



Service Priorities and Programmes
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Unification of Safe Practices in Drug Administration decrease Medication Incidents in Acute M&G Setting

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Introduction

Nurses play a very important role in drug administration process which is crucial to the treatment of patients while wrong administration of drug may lead to serious harm to patients. In view of historical factor, each ward has her own practice in the process of drug administration which may confuse doctors and nurse who need to work across wards. Department of Medicine & Geriatrics in Tuen Mun Hospital has 12 acute wards magnifying the severity if all wards have different practices in drug administration. The department had unified the safe practices in drug administration in the beginning of year 2010 aiming to decrease the medication incident in drug administration to zero.

Objectives

1. To unify the safe practices within the department aiming at zero incident in drug administration.
2. To enhance the nursing staff awareness of Drug Administration

Methodology

1. Established a Working Group of Safe Practice in Drug Administration in September 2009 to collect & review different wards' practices in drug administration in order to formulate a unified practice within department.
2. To design and produce a booklet in the safe practices for staff easy reference.
3. The content of the safe practices are extensively involved all aspects concerning drug administration, from unified ward setting, cluster guidelines, to details of MAR (Medication Administration Record) documentation, setting of drug frequency, standardize of drug administration time, ordering of emergency drug, transcription to new MAR, etc with example to illustrate the unified format for staff to follow.
4. Staff forum within department in several times held to share the practices aiming to enhance the staff awareness in safe drug administration.
5. The Unification of Safe Practices in Drug Administration was officially launched in January 2010 in M&G Department TMH after all M&G nurses attended the forum.
6. Periodic review the medication incidents in order to revise & review the practices up to date.

Result

Although we cannot reach the dream of zero incident, the Medication Incident involving drug administration in M&G department was drastically decreased 52% when having comparison before launching the unification of Safe Practice, in numerical, 25 cases in year 2009 while 12 cases in 2010 and also 12 cases in 2011. In view of the success of the unification, the working group was reformed as M&G Drug Administration Safety Management Team in September 2012 and the safe practices was updated to version 2 at the same time.