



Service Priorities and Programmes
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Modified Medication Administration Record (MAR) Reduces Frequency of Drug Chart Transcription and Relieve Frontline Staff Workload in Rehabilitation ward

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Introduction

Drug chart transcription has been time and effort consuming to both medical and nursing staffs. It is also associated with transcription errors and potentially threatens medication safety. A newly designed Medication Administration Record (MAR) was proposed to be used in Rehabilitation Block of Tuen Mun Hospital, aiming to reduce frequency of transcription, relieve frontline staff workload and maintain medication safety.

Objectives

To investigate the safety profile and efficacy of the newly designed MAR, and measure satisfaction of medical and nursing staffs.

Methodology

The traditional MAR in Tuen Mun Hospital has 7 columns to record drug administration. Transcription is required after 7 days use at most. The newly designed drug chart consists of 14 columns, thus allowing less frequent MAR transcription. A trial run of the new MAR was launched on 4/12/2013 in one convalescent ward of Tuen Mun Hospital. Patient's length of stay, frequency of transcription and near miss events are recorded. Another convalescent ward using the traditional MAR was enrolled to serve as control. A questionnaire was given to all medical and nursing staffs in the study ward to collect opinions.

Result

Between the period 24/12/2013 and 24/2/2014 there were 133 patient transfers in study ward and 126 in control ward. The median length of stay in study ward (14 days) was longer than that of control ward (11 days). There were a total of 173 and 210 transcriptions in study ward and control ward during the period. The percentage reduction in total transcription in study ward was 24.2% (length of stay adjusted). During the trial run period no incorrect drug prescription or administration, missing drug items or wrong patient identity were reported. All 17 nursing staffs and 3 medical staffs in the study ward responded to the questionnaire. 94% of nursing and 100% of

medical staff was satisfied with the design of the new MAR. 88% of nursing and 100% of medical staffs was satisfied with the logistics. 94% of nursing and all medical staffs believed the new MAR has good safety profile and efficacy.