



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

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Quality Improvement Programme on Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) in an Acute Endocrinology Unit

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Introduction

According to the International Diabetes Federation, 366 million people diagnosed with diabetes in 2011 and 4.6 million diabetes patients died from its complications. Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) is a common life threatening acute complication of Diabetes Mellitus (DM). The admission rate for DKA is increasing in the United Christian Hospital (UCH). On the other hand, there were about 44% nurses with less than two years of working experience in the female endocrinology unit. Further, DM patients developed DKA can admit to other specialties. They would be a clinical risk if nurses are not familiar with the management of DKA.

Objectives

1. To review and compare guidelines in management of DKA from different hospitals in Hong Kong & overseas
2. To enhance the competence of nurses in managing DKA patients

Methodology

Literature review was conducted and the guidelines for DKA management developed in Hong Kong and overseas were compared to update the unit's practice. Education materials based on the information of integrated protocol and a pre-post test questionnaire were reviewed by hospital preceptor and ward manager. The pre-post test questionnaire included 10 questions assessing the treatment and nursing care skill of DKA.

The education programme was first provided in the female endocrinology unit for its feasibility. After revised, an education talk on DKA management was given to nurses from different departments. The education materials were then uploaded at the Medicine and Geriatric Department website for review and online education.

Result

Staffs' knowledge on DKA management was enhanced. The competence of staffs in managing DKA patients was enhanced.