



**Service Priorities and Programmes**  
**Electronic Presentations**

**Convention ID:** 432

**Submitting author:** Ms YUK LIN LINDA CHAN

**Post title:** Ward Manager, Ruttonjee & Tang Shiu Kin Hospitals, HKEC

**Implementing a standardize physical assessment nursing skill to identify problems and prioritize clinical intervention of acute unwell patients in three acute medical wards**

*Chan CH, Chan YL, Ho H, Lam TH, Li WC, Mak KM, Ng KC, Ng MW, Yu CF  
Acute Integrated Medical Services, Ruttonjee and Tang Shui Kin Hospitals.*

**Keywords:**

Standardize physical nursing assessment  
ABCDE approach

**Introduction**

The clinical conditions of most of the patients admitted to the three Acute Integrated Medical Services (AIMS) wards were usually unstable. It required prompt and effective nursing actions to early identify patient's unstable conditions and critical changes, thus give appropriate nursing management. However, the clinical experiences of most of our nurses, especially those newly graduated, were inadequate to cope with these complex situations. Therefore, a systematic approach on physical assessment was adopted to standardize nurses' skills in physical assessment. It would be implemented in the three AIMS wards to strengthen our nursing competence.

**Objectives**

To implement systematic physical assessment skills by using ABCDE approach to facilitate nursing staff for physical assessment of acute unwell patients in three AIMS ward. It aids in determining the severity of problems and to prioritize clinical interventions in a patient with changing condition.

**Methodology**

Firstly nursing guide on physical assessment skill would be developed and standardized in three AIMS wards. Secondly training sessions would be conducted to all nurses in AIMS wards. Thirdly, staff feedback would be collected to identify their view on the new practice; a pre and post training evaluation would be conducted to measure the comprehensiveness and effectiveness of the trainings. A nursing audit tool would be designed and would carry out to evaluate the compliance of the ongoing practice.

**Result**

Pre-training evaluation demonstrated majority of staff lacked of systematic and efficiency approach in nursing assessment when patient developed acute unwell condition. After the implementation of the ABCDE approach in nursing assessment, approximate 80% of staff expressed that the approach was user friendly and effective to identify and prioritize patient problems. In order to ensure the continuous quality

improvement of the new practice, post-training evaluation will be conducted to identify the needs for further training and audit will be carried out to evaluate the compliance of practice in order to maintain the continuous quality improvement.