



## Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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### **Ensuring Safe Transport of Critically Ill Patients Through Training**

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#### **Introduction**

Transport of the critically ill exposes vulnerable patients to additional risks which are associated with high rates of potentially detrimental complications. Adverse physiological changes in critically ill patients during transport, especially those who are ventilator-dependent, are common and can be life-threatening. To ensure safe transport of critically ill patients from one clinical to another clinical setting, it is the prevailing practice in our Department for nursing staff to perform accurate assessment of and optimize the patients' conditions before transfer. Hence, our nursing staff's knowledge on "safe transport of critically ill patients" is of pivotal importance. "Transpac 200" is a new model of portable ventilator which is now available in our Department. Despite previous ventilator training, most of our nurses are not familiar with the use of this new ventilator. Moreover, there is lack of training on functional testing of the Bag Valve Mask. To ensure safe transport of critically ill patients, we have identified the need for and have accordingly organized relevant training workshops for our nursing staff.

#### **Objectives**

1. To promote nurses' knowledge on "Principles of safe transport of critically ill patient";
2. To enhance nurses' knowledge on the use and trouble-shooting of portable ventilator in general and "Transpac 200" in particular;
3. To enhance nurses' skills in functional testing of Bag Valve Mask and use of escort box.

#### **Methodology**

Four identical Workshops on the "Principle of safe transport of critically ill patients", by lectures and demonstrations, were organized to enhance staff's knowledge and skills on management of critically ill patients during transport, use of portable ventilator and functioning testing of Bag Valve Mask.

#### **Result**

A total of 71 nurses of different grades attended the four Workshops. Evaluation form was distributed to each participant after each Workshop to obtain feedback and ensure quality control of the training program. Based on the 70 completed evaluation forms collected, 94% of staff was satisfied with the overall training program. With the

knowledge and skills gained from the Workshop, our nurses are now more confident in the practice of safe transport of critically ill patients. Since the organization of the workshops, no adverse incidents related to the transport of critically ill patients have been reported in our Department