



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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Develop Photo Guide to Enhance Safe Mobilization of Fragile Patients in CCH

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Introduction

In the Cheshire Home, most of the long term infirmity patients are suffering from different degree of spasticity and limb contracture. Their joints' deformity causes decreased range of movement and increased resistance to passive movements, which leads to functional impairments, discomfort or any other limitation in daily activities such as self-feeding, dressing and performing personal hygiene. The joint rigidity that accompanies contracture make commonly used positioning technique to prevent pressure ulcer may be difficult for this group of patients. Unfortunately, there were 3 patients found to be fracture during reposition from Jan to June 2016. Besides, staff reflect that rigid limbs make bathing, patient transfer and dressing of patient much difficult. Therefore good positioning with designated photo guide is safer in helping staff to perform patient mobilization.

Objectives

- To enhance staff' s knowledge, awareness and skills in handling patients with spasticity and limb contracture
- To avoid patient incident during mobilization.

Methodology

A Safe Mobilization of Fragile Patient Program with photo guide development was conducted from 2Q2016 to 3Q2016.

- Educational talks on "Safe Mobilization of Fragile Patient" were held to nurses & supporting staff in 2Q 2016.
- An intensive training program to supporting staff to enhance their knowledge and skills on positioning of patients with limb contracture was conducted in 2Q 2016.
- An individualized, step by step instruction diagram for those patients with severe limbs contracture is used to illustrate staff to perform good positioning.
- Develop the designated photo guide of each high risk patient during patients transfer, turning and positioning in Aug 2016
- On-job refresher training on patients transfer, turning and positioning techniques

conducted from 17/8/2016 to 8/9/2016 in wards.

- An educational board was designed and displayed at all clinical areas.
- A promotion slogan “Slow movement, Care with heart” to enhance the staff awareness

Result

- Total 52 sets of designated photo guides were created for high risk patients
- An audit on staffs’ skills on positioning of patients with severe limb contracture according to photo guide was performed with 100% compliance rate involving 40 supporting staff.
- 98% nursing staff were satisfied with the photo guide and Safety Mobilization of Fragile Patient Program
- No incident of patients fracture occurred from July 2016 to Jan 2017.

Enhancing staff’s knowledge and skills about caring of these spasticity and limb contracture patients with using the photo guide are essential and effective in reducing difficulties of performing patients daily care, transfer and mobilization.