Enhancement program for transfer of critically ill patients in Neurosurgical department

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Introduction
Transfer of critically ill patients is very common in Neurosurgical department. Most of the critically ill patients in Neurosurgical department are intubated requiring exceptional attention by both doctor and nurse of escort team. During the whole process of transfer, a lot of patient monitoring devices, catheters and drains are attached to patient. Therefore, the communication among the escort team and the competency to use the equipment are at utmost importance. Hence, the enhancement program was implemented in the department to deal with this important issue.

Objectives
To promote a good and closed-loop communication among the escort team with a clear role & responsibility in order to promote safety during transport of critically ill adult patients.
To enhance the staff competency and the knowledge on equipment during the escort.
To maintain a clear documentation for the event during the escort and the airway and breathing condition afterward.

Methodology
A training on the commonly used equipment during escort was conducted to all nursing staff.
A quick reference was developed for the role of escort nurse and doctor.
Adopted the nursing guidelines for transfer of critically ill patient to fit the operation in the department.
An audit on Intra-hospital transport of critically ill patients was performed in between May and June of 2016.

Result
The escort nurse and doctor know their roles clearly and work in a good team during
the transfer of critically ill patients.
The nursing staff were able to operate the commonly used equipment smoothly and safely during the escort.
A good documentation by escort staff on airway and breathing condition was established upon completion of transfer.
The overall compliance was 99.73% in the audit.