



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 108

Submitting author: Dr Kin Ming POON

Post title: Associate Consultant, Pok Oi Hospital, NTWC

Fall Prevention Enhancement Program in the Emergency Medicine Ward of Pok Oi Hospital

*Cheung CY, Fung WC, Poon KM Henry, Wong WM Billy, Ong KL
Department of Accident and Emergency, Pok Oi Hospital*

Keywords:

Fall prevention

Program

Casualty

Emergency Medicine

Introduction

With aging population, fall prevention has become one of the most challenging tasks all hospitals have to face. Fall injury may result in serious injury to patients, leading to prolonged hospital stay. The Emergency Medicine (EM) Ward of Pok Oi Hospital was relocated in December of 2012 and the number of beds increased from 30 to 40 to meet the increasing demand. There were altogether 24 fall incidents, with severity index ranging from 1 to 4, after the relocation of EM Ward. Fall prevention enhancement program was launched in September of 2015.

Objectives

To raise the awareness of patients and staffs of fall prevention To ensure a safe living environment for patients

Methodology

The Fall Prevention Enhancement Program includes: 1.The reinforcement on use of yellow vest for patients with high fall risk as identified by the Morse Fall Scale; 2.Newly designed notice board at the entrance of the cubicle to locate patients with high fall risk; 3.Employment of fall prevention checklist to facilitate nursing documentation in patients' clinical file; 4.List of medications, that may contribute to patient fall, is available in every patient's drug chart for staff reference; 5.Instruction is given to supporting staffs, who would pair up for floor mopping in the ward. When a staff has cleaned the floor of one specified area, another staff would immediately help to dry up the floor of that area before they move on to clean next specified area. With the announcement of floor mopping through Public Address system, patients could avoid fall injury due to slippery floor. Briefing sessions were conducted on 14th & 15th September 2015. The content included reinforcement of existing fall preventive practices and the newly initiated Fall Prevention Enhancement Program, as specified. There were altogether 40 nursing staffs & 32 supporting staffs (including HCA/PCA/OPA) who attended these sessions.

Result

The implementation of this enhancement program has served to raise the awareness of fall prevention in our EM ward. We managed to achieve zero fall incident in the subsequent three months after the implementation (Oct to Dec 2015). We will continue to reinforce our program with regular review and sharing.