



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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Skill Enhancement Programme for Nurses in Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory

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Introduction

Nurses in Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory (CCL) are responsible for care patients who undergo cardiac interventional procedures, and assist doctors to operate different types of devices. Emergent situations of patients may develop quickly and require prompt and efficient responses. Due to the infrequent rotation schedule of our nurses, they were unfamiliar with the operation of the infrequent used cardiac interventional devices and often encountered overwhelming stress when worked again in CCL. To support our nurses in providing safe and quality services, a program was designed and implemented to enhance their competency.

Objectives

1. To reduce nurses' stress level;
2. To strengthen nurses' competency in operating different devices;
3. To enhance the efficiency of operation procedure.

Methodology

Gibbs' reflective cycle was employed in the design of programme. Nurses' experience in CCL was being evaluated and a tailor-made programme was designed. It included (1) quick guides of CCL devices, (2) video clips on device operation and (3) mandatory quarterly hands-on refresher training. A questionnaire in 5-point Likert scale was used to evaluate (1) nurses' perspective on devices operation, (2) usefulness of the training materials and refresher training and (3) stress level before and after the implementation of programme. The average preparation time of CCL device were compared at 18-month interval.

Result

Results

1. All nurses (N=8) expressed stressful when they failed to operate the device effectively and which in turns impeded the whole procedure.

2. The most unfamiliar devices were those infrequently used devices namely Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) and AngioJet.

3. Majority of CCL nurses (95%) agreed that the tailor-made training materials and refresher training were useful. It supports their confidence to operate different devices and thus helps to reduce their stress level. No operation problem had been reported since the implementation of programme.

Conclusion

The programme helped to alleviate the stress level of nurses, promoted their competency and hence maintain their satisfaction in working in CCL. The reduction of device preparation time enhanced the efficiency of operation procedures and thus improves the quality of service.