



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

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A Psycho-geriatric community program to enhance utilization of hospital resource

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Introduction

There is an increasing demand for hospital support arising from aged homes in caring their elderly with mental diagnosis, such as dementia with mood and behavior problem and depression. Over 150 requests out of 627 cases for nursing advice received from aged homes in NTEC in 2011.

Objectives

1) to empower aged home staff to care their elderly with support of the psycho-geriatric (PG) nurse; 2) to facilitate appropriate treatment 3) to prevent unnecessary advanced follow up in OPD and AED visit.

Methodology

A user-friendly communication sheet was designed and dispatched to 33 self-financing aged homes and 13 sub-vented aged homes in NTEC to assist aged home staff to category their concerns towards caring elderly before request for hospital service. The categories include unstable mental condition, verbal and physical aggression, medication issue and carers' distress. PG nurse provides service according to the needs.

Result

Feedbacks from aged home staff that efficacy in caring their elderly has been increasing with hospital support. 160 requests received out of 673 cases with various concerns, such as management of difficult behaviors, medication enquiries and self-inflicting attempts, have been received from Jan to Dec 2012. It decreased comparing to last year. It proves that this kind of cost-effective nursing model can be further explored in community for enhancing better use of hospital resource and assisting aged homes staff to provide quality of care to their elderly.