

P355

P355 -Improving Patient Pathways Using Information Technology – PRESCHOOL learning tool

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Problem

Patient education plays an integral part in improving the quality of life and wellbeing of haemodialysis patients. Shared care was adapted in our unit in 2014 with current numbers at 30% of our population performing 5 or more tasks. The CQUIN target is 5%.

We have around 200 patients receiving in centre HD, with currently 50 patients at home receiving home haemodialysis (15% of the total population) The dropout rate is low and in the past 12 months we had 12 leave the HHD programme, 5 deaths, 5 transplants, and only 2 back to in-centre HD.

Our shared care programme provides an ideal platform to prepare patients for home and move from in centre to home HD. We want to improve the knowledge and understanding patients have both in the shared care and home HD environment.

Purpose

In the past 2 years we have trained 38 patients for home HD

We want to support and improve patients transition to home with the use of Information technology in the form of a tablet based learning tool which can be integrated in both the Shared Care and the Home HD educational programmes.

The Shared Care and HHD team have developed several materials to support the training of our patients and their carers, providing a sustainable knowledge base. Often the focus is around cannulation preparation in shared care and machine skills in HHD training, other important areas/topics may be missed. Hence, SHC/HHD preschool was introduced into our training programmes.

Design

Preschool is a tablet based educational tool which gives patients a variety of learning topics/modules to be completed during their training programmes.

We developed our Preschool programme which included 12 modules covering all the topics concerning their haemodialysis treatment such as; basics of dialysis, ultrafiltration, vascular access, fluid management and dietetic information. Some questions that dialysis patients commonly ask were also discussed in these modules, and other basic information that is important.

This tool can be used and adopted by staff during training in both areas of Shared Care and HHD. The tablets are available for patients to use on the unit, loan to take home during training, or download onto their own tablets/laptops.

Findings

Staff and patients have found the Preschool easy to use, follow and understand and it has given the patients more information about their condition and helped with an overall understanding of all aspects of their care. Learning outcomes have been measured through feedback and surveillance and there has been an improvement in the transition from Shared Care to HHD. Patients report better understanding of their overall treatment and are more informed of their health conditions.

Conclusion

Patient education is extremely important and with the help of information technology and learning being more accessible it can provide patients with more knowledge and understanding, empowering the patient and promoting independence. It is a tool easily adapted by staff to use in both Shared Care and HHD training programmes.