



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

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Improvement program in management of urethral catheterization

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Introduction

There is increasing prevalence of long term urethral catheterization among those newly admitted patients. It brings to increasing service demand in caring for patients with long term urethral catheterization. Studies confirmed that long term urethral catheterization might result at recurrent catheter-associated urinary tract infections. Before this program, there is no structured review system to revisit the necessity of long term urethral catheterization in SLH and the direction in caring for this client group is not clear. Besides, frontline staff do not have sufficient knowledge and skills in assessing patient's need for long term urethral catheterization.

Objectives

(1) to gain insight on advanced practice of continence care, (2) to equip ward staff with related knowledge and skills, (3) to standardize the practice by making reference to related care standards / guidelines to consolidate a set of materials to guide practice; and developing flow chart / checklist for weaning off urethral catheter, (4) use an evidence-based approach to try weaning off patient's long term urethral catheter, (5) to enhance patient's quality of life

Methodology

Literature search was done before starting the program. Existing care standards of continence care were explored and consolidated to compile a handbook to guide practice. Suitable cases were selected. Case discussion among medical and nursing staff was held and patient's relatives were involved in decision making. After suitable patients were selected, continence and urine output assessment were carried out. USG of abdomen was arranged and CSU for culture and sensitivity test were performed to ensure suitability of patient. Tried to wean off patient's urinary catheter and closely monitored the urine output. Fluid intake / output was observed and amount of residual urine were monitored by using the bladder scan.

Result

2 of the patients got their long term urethral catheter weaned off. Another one patient is now in good progress.