



Service Priorities and Programmes

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Enhancement Program on Caring Patients with Respiratory Diseases

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Introduction

Patients suffered from respiratory diseases contribute to a portion of frequent admissions to medical wards. Among the different respiratory diseases, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a major group. Other common diseases are asthma, pneumothorax, pleural effusion and respiratory failure. These patients may admit to general medical wards rather than directly to respiratory ward due to other co-existing disease. Nurses working in the general medical wards may not be familiar with respiratory care such as aerosol therapy and chest drainage system care. In order to enhance the safety and quality of respiratory nursing care, an in-service respiratory training program was organized by respiratory ward of the United Christian Hospital during October 2011 to April 2012.

Objectives

To enhance the nurses' competency in caring patients with respiratory diseases in medical wards.

Methodology

This enhancement program was run by experienced respiratory nurses which consisted of 12 individual topics related to respiratory nursing including COPD care, asthma care, oxygen therapy, aerosol therapy, common respiratory investigations, respiratory nurse clinic, chest drainage system care and home mechanical ventilation. The duration was 1 hour per each lecture. Target attendants were nurses working in the Medicine and Geriatrics Department of the United Christian Hospital. Nurses can attend individual lecture and 1 CNE point will be granted per each lecture.

Result

There were 12 lectures related to respiratory nursing organized during October 2011 to April 2012. A total of 128 nurses who were working at the Medicine and Geriatrics Department and Community Nursing Services have attended the lectures. A total of 154 CNE points were granted to these attendants. From the evaluation, most of the attendants could understand the content of the lectures. They agreed that the program content was practical for use in the workplace and their knowledge related

respiratory nursing was enhanced. Overall, majority of the attendants satisfied with this enhancement program. Our enhancement program on respiratory nursing care received positive feedback from the attendants. As nurses working in medical wards often encounter patients with respiratory diseases, such enhancement program is worth to organize to continuously update nurses' knowledge and competency in respiratory nursing care.