



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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Fall Prevention: What are the perceptions of patients and their families in a rehabilitation setting?

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Introduction

Introduction:

Rehabilitation is a process aims at optimizing patient's physical functional level. To achieve desire outcome of rehabilitation, involvement of patient's family is essential. However, there will be variance affecting patient's rehabilitation such as patient fall.

In Department of Surgery of Shatin Hospital, Fall Prevention is a Risk Registry and fall incidents were analyzed regularly.

According to the data analyzed in year 2015, 42% fall incidents occurred were closely related to patient's families. Although fall prevention education was provided to patient's families, understanding more about our patients and their families would help us to establish more focused care.

Besides enhancing our strategies to aware patients' risk of fall , an evaluation on patients and relatives' perception and knowledge on fall prevention was conducted to help us to gain useful information for improvement.

Objectives

Objectives:

- To evaluate patients and their families' perception and knowledge on fall prevention.
- To enhance the patients and their families' awareness on fall prevention.

Methodology

Methodology:

- Fall incidents of year 2015 and 2016 were analyzed.
- Comparison of evaluation of year 2015 and 2016 was done.
- Questionnaires were designed for evaluation of patients and their

families' understanding on fall prevention.

-Evaluation of patients and their families' understanding of fall prevention measures (such as watching video) was done.

-Total 49 patients or family members were invited for the questionnaires.

-Poster was designed and displayed in ward area to share fall incidents occurred in our department.

Result

Result:

Fall incidents related to patients' families occurred in 2016 (till end of October) was decreased from 42% to 23% when compared with 2015's data.

The sharing of fall information via poster was effective to alert patients and their families on importance of fall prevention. The display of the poster with fall incident information was useful for ward staff to explain the reality situation.

What is more, the questionnaires helped staff to understand mind set of patients and their families on fall prevention.

However, patients were found not familiar with the existing fall prevention measures in ward area. They were not able to recall the data after watching the fall prevention video.

At the same time, patients usually overconfident on their mobility. More than half of patients (53%) denied that they are at risk of fall.

Conclusion:

Health care professionals always put great effort in preventing patients' fall in hospital. However, patients and their families' thought were not well understood. It might greatly affect the outcome of rehabilitation.

Effective communication with patients' family in rehabilitation setting is very essential to minimize patient fall.

To encourage active participation of patients' family on fall prevention program is highly recommended.