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Hand hygiene campaign in infection control measure in oncology nursing team in a small team approach

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Attractive 'Cartoon & Pets' Poster

Compliance rate 62.8% -> 80%

Introduction

Hand hygiene was crucial to prevent infection for the immune-compromised oncology patient at Clinical Oncology Department at Queen Mary Hospital. However, staff hand hygiene compliance rate was low around 62.8% in 2014 as reported by the hospital ICN team.

Objectives

To motivate and engage oncology nurses in hand hygiene campaign in a small team approach to ensure patient safety.

Methodology

1. Formation of a 'infecton control' small team. 2. Initiated poster campaign on promotion of hand hygiene. 3. Quiz to evaluate staff hand hygiene knowledge and the campaign.

Result

Results: In early 2015, infection control small team was formed. Team head was appointed and members were recruited (6-7) on a voluntary basis. We have autonomy to brainstorm improvement projects. Hand hygiene was selected as the most important measure to avoid the transmission of harmful germs and prevent health care associated infections. We innovatively download and printed out attractive 'Cartoon & Pets' photos as poster reminder displayed to all sight-catching area of our department in July 2015. There were a total of 40 posters. Quiz of 10 questions related to infection control guidelines and effectiveness of the campaign were distributed to 37 nurses and 15 supporting staff. 48/52 (92%) have good comments both on the attractive posters and the quiz, 51/52 (98%) passed the quiz. More to the point, there are also comments from patients and relatives. The hand hygiene compliance rate was increased to 80% in 2015 ($p=0.048$, one tailed) afterward. **Conclusion:** We successfully increased the hand hygiene compliance rate from 62.8% in 2014 to 80% in 2015, shortly after the formation of small team. The

attractiveness of the posters not only has positive impact on staff, but to patients and relatives as well.