



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 904

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Shoo the influenza with the Community Nurse

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Keywords:

Influenza Vaccination Pilot Program

Community Nurses

Vaccination Rate

Hospitalization

Introduction

According to the data from world-wide studies, receiving Seasonal Influenza Vaccination (SIV) is the most safest and most effective way to prevent seasonal influenza and its complications. According to the World Health Organization, the number of hospitalizations among older people due to influenza could be reduced by a range from 25% to 39% as a result of SIV. However, the prevalence of Chinese elderly undertaking SIV is still sub optimal with 62.4%. The studies have revealed that there are a number of reasons for the refusal of SIV, including unfavorable side-effects, the skepticism of the effectiveness of the vaccine, the fear of needles and public unawareness of the seriousness of influenza. In order to increase the awareness of the importance of SIV, the Influenza Vaccination Pilot Program was conducted in Kowloon East Cluster Community Nursing Services (KEC CNS)

Objectives

(1) To increase Seasonal Influenza Vaccination rate.

(2) To enrich the role of community nurse on promoting SIV.

Methodology

This pilot program was launched in November 2016 in KEC CNS. Eight community centres were assigned as the pilot sites. The availability and accessibility of SIV information in the website of Department Health was collected. A tailor-made reference was provided to the patients who are under CNS care. The data record sheet was designed to capture the relevant information in term of SIV received in 2015/16 and 2016/17. Motivational and gentle reminders were given to the patients upon home visit so as to increase their awareness and clarify their concerns. Also, community nurse collaborated with Non-government Organization (NGO) to access vaccination in captioned clinic. Regular checking through immunization record and Hospital Authority Clinical Management System was monitored. Furthermore, the

number of those who received SIV in 2015/16 & 2016/17, patients' demographic data and disease group were analyzed.

Result

According to the finding, 1298 patients were recruited. Majority of them were aged above 65 with multiple comorbidities. In addition, 88.5% patients continued SIV in 2015/2016 & 2016/17. Comparing with previous year, there is an increase by 28% in the group of patients who were unvaccinated and motivated to receive SIV in 2016/17.

Community nurses play an active role for contributing to the promotion of SIV in Pilot Program, including health education, and collaboration with NGO. These interventions could increase vaccination rate, reduce burden of health care system and hospitalization related to influenza in order to improve patients' quality of life.