



Service Priorities and Programmes
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Submitting author: Miss Y C POON

Post title: Nursing Officer, Tseung Kwan O Hospital, KEC

A Spot that glows and shines - Promotion of Hand Hygiene in Intensive Care Unit , Department of Medicine, Tseung Kwan O Hospital

Ching CK(1), Sinn Maria(1), Chan Jacky(1), Chan Cindy(1), Poon YC(1), Lee Perry(1), Cheng Louise(1), Lau YY(1), Hung CL(1), Wong PL(1), Infection control team members of ICU(1), (1), Intensive Care Unit, Tseung Kwan O Hospital

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Introduction

Introduction: Health-care associated infection (HCAI) associated with increased mortality and morbidity. In May 2013, World Health Organization (WHO) SAVE LIVES: Clean Your Hands campaign stress the importance of hand hygiene to prevent HCAI. Our unit took initiative in cultivate climate to minimize HCAI, hand hygiene program was started since 2012. The promising result encouraged us to collaborate with medical department to commence a hand hygiene promotion program in 2013, and was followed by other departments in the Hospital. Now this has been turned into a hospital wide program since late 2013.

Objectives

Objectives: 1. To increase awareness of staff on the principle of hand hygiene. 2. To enhance staff compliance on “5 moments” of hand hygiene. 3. To safeguard our patients and ourselves.

Methodology

Methodology: Hand hygiene promotion was performed at regular intervals since 2012. Strategies to enhance multidisciplinary staff’s awareness and compliance were done including education, peer’s reminders, screen saver promotion, banner and warm tips etc. In 2013, two Hand Hygiene compliance audits were performed in Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of Tseung Kwan O Hospital. Data was collected by convenience sampling and direct observation. Subjects included doctor, nurse, allied health, health care assistance and supporting staff. Hand hygiene promotion program was started. Innovative idea to promote staff awareness, create a user friendly and easy assessable hand hygiene facilities to increase compliance of staff. Post-intervention hand hygiene audit was performed and identified areas for improvement. Improvement strategies reignited

Result

Result: In year 2013, a total of 325 samples were collected in pre and post intervention audit. Exclude those who did not provide direct patient care, the overall compliance in pre-intervention audit was 52.7% Intervention showed positive impact

on hand hygiene. In post-intervention audit overall compliance was 92.5%. Compare with pre-intervention result of “5 moments” of hand hygiene in 2012, the compliance of “moment 5” was increased from 19.8% in 2012 to 37.5% in 2013. Conclusion: Hand hygiene was the most simple and cost effective way to minimize HCAI. Regular hand hygiene promotion created a synergistic effect to build up unit culture on hand hygiene compliance.