



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

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Submitting author: Ms Chui Ping WOO

Post title: Advanced Practice Nurse, Castle Peak Hospital, NTWC

OAP in-service Training- Enhancing dementia care competency for formal carers in acute psychogeriatric admission wards

Woo CP

Department of Old Age Psychiatry, Castle Peak Hospital

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Introduction

Nearly 10% to 30% of in-patients in Department of Old Age Psychiatry (OAP), Castle Peak Hospital (CPH) are suffered from dementia. The prevalence of Behavioral and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia (BPSD) is particularly high among this group of patients. Deficiencies in the knowledge, skills and attitudes of all healthcare professionals are significant contributing factors towards the suboptimal care for people suffered from dementia. As to enhance CPH OAP formal carers' skills and knowledge in caring people with dementia, a dementia care training programme was organized in CPH OAP in-patient service from June 2013 to August 2013.

Objectives

- To foster a positive attitude towards dementia care in psychogeriatric wards - To equip nurse learners and health care assistants with basic knowledge and skills in caring patients with dementia - To enhance the OAP nursing staff in the delivery of high quality specialty care for people with dementia in wards

Methodology

A dementia care training program with 11 training sessions under four themes was organized in CPH OAP in-patient service from June 2013 to August 2013. The four thematic trainings included non-pharmacological interventions, communication with people with dementia, management of BPSD and dementia care safety issues. Target participants were OAP nursing staff, supporting staff and nurse learners. Trainings were conducted in lectures, videos, discussions and case sharing. Participants were invited to fill an 11 questions evaluation form after each training.

Result

Total attendances were 123 with 18.8% nursing staff, 19.5% supporting staff and 61.8% nurse learners. 100% return of course evaluation forms received. 72.4% formal carers in OAP expressed they did not have adequate training to work in psychogeriatric wards. 77.3% of them agreed it was difficult to manage dementia with BPSD. 44.7 % participants strongly agreed and 54.5% participants agreed the training program enhances staff skills and knowledge in dementia care and helpful to their daily work in psychogeriatric wards. 40.7% participants strongly agreed and 59.3% participants agreed they increased confidence in dementia care. 48.8% participants

strongly agreed and 52.2% participants agreed they satisfied with the OAP in-service training program. Conclusion There is evidence that this dementia training program for formal carers in acute psychogeriatric admission wards could be beneficial to enhance staff skills and knowledge in dementia care. Staff increased confident and felt satisfied with the training program. Continuing profession education is crucial to build staff empowerment and improve the quality of care for patients with dementia.