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Evaluation of effective strategies in the prevention of chemotherapy induced mucositis at children cancer hospital

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Introduction: Oral mucositis is a frequent side effect of anticancer treatments. It impairs the patient's quality of life, aggravate clinical condition, increase the risk of infection and can delay anticancer treatment. Health care workers at the Children Cancer Hospital (CCH) in Karachi, Pakistan emphasize on oral hygiene to prevent such complications for the patients.

Purpose: Proper oral hygiene protocol can reduce the risk of oral ulcers. In this study we have done the evaluation of oral hygiene. At children cancer hospital all patients are advice to brush their teeth twice a day, use pyodine/Listerine mouth wash thrice a day followed by application of anti fungal jell.

Method: A cross-sectional survey was conducted from date 8/5/2012 to 11/5/2012 at CCH Karachi. 73 admitted patients were the study using convenient sampling, team approached eligible patients and informed consent was obtained from parents. A standardized questionnaire was then administered in Urdu (Pakistan's national language).

Result: 11% of patients reported that they frequently or always suffered from oral ulcer and use mouth washes for gargles; however 79.5% reported that they rarely or never suffered from oral ulcer and use mouth washes. In contrast, 9.6% patients reported that they rarely or never suffered from oral ulcer and do not use mouth washes, whereas none of the patients who reported that they do not use mouth washes for gargles had suffered from oral ulcer frequently or all the time. 2.7% of the patients experienced oral ulcer frequently or always and brush once in a day, 6.8% experienced oral ulcer frequently or always and brush twice or more in a day and 1.4% don't brush and suffered from oral ulcer frequently or always. Conversely, 27.4% never or rarely had oral ulcer and brush once in a day, 54.8% never or rarely had oral ulcer and brush twice or more in a day and 6.8% don't brush and had never or rarely experienced oral ulcer.

Conclusion: The use of proper oral hygiene protocol can decrease the risk of chemotherapy induced mucositis. Majority of the patients at CCH understand the importance of oral hygiene after their doctor's. Further more oral hygiene can decrease levels of oral mucositis and eventually decrease inpatient admissions, delays in treatments and improving the quality of life.

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The concepts for innovation after hospital standardization

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The increasing of healthcare services complexity over the past decades and the increasing of the healthcare coverage has led to a corresponding rise in the demand for healthcare services. Concurrently, the increase of people awareness, experiences and knowledge increase their health need expectations and wants. Therefore, dealing with patient as a clinical case is not accepted, a systematic approach is seriously required to achieve people satisfaction.

Problem Statement: Many of the accredited hospitals have the best possible equipment's and setup, standardized the processes and achieved the target results. Subsequently, what after standardization of hospital care through accreditation and other quality tools?

Approach: To develop integrated systematic approach for patient care. To utilize the quality framework and excellence models to redesign the healthcare systems to support the transition from system based services to patient and family centered concepts.

Purpose: To understand the concepts for innovation after hospital standardization in leading the transition of healthcare services.

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