

Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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Safe Handling of Electric Beds by Color-code Matching in ICU
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Introduction

In view of concurrent condemnation and replacement procurement process, there are six different brands of electric beds are currently used in ICU of PYNEH. Different venders equip with difference types of accessories that are not compatible among each other leading to potential hazards which are usually not aware by nurses and supporting staff. The improper fitting of different brands of detachable drip stand into the head-end pole of the electric bed, over mounting of infusion pumps on the drip stand and inappropriate lifting up of bedside rail may pose harm to patients and health care providers. Therefore, the ICU OSH team introduced a program on "Safe Handling of Electric Beds by Color-code Matching in order to enhance staff awareness on the safe handling of electric beds and their accessories

Objectives

- 1. Explore an effective measure to facilitate matching of the electric beds with their corresponding detachable drip stands.
- 2. Enhance staff knowledge and skills on safe handling of the electric beds and their accessories

Methodology

The OSH team designed a color code system using different color labels sticking on different brands of the bed and their corresponding drip stands. The level where the colored labels attached on the drip stand indicates the safe level for mounting infusion pumps. Same color is adopted for each brand of the bed and its accessories. This measure provides a quick and easy reference to nurses and supporting staff on correct use of drip stand and proper fitting of infusion pumps at the labelled level on the drip stand.

A pre teaching survey was conducted to identify any knowledge gaps in the aforementioned safety issues. Then a micro-teaching with demonstration and skill practice was conducted in May 2017. All nurses and supporting staff have completed the training. A post teaching survey was also conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of the teaching sessions

<u>Result</u>
The return rate of questionnaires was 89%. Only 40% staff with all questions correct in pre questionnaire. There were marked increase in giving all questions correct in post questionnaire, 85% staff. The result shows marked improvement in staff knowledge.