

SINGHEALTH DUKE-NUS EDUCATION CONFERENCE 2019

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Organ Transplant Nursing Course

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Need & Challenge for the Course

There are currently nine different transplant programmes under SingHealth Transplant, including skin, heart, lungs, kidney, liver, stem cell and cornea.

After the JCI re-accreditation in 2017, it was decided that the current Renal Transplant Nursing Course which started in the year 2010 to expand into the Organ Transplant Nursing course, which will cover essential topics which are important across various organ transplantation with elective modules related to specific transplants. With the advent in medical sciences, organ transplantation has moved from slim probability for patients to hopes for patients with end stage organ failures. SingHealth Transplant Unit recognizes transplant nurses to be highly skilled nursing professionals in a specialized area of medicine particularly those working in renal medicine, surgical, emergency and critical care setting. These nurses are the key to safe and competent care for transplant patients.

In meeting the increasingly complexity of needs in the new transplant ward/ Centre, this course for Registered Nurses (RNs) cover nursing management of solid organ transplant nursing of kidney, lungs, heart and liver patients. The course aims to promote excellence in transplant clinical nursing and to set a platform for nurses to learn about latest advances in organ transplantation and care of transplanted patients.

Description of the Course

It is 8-days course at Academia which consists of lectures, case studies, workshop and role-plays which supported by the respective Doctors from Organ Transplant Units and Infection Prevention Epidemiology, Allied Health Staffs (Pharmacists, Medical Social Workers, Dietician, Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist including the Transplant Coordinators, Advanced Practice Nurses from Nurse Clinician Specialty Care Svcs, Nurse Educators from SingHealth Alice Lee Institute of Advanced Nursing from Singapore General Hospital and National Heart Center Singapore.

Nurses need to equip themselves with knowledge and skills to manage the different process of organ transplant from deceased organ donor to living- related organ donor and potential organ recipient. Hence, there is a need and demand to train more nurses to provide nurses with knowledge and skills to manage and care patients with organ transplantation, such as immediate pre and post-operative management of organ transplantation, management of long term post transplanted patients and the complications that may arise. Aside from these challenges, nurses who are working in the transplant area need to be familiar with transplantation immunology, histocompatibility testing and cross matching and various immunosuppressive treatments used for transplanted patients.

In meeting the increasingly complex of patients to cater the service needs of the upcoming new transplant ward/ Centre, this course will cover organ transplant nursing of kidney, lung, heart and liver patients.

Total number of the transplanted cases for each solid organ transplant programme from 2017 to Sept 2018 in the following table:

Transplant Programme	Breakdown	Total
Heart Transplant	2017: 4 2018: 5	9
Lung Transplant	2017: 0 2018: 2	2
Liver Transplant	2017: 21 2018: 10	31
Renal Transplant	2017: 46 2018: 30	76

Evaluation Methodology

The course consists of Kirkpatrick level 1 which is the evaluation of reaction to the training, whereby questionnaire is administered at the end of each module and Kirkpatrick level 2 which is the evaluation of learning whereby learners have to pass required theory test and complete required skills competency checklist within three months. In Kirkpatrick level 3, learners will need to be assessed annual competencies which to be done in their respective department accordingly. Upon successfully completion of the course, learners will be awarded certification of achievement.

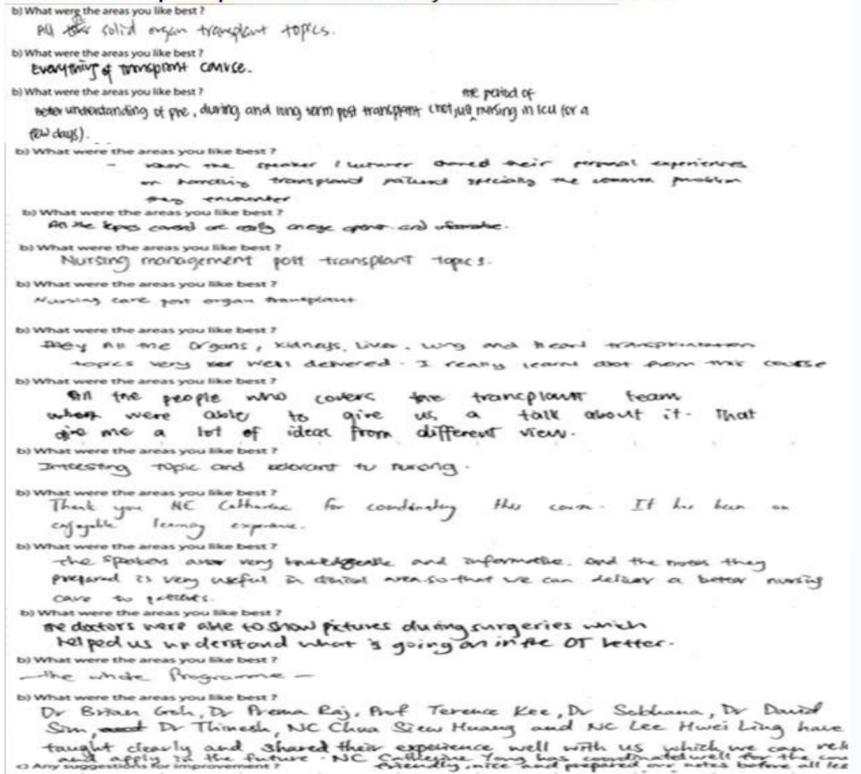


Educational Outcome

19 RNs had attended the 8-days course in October 2018. More than 90% of the trained RN feedback that the course was informative, enriching and had provided them with better understanding and confidence in nursing the patients who had undergone organ transplantation.

The RNs have gained specific knowledge and skills on latest advances in organ transplantation and care of transplanted patients. With the acquired skills and knowledge from this course, they are able to identify the role and responsibilities of the nurse in management of patients on undergoing organ transplantation and post organ transplantation effectively and efficiently.

Below were the participants' areas which they liked best in the course:



Sustainability Plans

We have learned in gaining ideas on ways of structuring information to make it more accessible to learners and to look into a more innovative learning such as creating eLearning with blended learning for future. The future of technology in education will help us to expand beyond linear, text-based learning and to engage learners who learn best in other ways and to promote self-directed learning to the learners.



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