



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 213

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Bridging the quality gap between hospitals and elders' homes can be economical and effective: the case of dressing trolleys placed in old age homes

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Keywords:

occupational safety for nurses

enhance quality nursing care

added substantial value to the health service

Introduction

In the past, it had been a deep-rooted belief that facilities in most private old age homes (OAHs) were substandard. During our community nurses (CNs) home visits, certain OAHs could not provide appropriate equipment for nursing care such as dressing trolley. Therefore, nurses had to use bed side locker, folding table or chair as makeshifts. No wonder, these makeshifts were not idealistic for CNs to deliver quality health care. In most cases, there were either unsanitary, or their size / height were undesirable for CNs to maintain the right posture in providing health care. As a result, the occupational safety of CNs was at stake and there is an urgent need to address this problem.

Objectives

An appropriate dressing trolley for nursing care is available in all old age homes.

Methodology

Focus group was set up to identify risk factors Exploration on possibility of a designated trolley for CNs in OAH Advice to purchase a dressing trolley by OAH for exclusive CNs use , or purchase a dressing trolley by Community Nursing Service (CNS) which allocated in certain OAH Discussion with stakeholders of OAH and encouraged them to buy a dressing trolley for nursing care, in order to maintain both quality nursing care and CNs occupational safety Most of them were willing to buy trolley in OAH. The remaining six OAHs were reluctant to do so Plastic double desk trolleys were introduced which had been sought by CNS on Mar 2012 Six dressing trolleys were purchased by Apr 2012 The trolleys have been placed in identified OAH for the exclusive CNs use to deliver health care

Result

Quality of nursing practice is maintained and enhanced OSH for CNs is promoted Most CNs satisfied with the utilization of dressing trolleys in OAHs Placing a tidy dressing trolley in OAH is favourable. It is low-costing with added substantial value to the health service. It improved not only on staff occupational safety but also enhanced

quality nursing care.