Achieving Sustained Positive Outcomes for Pressure Ulcers in a Hospital: A Three Year Study Evaluating Skin Care Cost Containment and Pressure Ulcer Incidence Rate.

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Methodology

Crittenden Hospital is a 98 bed acute care facility. The hospitalized patients have a length of stay of 1 to 3 weeks. Prior to initiation of this study, the hospital did not have formulated skin care protocols. Incontinence care products were randomly used. Baseline data for prevalence and incidence rate was collected and then documented monthly for a period of 3 years. The program included new skin care prevention protocols and a variety of educational programs.

Skin Care Protocols: 5 Skin Care Products used in this study

- Incontinence care: Personal care cleanser and protective ointment
- Care for patients with early signs of redness: Personal care cleanser and protective cream
- Denuded skin or patients with extended periods of diarrhea: Personal care cleanser and extra protective cream
- Fungal/yeast infection: Personal care cleanser and antifungal greaseless

Education programs: High Priority 2002 - 2004:

- Interactive PST for nursing assistants. This program is used for annual competency.
- Rewards offered to nursing assistants reporting early skin breakdowns.
- Annual program: 6-hour OPTIONS offered to in-house staff including Nurses, Case Managers and Physical Therapists.

Outcomes/Results:

- Compared to baseline data, a reduction in the incidence rate was shown followed with a sustained low pressure ulcer incidence of <2.08%.

Discussion

The cost to protect 35 patients with incontinence is $1797 per day regardless of the products used.

Conclusion

Implementation of a consistent standardized skin care protocol associated with education has demonstrated improved healthcare outcomes as evidenced by a sustained low incidence rate less than 2.08%, a sustained cost containment for skin care products, along with staff satisfaction as the program gave them the ability to make a difference and improve patient care.

References


Cost containment of skin care products as well incidence rate of pressure ulcers and optimizing effectiveness of a program designed to improve complications related to skin breakdown.

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of a program designed to improve clinical and cost outcomes by decreasing the incidence rate of pressure ulcers and optimizing cost containment of skin care products as well as reforming the educational programs.

PST Practice Success Through Prevention, Smith & Nephew, Inc. Largo, Fla.

OPTIONS™, Smith & Nephew, Inc. Largo, Fla.

PST™ Practice Success Through Prevention, Smith & Nephew, Inc. Largo, Fla.

SECURA™ Protective Ointment, Smith & Nephew, Inc. Largo, Fla.

SECURA™ Extra Protective Cream, Smith & Nephew, Inc. Largo, Fla.

SECURA™ Antifungal Extra Thick, Smith & Nephew, Inc. Largo, Fla.

SECURA™ Personal Cleanser, Smith & Nephew, Inc. Largo, Fla.

SECURA™ Protective Paste, Smith & Nephew, Inc. Largo, Fla.

SECURA™ Protective Cream, Smith & Nephew, Inc. Largo, Fla.

SECURA™ Antifungal Cream, Smith & Nephew, Inc. Largo, Fla.

SECURA™ Personal Cleanser and protective ointment

Care for patients with early signs of redness: Personal care cleanser and protective cream

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Outside home-health agencies are invited every year. Approximately 70 nurses are attending this program from outside agencies.

New hires received extensive education on prevention and treatment of wounds.

All units received regular in-service on skin care products. This includes: Videos, product boards, protocols with pictures.

Hospital appreciation program: Each nursing assistant receives a bottle of lotion after each education program. "Pamper the Hands that Care for Our Patients."

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References