

Service Priorities and Programmes

Electronic Presentations

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Be Professional: "Nurse-led Clinical Ward Round" to enhance patient safety & quality of nursing care

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Introduction

The ward round has been a central activity in hospital life. This round was a parade, usually led by senior doctor, with junior doctors and nursing staffs, to act as a working and teaching round for reviewing patient's condition and treatment. In the traditional practice, nurses usually act as a follower to do the prescription after the round. However, nurses, as our professional, are in a 'unique and privileged position' to well known our patients. "Nurse-led Clinical Ward Round" (NLCR) is worthy to establish and contribute our art of nursing care. Through NLCR, patient and medication safety, patient's tidiness, occupational safety hazard, infection control and clinical knowledge will be addressed.

Objectives

1. To ensure patient safety & quality of nursing care 2. To share clinical information & communication between nurses 3. To promote education among nurses and nurse students

Methodology

The concept of NLCR was established in October 2010 of the Colorectal & Hepatobiliary Pancreatic Units in Prince of Wales Hospital. NLCR would be hold daily at 9 a.m. in ward after doctor's grand round by ward manager, nurses, supporting staffs and nursing students. The duration was about 45 minutes and it was undertaken by the shift-in-charge. Team nurse would present patient's condition. Specific treatment by doctor would be addressed. The focus would be patient's safety and tidiness, medication safety, infection control, pressure sore care, occupational safety and clinical education. Survey was designed for evaluation of the outcomes.

Result

The pre & post survey were distributed to forty nursing staff and ten supporting staff with 100% returned rate. 96% of respondents reported that they had opportunity to involve the planning of patient care comparing to 50% of that before NLCR. 98% stated positive effect of NLCR, including increased job satisfaction, decreased

medication and patient safety risk and increased clinical supervision. Besides, the past three years key performance indicators in the units were also measured. The medication safety, fall incident rate, pressure ulcer data and occupational safety hazard were shown better results. NLCR is an opportunity for nurses to share and learn clinical knowledge from senior nurses. Shift-in-charge also enhance the clinical supervision to their junior nurses. Besides, it also provides the platform for nurses to discuss the management of patient care with the patient. This innovative practice is proving successful, not only in improving patient safety and nursing care but also enhancing nurses' professional.