



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 640

Submitting author: Mr Philip Shi Shing HUI

Post title: Nursing Officer, North District Hospital, NTEC

An effective reminding system “Monthly Focus” to arise the nurses’ awareness to the high risks procedures

Hui Shi Shing, Philip

North District Hospital, Department of Orthopaedics & Traumatology

Keywords:

Monthly Focus

Nurses’ awareness

High risks procedures

Introduction

Nurses handle many different procedures everyday which are supposed to be at high risks and may lead to clinical incidents of various levels of seriousness. In order to facilitate and ensure nurses to have safe practices, a workgroup on patient safety and nursing care standard was formed. We emphasized to provide a safety working atmosphere and sustained safety practice through continuous quality improvement process, and up keeping the standard of nursing practices through continuous reinforcement and monitoring. As a result, we improve our daily work quality, consolidate the good practice, promote implementation in ward and reduce clinical incidents.

Objectives

1. To achieve sustainable compliance in high risk procedures; 2. Arise the nurses’ awareness to the risks of the identified procedures and clinical incidents through continuous reinforcement and regular audit in clinical setting; 3. Suggest improvement to existing guidelines.

Methodology

In every month, one high risk procedure was audited as a monthly focus. We performed it as a regular cycle which scheduled in the annual planning list. Ad hoc topic would be added if needed. The procedures were identified which included various aspects: 1. Medication safety; e.g. ‘Labeling for IV drip line’, ‘Checking of IV infusion rate’ and ‘Rationale for withholding medication’; 2. Patient safety; e.g. ‘Assessment on Physical Restrain’, ‘Assessment on Suicide Precaution’ and ‘Verification of naso- gastric tube position before feeding’; 3. Nursing practice; e.g. ‘Documentation of primary nursing’, ‘Removal of vacuum drain’ and ‘Skin and turning monitoring’; and etc. Colleagues were reminded on the improvement works accordingly. The audit results were evaluated and posted out at hospital home page, it facilitated nurses to follow such guidelines and nurses’ awareness on the risks of the identified procedures was raised.

Result

This program started since April 2009 to now, over twenty high risk procedures and topics were identified and audited. Most of the results obtained a satisfactory result. For example, for the medication safety – Checking the rate of infusion pump, the compliance rate was 100%. For the patient safety - Assessment on physical restrain, the compliance rate was also 100%. For the nursing practice – Implement primary nursing and document in integrate progress sheet, the compliance rate was 70% and repeated. Continuous reinforcement and monitoring was performed and satisfy results were obtained. Although nurses perform various procedures repeatedly in everyday work, some minor but important points may be missed or ignored. Such gaps need to be identified and fixed. An effective reminding system and practical improvements in workflow is developed, continuous monitoring and reinforcement ensured a sustainable quality improvement.