Management of Nursing Care in HIV/AIDS: Quality Improvement

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Quality improvement is very important in a healthcare setting. It is necessary in that it continuously enhances the quality of care provided to patients and improves overall healthcare outcomes. Effective quality improvement aligns with the Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) competencies which specifically account for the knowledge, skills, and behaviors of nurses in a healthcare setting (QSEN Institute, 2022). For nurses, knowledge in quality improvement encompasses understanding the results and importance of data collected from research. From the research, the nurse must learn and use the skills necessary to perform the specific findings the research concluded. During this process, it is important that nurses maintain a positive attitude and professional behavior for the benefit of the patient. Change can be difficult in the healthcare setting, but it is necessary for quality improvement for patients.

Nurses have a significant impact on patients who have Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS). Nurses can assist HIV/AIDS patients by performing testing, providing education, medication administration, emotional support, and end-of-life/palliative care (Moraes Zepeda et al., 2019). Quality improvement in the caring process for HIV/AIDS patients can be a significant part of their lives by having a smoother and more effective treatment process and easier life.

Article Summary

Introduction

The study analyzed individuals hospitalized with HIV/AIDS, focusing on their social conditions, clinical profile, and reasons for hospitalization (Moraes Zepeda et al., 2019). Common

highlighted issues for these patients worsening clinical conditions due to irregular use of medications, social demands, and unrelated health issues as reasons for hospitalization. Of the many findings through the interviews conducted, nurses believed that education for patients to prevent readmission and education for medication adherence were the most important. Educating patients with HIV/AIDS is vital in order for them to have a smoother treatment process and spend more time away from the hospital.

Overview

Nurses must provide a holistic approach when caring for a patient with HIV/AIDS. Patients with HIV/AIDS can be described as having low social support due to it being an incurable and life-limiting condition (Moraes Zepeda et al., 2019). Assisting patients with more than just their physical health, but mental and social health is necessary for their overall treatment. Nurses must develop the skills and knowledge on how to care for patients in a holistic way. HIV/AIDS can be a suffering disease so it is important to maintain a positive attitude and professional behavior with these patients. Quality care according to QSEN competencies are vital in caring for a patient suffering from HIV/AIDS.

Quality Improvement

Nursing interventions with HIV/AIDS patients would primarily take place in a hospital setting as did the research from this article (Moraes Zepeda et al., 2019). For change to occur, minimal new resources will be needed due to the primary change being more education. For this reason, it makes change all that more likely. Educational tools such as printouts, access to more online research sources, and educational videos can be used to assist the patient in learning about and treating their condition. Other options that could be used are home-health nurses to check in

with the patient regarding their condition and medication adherence postadmission. Implementation of the education for the patients would cost very little overall. Most hospitals already have access to resources regarding research and information on HIV/AIDS. All that is simply needed is that research is printed out or given to the patient in one form or another. The use of home health nurses may be more costly, but not as costly for the patient if they are readmitted. Education on disease prevention, medication adherence, and ways to prevent not being admitted again would theoretically increase overall patient satisfaction and nursing satisfaction. Education can also increase a patient's safety due to the individual not becoming severely ill from a lowered immune system. Nursing safety would not change whether the research was implemented or not due to standard precautions always being in place.

References

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