

00149 Effect of a Pharmacist Educational Intervention on Rapid Tranquillisation Medication Orders – A Pilot Study in a Public Hospital in Singapore

Loh Soak Yee, Bharathi Balasundaram, Jiang Li Na, Lim Pei Rong

Changi General Hospital

Aims: Changi General Hospital (CGH), a public hospital in Singapore revised its policy on rapid tranquillisation in 2017. Rapid tranquillisation is a high risk clinical intervention which requires collaboration between doctors, nurses and pharmacists for safe administration. Pharmacists have a pivotal role through medication review. We embarked on a pharmacist training initiative to raise awareness and enhance patient safety and evaluated the effects of educational intervention on knowledge and confidence of pharmacist in managing aggressive patients in CGH with rapid tranquillisation. The usefulness of training was also evaluated.

Methodology: A pretest post-test design was employed in the 60-minutes pilot educational intervention. It was conducted by the study consultant psychiatrist and pharmacist and included an interactive PowerPoint presentation followed by case-based discussions. The survey questionnaire included demographics, 'test the knowledge' questionnaire in a predominant true/ false format, and a clinical scenario. Confidence in managing violent and aggressive patients were recorded using a 5-point Likert scale (high score=greater confidence).

Result: 26 pharmacists completed the survey questionnaire. The knowledge score [maximum score=11] was significantly improved from pre-training [average score of 7.03 (SD 1.61)] to post-training [average score of 9.52 (SD 1.19)], $t = -7.17$, $p < 0.001$. The participants were more confident post-training ($p < 0.001$).

Conclusion: Our pilot educational intervention revealed that training improved pharmacists' knowledge and confidence in reviewing medications used for rapid tranquillisation. Small sample size and selection bias are limitations of this study and larger studies are needed to generalise these results. This pilot study is a stepping stone in our endeavours to enhance the safety of rapid tranquillisation through timely medication reviews by pharmacists. Measures to review the appropriateness of rapid tranquillisation orders and pharmacist interventions on inappropriate rapid tranquillisation orders are being planned. Optimal and timely collaboration between pharmacists, nursing staff and doctors will promote patient safety.