Standardized procedure to ensure safe practice of Subcutaneous Infusion (Hypodermoclysis)

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Introduction
Hypodermoclysis (subcutaneous infusion) is commonly used in frail elderlies of mild to moderate dehydration. It is proven to be safe, less complications, and easy to administer. It is a common treatment in the Infirmary wards in Haven of Hope Hospital. Despite there's an information sheet on managing hypodermoclysis, some practice had changed due to the reasons of staff rotation and different perceptions. As nurse-led model is practiced in the Infirmary, the insertion of cannula and assessment of the treatment effects and side effects are mainly done by nurses. In view of the increasing use of Hypodermoclysis, an unique practice is necessary to enhance the effectiveness and safety of the treatment. The clinical management team tries to review the procedure and set up a user friendly standard checklist, so that nurses in the Infirmary can carry out the treatment in a quick, safe and standardized way.

Objectives
The aim is to set up a standardized procedure and checklist, to enhance the efficiency in the assessment, monitoring and documenting of the treatment, and to assist nurses to ensure the standards are being followed by using a user friendly checklist.

Methodology
The current practice was reviewed to find areas for improvement. Literature review and hospital policies are searched. Standard practice is reinforced according to the review and consultation to the SMO. The standard practice includes: site selection, site change interval, assessment criteria, cannulation technique, infection control, documentation and patient monitoring. Training sessions are set up and the checklist is designed and introduced.

Result
Pending to be assessed on April, 2013.