

Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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How well are we doing on the basic fall prevention strategies?

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Introduction

Providing patient with a reachable call bell, the use of low height bed and appropriate use of bedside rails were some common strategies for patient fall prevention program. However, we were not sure about our staff compliance on implementation. Hence, the Shatin Hospital (SH) and Bradbury Hospice (BBH) Nursing Task Force of Fall and Restraint Reduction had conducted an audit on the compliance of these three basic fall prevention strategies in October 2013.

Objectives

To evaluate the compliance of nurses on the provision of a reachable call bell to patient, the appropriate application of low height bed and use of bedside rails.

Methodology

1. All in-patient of SH & BBH that include departments of Medical and Geriatrics, Psychiatry, Surgical and Palliative were included. All patients at risk of fall were checked. 2. 3th September 2013 was chosen for on-site observation of staff compliance on providing fall prevention strategies to patients with risk of fall. 3. Task force members identified patients with fall risk by reviewing case notes and then on-site observation of bed units of these fallers were carried out to see whether reachable call bells, appropriate bed level were adjusted and the bed side rails were used appropriately according to patients' mobility level.

Result

Overall, the compliance rate was over 90%, (provision of reachable call bell was 96.4%, appropriate height of low bed was 99.8%, and appropriate use of bed-side rail was 98.3%).