



Service Priorities and Programmes
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Simulation Training Program for Interns on Clinical Safety

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Introduction

Patient safety is the heart for maintaining high quality health-care service nowadays. Up to half of the adverse events in hospital are preventable and many of the patients' disability or death can be avoided with safe practice. Simulation training has been demonstrated to shorten learning curve and reduce human errors, and has become a valuable tool for healthcare professionals. We introduced an organized simulation training program to all newly joined interns of Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) in June, 2011.

Objectives

To improve interns' awareness and knowledge of safety risks in clinical practice. To review the implementation and evaluation on the simulation training program.

Methodology

This integrated program was designed to target on procedures with high incidence of adverse medical event: patient misidentification, unlabelled specimen, medication incident and patient transfer. The content includes training on blood culture taking, type & screen, procedural sedation, medication safety, transport equipment & transfer of critically ill adult patients. We delivered small-group (4 to 6 interns) simulation based training in QEH Multi-Disciplinary Simulation and Skill Centre. The half-day program consisted of 3 scenario-based work-stations, 1 hands-on practical station on equipment & round up sharing forum. Pre-course training manuals were sent to all interns in advance to facilitate in-depth discussion. Debriefing was provided after each scenario playing with necessary follow-up remedial session by experienced instructors. Post-course self reported questionnaires with question set using 5-point scale (1 = very dissatisfied, 5 = very satisfied) were used and aimed at quality improvement.

Result

The program is held quarterly. A total of 210 interns participated between June, 2011 and January, 2013. 202 (96.2%) post course evaluation forms were available for analysis. The reported scores for satisfaction of the training method and instructors were 4.29 +/- 0.23 and 4.36 +/- 0.23 respectively. Most interns agreed that the program was able to improve their competency and awareness in the procedures

covered. The overall satisfaction of the program effectiveness was 4.30 +/- 0.28. Intern training is one of the important components of risk management in hospital. This hospital-based simulation training program was efficiently carried out and was highly rated by interns. Further studies are on-going to review for any improvement in safe clinical practice among interns after the program.