



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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Be conscientious; be smart to strive for zero tolerance on 'Total Parental Nutrition Prescription' in an acute surgical ward

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Introduction

The administration of 'Total Parental Nutrition' is common in surgical units. The accuracy of TPN prescription is important since several additives will be added into the bag fluid. Every morning, the interns are occupied by medical round and urgent scan bookings; they are always in a hurry to fill in the 'Integrated TPN Order Form' before the early cut off time set by pharmacy. Thus, prescription errors are easily occurred. Any incident happened may cause harmful consequences to our patients.

Objectives

To provide a safe environment for the doctors to have TPN prescription without any nuisance

Methodology

Both the survey and audits were conducted from 17th to 30th, October 2016.

Survey on Work Process for TPN Prescription:

1. TPN corner for doctors' prescription was assigned.
2. Colorful folder was designed for its designated use.
3. Pharmacy was discussed to change the cut off time of receiving prescription sheet.
4. Doctors including interns were invited to fill in the questionnaire.

For accuracy and compliance of whether the prescription could be done on time, audits were carried out by the AM shift duty in-charge at 13:00.

Result

Results

Total 13 questionnaires were collected. 53.84% of the doctors stated they could have the TPN prescription done on time. 61.5% of the doctors agreed that the

provision of a designated corner for TPN prescription was useful. 84.6% of the doctors commented that the designated folder, whiteboard and the overall work process for TPN prescription was appreciated.

Total 69 audit sheet were collected. There were two occurrences (2.90%) of late 'TPN Prescription'. There was a single episode (1.45%) that the column for 'Known Drug Allergy' was missed and a prescription error (1.45%) that one of the additives was wrongly written from 10ml to 100ml.

Conclusion

Establishment of a safe environment, designated folder and the TPN whiteboard were all welcome by the doctors and nurses. Further measures should be enhanced to strive for zero tolerance, which include the provision of briefing to the interns on the day of orientation; the uses of abbreviations are forbidden and have careful checking prior to write the prescription. We hope that TPN prescription via IPMOE for dispensing and administration in the long run will come true.