



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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Quality Improvement Program on Fall Prevention

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Introduction

In Department of Paediatric Cardiology (DPC) of Queen Mary Hospital (QMH), the incidence rate of falls in 2013/2014 was 0.41 which was lower than the HA Benchmark (0.46). However, the incidence rate of falls in 2014/2015 was increased to 0.72 which was higher than the HA Benchmark, despite the effort of implementing the fall risk assessment and nursing interventions. All episodes of falls were in the presence of caregivers. Underestimation of the fall risk of children by their caregivers was one of the major causes of the falls. Therefore, a quality improvement program was implemented to enhance the awareness of caregivers on falls prevention, as well as to empower nursing staff to implement the fall risk assessment and nursing interventions.

Objectives

1) To reduce the incidence rate of falls in DPC, 2) to enhance caregivers' awareness of falls prevention, 3) to strengthen nursing staff's knowledge and practice to implement fall risk assessment and nursing interventions

Methodology

The improvement program was conducted since 1/1/2015. There were three dimensions of interventions: 1) enhancing patients' and caregivers' awareness of falls prevention, 2) enhancing staff's awareness and knowledge of falls prevention and fall risk assessment, and 3) eliminating risks factors for falls. The incidence rate of falls, measured in the central audit by Quality and Safety Team of QMH, was used as an indicator for evaluation. An internal nursing audit to assess staff's compliance on the implementation of CHAMPS fall risk assessment and nursing interventions was conducted from 12th to 19th December 2016.

Result

After the implementation of the program, the incidence rate of falls in DPC declined from 0.72 to 0.29 which was lower than the HA Benchmark (0.43). In the internal

nursing audit, 100% staff's compliance rates of the implementation of CHAMPS fall risk assessment and nursing interventions were achieved. Caregivers' and staff's awareness on falls prevention was further enhanced to strive for zero fall incidents in our unit.