



## Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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### **Nursing Education Programme to Improve Epilepsy Care**

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#### **Keywords:**

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#### **Introduction**

Epilepsy is one of the commonest neurological conditions in paediatrics. Studies have shown that proper education of the caretakers is pivotal in improving the quality of life of these families. Nursing colleagues are important frontline staff for providing proper education.

#### **Objectives**

To update nurses' knowledge on epilepsy, from background knowledge to clinical management

To empower nurses to perform education and counselling to families and caretakers

To empower caretakers of patients with epilepsy in management of epilepsy

#### **Methodology**

Series of didactic lectures with interactive questions-and-answers sessions were arranged to enhance nurses' knowledge. Nurses were motivated to develop systematic materials for educational purposes. Surveys were conducted to assess the efficacy of these activities.

#### **Result**

From Jan 2012 to Feb 2017, a total of six lectures were carried out. Topics covered include basics of epilepsy to advanced treatment like ketogenic diet, and epilepsy surgery, etc

Educational materials on epilepsy, including acute seizure management, etc were developed to enhance patient education. Standard care plan for epilepsy was also developed. There were nearly 400 patients/ families counselled on acute seizure/ epilepsy management so far. For nurses who have completed surveys, there was ~40% improvement in the knowledge. For families/ caretakers, there were also ~30% improvement in knowledge on epilepsy and nearly 40% of them became more confident in looking after children with epilepsy after education/ counselling sessions.

In conclusion, epilepsy education is important part of management in this chronic conditions. By education and empowerment of nurses, the service could further be enhanced. Development of specialty nurse should be considered in the long run to improve quality of care.