



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 449

Submitting author: Miss Choi Kuen CHENG

Post title: Ward Manager, Tung Wah Hospital

The Impact of Changing Conventional Practice in Personal Hygiene for Patient: from Basin to Disposable Bathe Wipes- A Pilot Program

Karen CHENG¹, Peter LAI³, Becky LEUNG¹, CH WONG¹, Edith CHAN¹, KY CHUNG¹, PY FAN¹, PY TONG¹, SK FUNG¹, SM CHAN¹, MM YEUNG¹, HC YEUNG¹ and HP CHUNG¹

1. Department of Surgery, TWH; 2. CND TWH and 3. Department ICU, QMH

Keywords:

Personal Hygiene
Change
Disposable Bathe Wipes
Perceptions

Introduction

The use of basin is a conventional practice for patient's personal hygiene especially during early post-operative period and in bed-ridden conditions. Literature suggested it is the main source of cross infection to low immunity or immune-compromised patients. Also, there are problems of basin storage, cleansing and water spillage.

Objectives

To explore alternative practice to enhance patient safety- The use of bathe wipes to replace basin in a special care unit (SCU).

Methodology

To change the conventional practice of using basin to disposable bathe wipes is the chosen method for patient's personal hygiene. The instruction of using the bathe wipes was first introduced to nursing staff since Oct 2016. Two questionnaires were developed based on the literature reviews and experts consultation to measure nurse's and patient's perception of change. Nurse' perception of change is measured by semi-structure interview at the end of the pilot program. Patient's perception of change is measured by 10 rating scale after use. The questionnaire survey was conducted at the end of the study period in 3 months using convenience sampling.

Result

There was overwhelming positive feedback from both nurses (N=9) and patients (N=20). A majority of patients found the use of bathe wipes could promote a sense of comfort (90%), cleanliness (85%), wellbeing (80%) and dignity (60%). Overall satisfaction level on personal hygiene was high, 95% of patient rated 8-10 high marks in the evaluation form. All nurses (N=9) recognized the improvement in the change.

They welcomed the use of bathe wipes on shorten the time of preparation, better time control, user friendly, and lower risk of cross infection. An additional benefit was observed on the better skin integrity after usage as evidenced by reducing the use of aqueous cream after the procedure. However, there were concerns about the odor of the bathe wipes and the latent heat duration <15min. Also, insignificantly soiled cases, more than one pack might be required. That mean it costs double up the price from \$7.5 to \$15 for the first post-operative day. This pilot program demonstrated a positive impact towards the change of patient's personal hygiene practice at SCU. A larger scale of rolling out of the practice of use bathe wipes for bed-ridden patient is therefore highly recommended for further corroborating the findings.