



Service Priorities and Programmes
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Enhancement of wound care material and expertise reduced nursing workload in Sunday clinic in primary care setting

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Introduction

Over the past decade, the management of patients with wounds in general outpatient clinic (GOPC) has received much attention, especially of Sunday clinics. Usually, there was only one Sunday clinic in each district. Sunday clinic needs to cater wound dressings from other clinics of the district. In Shatin, the Sunday clinic usually receives 90-110 dressing attendance with four nurses on duty. In addition to other nursing activities, e.g. injections, handling enquiries and complaints and thin manpower, the nurses were sustaining enormous workloads. Furthermore, it was found that some wounds were not necessary to be treated daily if advanced wound care material was applied. High quality wound care material with appropriately use is one of the key factors to determine wound healing rate. Therefore, the development of a standardized approach on enhancement wound care material and expertise among the four clinics in Shatin was conducted.

Objectives

1) Decrease the dressing attendance in Sunday clinic of Shatin 2) Enhance all nurses of Shatin district to have adequate knowledge in using advanced wound care material.

Methodology

1. Standardize the stock of wound care material in the four Shatin GOPCs - Wound care products standardization was based on the suitability, quality and ability to meet GOPC's service needs. 2. Provide training to all frontline nurses by wound care nurse - Providing the education courses to nurses regarding use of wound care material. - A set of Quick reference of wound care products was given to each nurse to facilitate the proper usage. -Continuous coaching to each nursing staff.

Result

Four months after the standardization of wound care products and training since Sept 2012: i) There was 30% reduction of GOPC dressing attendances in Sunday clinic of Shatin. ii) Individual GOPC (Ma On Shan Family Medicine Center) had a significant decrease (13%) of attendances when compared with last year. Per headcount attendance was also decreased from 5.3 to 4.6. iii) However, there was no significant change in overall GOPC dressing attendances in the whole district. iv) All nurses agreed that the standardization of wound care material can help enhancing the GOPC

wound care quality. Conclusion Standardizing the types and usage of wound care material and adequate training in Shatin GOPCs can help Sunday clinic reducing nursing workload.