



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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Nurse Clinic (Radiotherapy) improves the quality of service in Clinical Oncology Department of Queen Mary Hospital

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Introduction

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Radiation therapy (RT) is currently one of the most widely used treatment options for cancer, approximately 60% of patients undergo radiation treatment during the course of their disease. In 2014, in Department of Clinical Oncology, more than 350 procedures related to skin care which was related to adverse effects of radiotherapy. Patients need hospitalization and RT treatment suspension because of skin desquamations. There were no systematic approach and lack of continuity of care, side effects and toxicities were unable managed properly.

Objectives

To implement the RT nurse-led clinic so as to provide best practice standards, minimize radiation related side effects and improve patients' quality of life during their radiotherapy treatment journey; Identify and manage skin toxicities and other side-effects, avoid treatment delays and hospitalizations

Methodology

1. Formation and standardization of protocols and guidelines for nurse clinic: Assessment, nursing care plan, intervention and evaluation by trained oncology nurses
2. Develop of logistics plan for nurse clinic.
3. Monitor and evaluate the services by patients' satisfaction survey, 12 questions; using Likert scale (1 = strongly disagree and 5 = strongly agree)

Result

A total of 700 patient attendances from Oct 2015 to Sep 2016, all new cases before

RT will be assessed, individual care plan with intervention will be provided. Nurses provided skin care, wound management and pain control. 80% of patients freed skin downs. NO patient suspension of RT because of severe skin reactions. 90% of patients were free from pain. 5% of patients have rated the pain score for 5 because of severe wound pain. Management of fatigue, Pain control, skin care, oral care, nutrition and hydration, management of diarrhea, psychosocial / spiritual support were also provided.

98% patients agreed that they got emotional support by nurses; 90% agreed (strongly agreed) they were satisfied with the services.

Conclusion:

Nurse clinic (Radiotherapy) was successfully and accredited by hospital authority in September 2016. Holistic care was provided to patients with individual assessment, continuity nursing care plan and management throughout their RT treatment journey and was highly appreciated by patients also.