



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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Development of a Quality Care Core Group to Monitor the Water and Dialysate Quality in Haemodialysis Services

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Staff mixing

Staff engagement

Staff empowerment

Introduction

Staff mixing and high staff turn-over rate are great challenges in health care systems. Since the introduction of renal dialysis assistants (RDA) in Hospital Authority in 2007, RDAs have taken up part of the daily duties in the Renal Units. Collecting water and dialysate specimen in the water surveillance program in Haemodialysis (HD) Units require the involving staff be familiar with the machines and the staff have to adhere to the protocol strictly during the procedures. Errors in the sampling methods which lead to unreliable results would increase the cost on repeating the tests and also affects HD services as the machines must be idled once the water quality is not up to standard. With the challenges of staff mixing and high staff turn-over, a CQI program had been developed in a HD Unit in order to engage and empower staff to minimize the errors in the sampling procedures.

Objectives

1. Empower and engage both renal nurses and RDAs in the water surveillance program in Haemodialysis Unit.
2. Minimize the errors in the sampling procedures.
3. Reduce the cost due to repeating the tests.
4. Increase the cost-effectiveness in haemodialysis/ haemodiafiltration machine utilization.

Methodology

1. Develop a core group for the water surveillance program in Haemodialysis Unit.
2. Provide training to core group members on water and dialysate quality monitoring and sampling procedures.
3. Core group members provide regular training and monitoring on RDAs in the procedures of water sampling.

Result

A core group was formed in April 2015 and started the training and monitoring program in November 2015. All water and dialysate specimen in the water surveillance program meet the required standards since the introduction of the CQI program.

