. Checked whether the existing electric medical equipment and the plugs are matched or not.
6. Final checked and confirmed the electric medical equipment and plugs were labeled properly.
7. Educated nursing staffs to properly use the electric medical equipment and correct labeled plugs.

8. Educated health care assistants to properly restore the electric medical equipment together with correct plugs after cleaning.
9. Check and review the label on existing electric medical equipment and plugs every two years and replace a new one if any necessary.
10. Apply such labeling method to all new electric medical equipment.

Result

After the program, all the existing electric medical equipment and plugs were well labeled and can be efficiently retrieved. Staffs' awareness of safely use of electric medical equipment was enhanced. The program help to provide safe and quality nursing service.