



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

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Establish occupational safety and health (OSH) system to assure the safety of staff and patients in acute ward setting

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Introduction

According to United Christian Hospital (UCH) Injury of Duty Report, there were 294 cases of Injury of Duty (IOD) in 2011. Staff is the most important asset of hospital and therefore maintaining a safe and healthy workplace is our prior responsibility. Since 2011, the Occupational Safety and Health restructure program has been conducted.

Objectives

Establish a mechanism in place to assure Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) in acute ward setting.

Methodology

The mechanism was established with reference to corporate guideline (Section 3 Quality Improvement Standards for hospitals; Standard 39) to assure OSH in acute ward setting. There are few areas we concern as below: Risk assessment All OSH risks have been systematically identified, assessed and analyzed regularly. Manual Handling Operation (MHO) is a common procedure in acute ward, there were more than 40 IOD cases reported in 2011 due to MHO. A new MHO assessment form for acute ward setting was designed base on the hospital MHO checklist. Risk Reduction 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. Needle stick injury is common in acute ward. Regular training has been conducted for our staff in order to retain their knowledge of occupational safety. Besides, the number of injection trolley was increased to facilitate the injection procedure and reduce the risk of needle stick injury. Regular Training MHO Regular training that covers needle injury and fire safety has been conducted for our staff. All training records must be kept to assure that all staff is trained and their knowledge are retained. Safety guideline and procedures Safety guideline and procedures for MHO, fire safety and chemical safety was renewed. The flow chart of fire evacuation plan for our ward and the quick reference for handling chemical substances were noticed at conspicuous place.

Result

The mechanism in our wards was established to assure staff and patients safety. All

staff is educated in OSH training and recognizes the importance of OSH. Regular audits would be held in the future to assure the compliance rate.