



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 699

Submitting author: Ms Winny KWAN

Post title: Other(Please specify):, QEH, KCC

Attitude of Nurses towards People with Cognitive Disorder

Choi P(1), Hung S(2), Kwong MK(2), Ng P(2), Chau HK(2), Kwan W(2)

(1) Department of Neurosurgery, Queen Elizabeth Hospital

(2) Central Nursing Division, Queen Elizabeth Hospital

Keywords:

Attitude

Cognitive Disorder

Approaches to Dementia Questionnaire

Pain management

Introduction

Studies showed that the average length of stay of the patients with dementia in acute hospitals was longer than those without the condition. In order to face this increasing care demand of dementia patients, a taskforce was established in Kowloon Central Cluster in February 2017 to develop a cognitive disorder care bundle for in-patient settings. A survey was conducted before the cognitive disorder care training program to collect the views from nurses on caring for dementia patients so as to enhance the training contents.

Objectives

- 1.To explore the attitude of nurses towards caring for people with cognitive disorder
- 2.To understand nurses' perception on pain management for people with dementia
- 3.To identify the training needs of nurses to facilitate the implementation of the care bundle

Methodology

Survey using The Approaches to Dementia Questionnaire (ADQ) and a questionnaire on management and treatment of pain in people with dementia was completed by the participants before training for baseline assessment.

Result

79 out of 93 participants (84.95%) completed the ADQ and the survey. The results of ADQ indicated positive attitudes of the respondents towards people with cognitive disorder as reflected by an overall mean score of 66.82, which was higher than the designed median of 57. Respondents were more positive in response to the Person-centred attitudes than the Hope attitudes. This finding was consistent with that of other studies conducted among healthcare professionals. Nurses who practiced in primary or community care settings were shown to have a more positive Hope attitude towards people with cognitive disorder than those who practiced in convalescent setting ($p=0.009$). One might postulate that the people with cognitive disorder being cared for in primary or community settings would be more independent compared to

those who required care in convalescent setting, thus influencing how nurses perceived hope for the future of these people. The attitude of the respondents towards people with cognitive disorder was unaffected by the hospital, rank, years of experience, education level and gender. Nurses who worked in convalescent setting were more likely than those who worked in acute setting to agree that the drug treatment of pain in people with dementia should follow a step-wise approach ($p = 0.009$). This reflected a need to strengthen the training on pain management for people with dementia among nurses of the acute setting. The 4-sessioned Cognitive Disorder Care Training was designed with multidisciplinary input to cultivate positive attitude among nurses towards people with dementia so that the cognitive disorders care bundle could be conducted with higher satisfaction of both staff and patients. A follow up survey could explore the effect of training on the staff attitude and their perception on pain management in people with cognitive disorder.