**Service Priorities and Programmes**

**Electronic Presentations**

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**Improving pharmacological knowledges for junior nurses in neurosurgical high dependency unit**

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**Keywords:**  
pharmacological knowledge

**Introduction**  
Medication-related error is a significant cause of morbidity and mortality. Administration of medication incidents happened occasionally in our department. With the increasing number of junior nursing staff allocate to the high dependency unit (HDU), it is important to ensure all the junior nursing staff has adequate pharmacological knowledge in managing neurosurgical patients' medication.

**Objectives**  
Medication safety is one of the risk register in NS since 2011, with the implementation of new KCC drug infusion guidelines in KCC 2012. The aim of this project is to improve junior nursing staff's pharmacological knowledge and to reduce risk of medication incidents in the neurosurgical department.

**Methodology**  
By completing the quiz (see attachment), staff has an opportunity to review the administration and dilution of commonly used drugs in neurosurgical unit. Through discussion and sharing with the project leader, it can increase their alertness and awareness on proper drug administration and monitoring of patients.

**Result**  
Total nine nurses with the appointment of 2004-2011 participated. Result shows that (see attachment) 88% of them know about the antidote for heparin overdose and morphine overdose. In addition, concerning storage of drugs, 77% of them know about the expiry date for L.A. lignocaine after opening and 66% of them know about the expiry date for actrapid HM (insulin) after opening. 66% of them know that we cannot put drugs other than the listed drug items in the E trolley. Only 33% of them know how to order General Ward Stock Items by using General Ward Stock Items Requisition form. All participants express that the quiz is useful. The result also shows that junior nurses are not familiar with the storage and ordering of drugs, in which preceptors can spend some time teaching junior staff on this aspect.