



**Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations**

Convention ID: 999

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A New Method of Drain and Tube Fixation after Shortening of a Drainage Tube

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Keywords:

Drain and Tube

Fixation

Drainage Tube

Introduction

Surgical drains and tubes after postoperative management is essential among surgical patients. These drains and tubes can avoid complications, promote wound healing, and promote positive results, which speed up recovery strategies and early hospital discharge. Drains and tubes are commonly secured by looping suture material around a drain. However, it slips out easily upon removal of stitches. A new method is introduced to maintain the retaining knot of a stitch to secure a drain after shortening of a drainage tube.

Objectives

1. To inform about the importance of drain and tube fixation 2. To discuss the current practice among hospitals on drain and tube fixation 3. To carry out an effective method for drain and tube fixation that is not invasive to patient skin and to better secure the drain 4. To encourage the nursing staff to participate on some skillful techniques on securing drains for patients

Methodology

We carried out a workshop on an effective method for drains and tubes fixation, which includes a lecture and a video and hands-on demonstration to all surgical nursing staff.

Result

Results: A total of 30 nurses attended the workshop. The satisfaction rate is high; 75% of nurses felt this method is safer to prevent drain dislodgement and almost 50% of nurses may use this method. The procedure takes longer when the tube is being fixed, and the procedure is complicated such that a student nurse cannot be left to perform it without supervision. Therefore, only 38% of nurses felt that the described method is helpful to their work. Conclusion: In this workshop, nurses agreed that securing drains and tubes is a necessary part of patient care; nevertheless it requires the nursing staff to take time for training and for the demonstration of the technique. Some nursing staff may feel less confident and are reluctant to change. A large discrepancy between nurse's perceptions and their daily practice must be addressed. Shortage of manpower is a resistance for the training. Insufficient staffing levels for nurses are

associated with more adverse health outcomes and have significant implications for financial cost. To maintain a high level of professionalism, an improvement in nurse training may help them develop a more active role in the future.