



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

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Submitting author: Ms CHEUNG HAI YIP

Post title: Registered Nurse, Prince of Wales Hospital,

Prepare a comical cartoon book for children undergoing paediatric surgery

Yip CH

A&ICU (OT), Prince of Wales Hospital

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Introduction

Preoperative anxiety in children is a common phenomenon that has been associated with a number of negative behaviors during the surgery experience such as crying, agitation and so on. One of the major sources of distress is the child's lack of information or unfamiliarity with the surgical process. A comical cartoon book is in a format that would be easy for child to understand. A cartoon book is not only letting paediatric patients know more about OT environment but also the common use of equipment (oximeter and oxygen mask) so as to reduce their anxiety. The good way to prepare paediatric patients for surgery, no matter what their ages, are to give age-appropriate information or idea of what to expect in the operation theatre. Providing an early cartoon book at ward they might see, and allow them to ask questions they may have.

Objectives

1. Enhance patient's preoperative education 2. Reduce anxiety for patients and their family 3. Improve patient cooperation during and between medical procedures 4. Enhance trust between patients, family members, and health care providers 5. Improve quality of nursing care

Methodology

From the recommendation of post-parental satisfaction survey in paediatric surgery, we knew both patients and their parents eager to know more about operation information. A comical cartoon book is in a format that would be easy for child to understand. In order to prepare a comic book, I looked for a graphic illustrator and searched a donation for cost of printing. Since we are volunteer for this project, we took a long time to workout a preliminary design. We also incorporate anaesthetist's and surgeons ideas into the book and finalise it with bilingual language.

Result

The cartoon book can provide educational and anxiety-reducing benefits. Given the

relatively low production costs and its easy administration, it can be recommended as a popular, practical and cost-efficient tool to prepare children and parents for surgery.