

Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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UPSKILL | for better COPD care from hospital to community

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Introduction

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a prevalent disease in worldwide and creates a substantial disease burden in health care system. In Hong Kong, COPD accounts for around 4% of annual admissions in all public hospitals. An effective "COPD Pulmonary Rehabilitation Care Pathway" requires a multi-disciplinary and integrative approach. It requires the collaboration among acute, rehabilitation and community care services. However, there are service gaps in COPD care between Lai King Building (LKB) and Community Nursing Service (CNS) which include inadequate knowledge and skills on COPD assessment; different practice of patient education on the use of inhalation devices and inhaler technique. Therefore, this "UPSKILL" program was launched for the betterment of COPD care from hospital to community settings.

Objectives

1. To equip nurses on COPD assessment at LKB and CNS 2. To align nursing practice on patient education of inhalation devices and inhaler technique 3. To use Spirometer on COPD cases at LKB 4. To enhance continuity of COPD care from hospital to community settings

Methodology

Two identical training workshops were conducted for nurses and other health care professionals in LKB and CNS. The workshops included theoretical and practical sessions of COPD care. The theoretical session included COPD diagnosis and assessment, indication for the use of spirometer and inhaler technique. The practical session adopted an interactive approach to "UPSKILL" the participants on use of spirometer and inhalation device(s) with demonstration and return demonstration. Hand-on practice with skill assessment by using placebo inhalation devices and spirometer. Through the assessment tools of Pre and Post Knowledge Test, Inhaler Technique Scoring Form, Spirometry Assessment Checklist and Evaluation Form to evaluate staff knowledge on COPD assessment, use of spirometry skills and inhaler

technique.

Result

There were total 79 participants including 67 nurses and 12 other healthcare professionals attended the workshops. The mean knowledge score had increased significantly from 60% to 87% and competency assessment on use of inhalation device(s) and spirometer with 100% and 96.8% respectively. All of the participants strongly agreed that the workshops enriched their knowledge on COPD assessment, types of bronchodilator as well as "UPSKILL" on use of spirometer and inhalation devices. The workshops were successfully enriched participants' knowledge on COPD assessment and use of spirometry to classify severity of airflow limitation. Patient education on inhalation devices and inhaler technique was standardized and hence improved the continuity of COPD care from LKB to CNS.