



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 988

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ECMO express: retrieval service

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Keywords:

ECMO

Retrieval

Nursing

Introduction

ECMO (extra-corporeal circuit oxygenation) is the use of a cardiopulmonary bypass circuit for temporary life support for patients with potentially reversible cardiac and/or respiratory failure. However, with the financial and geographical restriction of resources, the availability of ECMO service is still limiting to a few major public hospitals in Hong Kong. Under this circumstance, the ECMO retrieval service was born for the greater benefit of critically ill population. Team composition and nursing responsibilities: QMH AICU first started the emergency ECMO retrieval service in Jan 2011. The retrieval team compose of both doctors and nurses. A competent retrieval team nurse is required to tackle patient and ECMO machine problems independently.

Objectives

To establish a sustainable care model with timely retrieval and patient safety as priority.

Methodology

Assess and analyze the team structure, response time/retrieval logistics and patients' outcome retrospectively by using the Donabedian Quality of Care Framework.

Result

1.Currently, there are 20% of the total nursing staffs in QMH AICU have been trained for retrieval service. 2.The response time from accepting referral to arrival at remote destination is within 90 minutes. 3.9 cases were retrieved for ECMO support since Jan 2011. Zero incidents were noted during transferal. 55% of these patients survived and discharged from ICU without permanent disability.