



## Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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### **Electronic Nursing Care Plan**

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### **Keywords:**

Nursing Care Plan

### **Introduction**

A nursing care plan outlines the nursing care to be provided to patients. It is a set of actions the nurse will deliver after nursing diagnoses are identified. It is also used to coordinate the ongoing provision of nursing care and act as a communicating tool among nursing staff. It is nurse's core responsibility to prepare care planning and delivery based on the assessment of patient needs with clear documentation in patient health record. However, clinical nurses are always occupied by busy nursing activities and find it difficult to spare time for documentation of the individualized care plan, intervention and outcome precisely. The excel file of electronic nursing care plan provides a simple tool for nurses to prepare the nursing care plan in a few minutes and complete their documentation efficiently and concisely.

### **Objectives**

To ensure the patient care is planned and the ongoing care is coordinated effectively  
To identify any risks to the patient's ongoing health and wellbeing systematically  
To guide the junior nursing staff or new comer for precise documentation  
To facilitate the clinical handover concisely and effectively for the continuity of care

### **Methodology**

An excel file was designed for nursing staff to summarize the direction of individualized care to the patient in one to two pages summary. Nurses just select the focus problem from the excel file, print the summary and complete the care plan with signature and name. The care plan is then filed as clinical management sheet in patient record. The nursing care plan provides the specifically outline which observations to do, what nursing actions to perform, and what education the patients or family members required. The care plan serves as a guide for assigning staff to perform comprehensive assessment and provide appropriate care for the patients to meet their needs. It also serves as a means of communicating and organizing the actions required in focus charting format. Outcomes and result of interventions are documented systematically thus nurses can hand over to the nurses of next shift duty easily.

### **Result**

The Electronic Nursing Care Plan was implemented in Neurosurgery since May 2013 and the content was reviewed in September 2013 to ensure comprehensive nursing

documentation. A staff opinion survey was done in January 2014 to get the opinion on the usefulness of the Electronic Nursing Care Plan. Over 80 % of staff agreed that the excel file is easy to use and has provided a simple tool for them to identify the patient's needs systematically and summarize the current and ongoing care provided to patient with clear and concise documentation. 90% of nursing staff can complete a Nursing Care Plan within 5 minutes. All staff agreed that the care plan provide a framework for junior staff on nursing documentation.