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Thematic Analysis for the factors influencing Compliance Rate of Hand Hygiene for the Health Care Workers in Emergency Department: A Critical Literature Review.

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Introduction

Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) or nosocomial infections are major global health problems which are preventable disease. Hand hygiene (HH) is the most simple and effective way to prevent HAIs, however, the compliance rate for that has been shown to be poor. Although many studies have identified factors influencing HH compliance among Health Care Workers (HCWs) in general hospital settings. However, there are limited studies have been done in the setting of ED.

Objectives

To critically review the identified literatures on factors influencing HH for HCWs in ED;
To make reference for future studies for HH issue by researchers.

Methodology

CINAHL, MEDLINE and PSYCINFO databases were systematically searched for articles focusing on the factors that influencing the HH practices for HCWs in ED. Critical Literature Review (CLR) was adopted in this study and each article was systematically reviewed by using the critiquing framework of Coughlan et al. (2007) and the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP) to identify the trustworthiness and applicability.

Result

Over 100 articles met the eligibility criteria and finally 10 articles were selected for the CLR. By using thematic analysis, 10 common themes were identified, by which there were divided into 3 categories as related to organization, HCWs in ED and patients / public in ED. There is a domino effect among the identified themes. Positive Chain Reaction formed by the driving forces and the restraining forces may develop with negative influencing factors against the positive chain reaction process. However, negative chain reaction and domino effects can be minimized by the dominant factor of "Top management support" in its positive nature. All the factors may then become

positive influencing factors with domino effects. The HCWs' perception and their HH behaviour is one of major factors that influence the compliance of the HH. Commitment and motivation to one's self are imperative to achieve in promoting the HH. The compliance of this important procedure also depends to the hospital administration and top management support. Hence, to increase the HH compliance for HCWs in ED, top management support and effective leadership are of paramount importance to success.