



## Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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### **Home Leave Reminder for Patient and Relatives**

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### **Keywords:**

Home Leave Reminder

### **Introduction**

For patient empowerment, patients are encouraged to try to manage their diseases and restrictions in their habitual environment. During home leave period, patients can process the learnt caring skill at home. Like in-patient services, patient safety always is the first concern. Nurses remind issues on caring and patient safety verbally. There is lack of written reference and standardized list of information to mention. As a result, information provided to patients and caregivers may have discrepancy. Moreover, patients and caregivers are overwhelmed by various verbal advices and handwritten instructions. In addition, patient and caregivers may lack awareness and knowledge of seeking help in case of any queries and deterioration of patient's condition. It may lead to delay treatment if condition changes. For the sake of enhancing better communication and patient safety during home leave period, a standardized home leave reminder (HLR) was adopted in the department.

### **Objectives**

By adopting the standardized home leave reminder, a more systematical way to remind issues on caring and patient safety during home leave is standardized among nurses in the department. In case of any queries and deterioration of patient's condition, patients and caregivers can manage adequately by referring to the written instructions provided. As a result, patients can have a safe home leave period.

### **Methodology**

A HLR was designed to integrate essential items like taking medications, oxygen therapy, and instruction on dysphagia management. In view of episodes of fall incidents during home leave period, fall preventive measures were particularly emphasized. After pilot in one ward, the HLR was launched to other wards in the department. Satisfaction survey was conducted to nurses, patients and caregivers. Data collection period lasted for 6 months.

### **Result**

Total 35 sets of questionnaires returned. Over 97% patients satisfied with the HLR. In which, all patients and relatives agreed that the HLR can increase their knowledge on caring and safety issues. Over 95% of them recognized that it can increase their confidence on patient care in the habitual environment. Over 92% staffs satisfied with the HLR. None of the staffs showed negative comment on the HLR. Fall incidents

during home leave period decreased greatly by 75%.