



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

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Submitting author: Ms Pik Ha KWAN

Post title: Registered Nurse, Tuen Mun Hospital, NTWC

Enhancement of Wound Care Program for Cancer Patients in NTWC

Kwan PH, Fung DK, Lau YN, Lam PY, Chan LN, Lok PY

Department of Clinical Oncology, Tuen Mun Hospital, New Territories West Cluster

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Introduction

Inconsistence wound charting and poor wound care leads to poor patient outcomes, decrease quality of life, prolonged healing time and length of stay. Following advice from ACHS consultancy survey (2012), standard criterion 1.5.3, incidence and impact of pressure ulcers, skin break down are minimized through wound prevention and management programs. Also, wound documentation systems are implemented that support continuity of care and assessment of progress towards goals. In order to meet the criteria of ACHS and improve quality of care, enhancement of wound care program is needed.

Objectives

- To design a new wound chart for documentation. - To develop a wound care education program. - To collect feedback of the program from nursing staff.

Methodology

The program started from July, 2013 to Sept, 2013. Firstly, the new wound chart was designed for daily use in "one wound one wound chart" principle. It consisted of 2 pages, the first page included wound assessment and management parameters, while the second page give a quick reference of "Wound Dressing Materials of Different Wound Types". Abbreviations for documentation also listed in page 2 of the wound chart. For easier and comprehensive wound site documentation, the "wound location diagram" which was being used for Nursing Summary in CMS was added. It illustrates sites with numbering system, from head to toe (number 1 to 35). The new wound chart started pilot use on July, 2013 onward. In the meantime, a wound care teaching session was carried out for part of nursing staffs. The teaching PowerPoint was then uploaded to departmental homepage. The written information was also filed in the wound management education folder. Information was kept updated and reviewed regularly. Nurse feedback regarding the impact of wound management program was collected in Sept, 2013.

Result

Positive feedback regarding both new wound chart and teaching materials were collected. The new wound chart simplified the wound documentation, increase consistency and timely wound documentation. The numbering wound diagram is

useful for describe wound location, facilitates better communication between hospital and tertiary care. Nursing staff also appreciated with the quick reference page which gives updated wound products information so that they can choose appropriate dressing materials easily and correctly. Besides, nursing staff were satisfied with the teaching session and education folder. Teaching information can be easily retrieved via intranet and education folder, current trend of practice were reviewed regularly, evidence-based practice and patient outcomes were enhanced.