



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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The Effectiveness of Pain Enhancement Program

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Introduction

Hospital audit on pain assessment and management provides the framework of governing the essential practice of nurses in dealing with patients' pain symptoms. Pain is regarded as the 5th vital sign. It is a common and distressing symptom seen in oncology patients too. To engage nursing staff in understanding the conforming and essential practice of pain assessment and management in our oncology unit, a "Pain Enhancement Program" was conducted during the period of 1/1/2016 to 30/4/2016. To evaluate the effectiveness of the program, a pain audit was also conducted in July 2016.

Objectives

1. To strengthen ward nurses' knowledge and skills related to pain control
2. To improve nurse compliance by direct coaching related to pain assessment and management
3. To identify weakness and strength after the Pain Enhancement Program and Pain Audit results

Methodology

A tool and Pain Focus Group were developed for staff coaching. The tool used for this activity was a modified pain audit form developed from hospital. It was regarded as one full observation if completed. Five senior colleagues were invited to join Pain Focus Group. Each group member was responsible to follow up 8-10 ward frontline nursing colleagues' observations. There were 47 ward nurses when the program started. Each ward colleague was invited to make 3 observations and returned their observations to Pain Focus Group member.

Result

The response rate of the program was 97.1%. The percentage of correct observations was 82%. Exploring the sub-items of incorrect observations, "carry out non-pharmacology nursing intervention for pain relief" & "maintain accurate documentation of pain assessment and management" were the two suboptimal

observations identified.

A Pain Audit on pain assessment and management was conducted in July 2016 to evaluate the effectiveness of the program. The overall compliance rate was 89.9% which showed improvement in compared with former own departmental or hospital audit.