

Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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Promoting Fire Safety in clinical setting

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Introduction

Fire safety is a critical issue to hospitals because of the flammable liquids, gases, lasers and other ignitable materials are prevalent in a hospital. Although fire hazard is not common in hospital, the number of victims is considerable if a fire occurs, since most of the patients and residents are weak and unable to move. In order to reduce the risk of fire and enhance staff's knowledge about fire safety including evacuation process, the fire safety program has been conducted in clinical setting since May of 2012.

Objectives

1. To enhance staff's awareness of fire safety in clinical setting 2. To reduce the risk of fire hazard in ward setting 3. To educate frontline staff how to respond to fires 4. To facilitate the evacuation process in case of fire hazard

Methodology

The program to promote fire safety covers three main areas as below: 1. Fire Prevention In order to reduce the risk of fire hazard, a systematic scheme was developed. There are storage limits for the flammable liquids and it must be stored individually. In addition, flammable gases such as oxygen must be stored under 5S method to ensure that the valve of oxygen cylinder is closed tightly. All staff has been invited to attend a hospital fire drill in turn. Fire prevention and safety skills and evacuation plan have been educated to all staff in ward. Staff training records must be kept to assure that all staff is trained and their knowledge are retained. 2. Quick and Simple fire evacuation plan A quick and simple fire evacuation plan for our ward was developed and will be updated time to time with reference to the corporate guideline (United Christian Hospital Fire Safety Manual; Ref: UCHCM/A/11/6). The fire evacuation plan is in a flow chart format with photos in order to facilitate frontline staff to handle fire hazard quickly. Besides, the fire evacuation plan has been placed in a noticeable place which nearby the fire panels; it had been uploaded in the Department of Medicine & Geriatrics of United Christian Hospital website to ensure everyone can access it easily.

Result

100% of staff in ward aware the importance of fire safety and the fire evacuation plan.