



Service Priorities and Programmes
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Refreshment Training On Tracheostomy Care at NTEC

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Introduction

Patient with permanent tracheostomy (Laryngectomy) stoma has altered upper airway anatomy. Failure to differentiate between permanent and temporary tracheostomy stoma can lead to fatal outcome. Patient with temporary tracheostomy is relatively common at Intensive Care Unit & ENT unit. However, there is an increasing number of tracheostomized patients discharged to other clinical areas and rehabilitation settings. Temporary tracheostomy related complications such as tube occlusion, displacement or hemorrhage can be catastrophic. Oral endotracheal intubation in a patient with a laryngectomy stoma could not achieve the ventilation purpose during resuscitation. Therefore, a safe and quality tracheostomy care can minimize and intervene in order to prevent the fatal incidents. Studies supported in-service education with hand-on skill integration can enhance nursing staff confidence to care patients with tracheostomy.

Objectives

1. Enrich staff knowledge to differentiate tracheostomy and laryngectomy stoma
2. Enhance staff knowledge and skills on caring tracheostomized patients as to
 - a) Reinforce the basic nursing care on tracheostomy related issues
 - b) Explain the difference and usage of tracheostomy tubes and related apparatus
 - c) Explain the ways to early detect and manage tracheostomy related emergencies

Methodology

Refreshment training by the ENT nursing team on tracheostomy care in the form of seminars and hand-on workshops at NTEC was carried out in 2016. Seminars with hand-on workshops were performed for all NTEC nurses. To evaluate the change of knowledge to differentiate tracheostomy and laryngectomy stoma, and staff confidence level on caring patients with tracheostomy & laryngectomy, a "pre-test" vs. "post-test" questionnaire was used.

Result

245 nurses at NTEC participated in the hand-on workshops. More than 35% of participants reflected that they have taken care of 2-5 tracheostomized patients in the

past month. But more than 60% of participants did not attend any specialized training related to caring patient with tracheostomy.

Paired t-test was used to analysis the change of staff confidence and knowledge level before and after the workshop. The statistical result showed there is a significant enhancement on both aspect after workshop (sig=.000).

Refreshment training on tracheostomy care program can enhance nursing staff knowledge and confidence on caring patient with tracheostomy. With the increased service demand of tracheostomized patient in the community and the positive feedback from the participants, specialized workshops were customized to Community Nursing Unit at NTEC in order to strengthen the care support in the old age home and home setting.