



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 911

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Promotion of the Occupational Safety Culture through the Safety Management System in a Geriatric Unit

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Keywords:

OSH

Introduction

As we all know, the occupational safety involves lives and limbs. A safe work environment not only prevents work accidents but also helps increase operational efficiency.

Therefore, it is important to promote the occupational safety culture in the ward level. Recently, we adopted the Safety Management System which is a method for providing a safe and healthy environment to colleagues. It provides a systematic way to identify hazards and control risks while maintaining assurance that these risk controls are effective

Objectives

To reduce the preventable Injury-On-Duty (IOD)

Methodology

In our unit, 8 Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) focus areas were identified. They were Infection Control, Manual Handling Operation (MHO), Display Screen Equipment (DSE), Fire Safety, Chemical Safety, Workplace Violence, Strike Slip Fall and Sharp Handling

Then, we established an OSH team and designated each teammate to be responsible to the OSH focus area.

Moreover, there are 8 elements of Safety Management System adopted in the ward. Safety Management System

1. Safety Policy: The OSH policy statement was posted in the OSH board.
2. Organizational structure: The OSH team assured the implementation of the commitments to safety and health at the ward level.
3. Safety training: The trainings included basic orientation, mandatory training and specific training such as use of ceiling hoist.
4. In-house safety rules: For the daily operations and the high risk procedures, the in-house safety rules were set up to provide instructions for achieving safety management objectives.

5. Inspection Program: Ward manager, OSH link nurse and the teammates of OSH conduct safety inspections at all times, such as a Proactive OSH ward round. Through the round, good practices were recognized and improvement areas were also identified for continuous improvement.
6. Hazard Control Program: All teammates conduct risk assessments in their OSH focus areas by the related checklists regularly. Besides, 5S program & Behaviour Based Safety (BBS) program were implemented based on the recommendations of the inspection programs.
7. Incident Investigation: As IOD happened in the unit, the incidents would be investigated and identified the causes for preventive measures.
8. Emergency preparedness: A fire drill was established to test and evaluate the preparedness for emergency actions.

Result

With the safety culture, colleagues have a stronger sense of belonging to the ward and are more devoted to their work, thereby enhancing their efficiency to the health care services.