



LINK NURSE TEACHING DAY - BRINGING HAEMOPHILIA TO WARD NURSING

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Introduction and Objectives

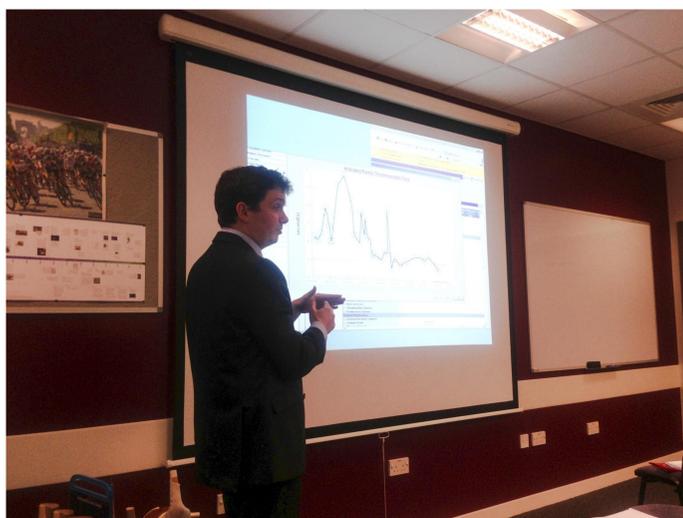
Since 2010 The Royal London Hospital Haemophilia Comprehensive Care Centre has been running the Haemophilia Link Nurse study day for ward nurses. Anecdotally, it had been observed that the care of patients with bleeding disorders delivered by teams other than the haemophilia team was at times sub optimal, with experiences not always fulfilling both patient and hospital expectations. The primary aim of our study day was to educate nurses from all clinical backgrounds, caring for patients with various bleeding disorders at The Royal London Hospital. It was hoped that nurses' anxieties would be reduced whilst caring for this group of patients and simultaneously improving in-patient care.

Methods

To date there have been 4 study days. Each has been a combination of traditional teaching and practical skills, with group work and patient experiences included. The topics covered have been varied and presented by the nurses, doctors, physiotherapist and operations manager from the haemophilia centre, as well as other members of the MDT such as the lab chief and restorative dental consultant. Feedback forms were completed anonymously by attendees to establish gaps in staff knowledge, to ascertain if teaching was to an appropriate level and finally to ascertain if the study day was of benefit to the attendees.

Topics covered during sessions

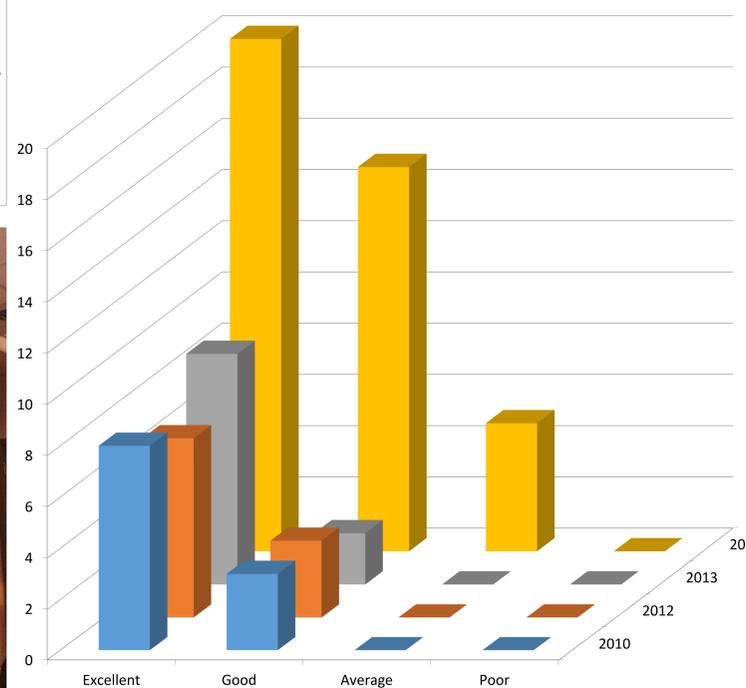
- Introduction to inherited bleeding disorders (IBD)
- Coagulation Lab
- Genetics
- Transfusion transmitted infection
- Physiotherapy in IBD
- Dentistry and Bleeding disorders
- Gynaecology and care of the newborn
- Emergency, trauma and surgery
- Twinning Programme (Bangladesh)
- Factor cost and commissioning process
- Factor treatment therapy (practical session)
- Patient and Family life stories
- Quiz



Results

The combined results for the 4 study days showed an overall 84% response of excellent, with 100% rating the study day good or excellent. 71% rated the style of presentation as excellent. The mean number of attendees as a percentage who found these study days useful in their own area of work was 86%.

Overall rating of study day



Thoughts from attendees

For a ward based nurse with only limited knowledge of haemophilia, I found the day very useful. The talks were pitched at the right level. Good pace and very well organised. There was good interaction between presenters and audience..... Easy to ask questions. Really interesting mix of questions

Thank you

The study day was useful and it enhanced my knowledge of haemophilia and bleeding disorders. This day has also enlightened me on how easily accessible support from the haemophilia team is within the Trust...



Conclusion

This study day has been a proven success; by increasing nurse confidence in caring for these patients, improved clinical ward outcomes have been seen. As a result, a collaborative implementation of strategic treatment plans has since been achieved.

To date this has been an in-house, multi-disciplinary team event, led by those directly involved in the treatment and development of care of patients with bleeding disorders. In the future, it is intended that this study day will cover a wider topic area and include other hospital sites within our organisation, as well as affiliated district general hospitals.

Bibliography

Forrester, C., Bielby, H., Johns, S., Efford, J., Holland, M., Khair, K. and The United Kingdom Haemophilia Nurse's Association (2013), Potential for development of haemophilia link nurse role with UK hospitals. Haemophilia, 19:578-582. doi: 10.1111/hae.12144

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