

Quality improvement project on inpatient diabetes care leading to enhanced knowledge of insulin therapy and hypoglycaemia among Health care professionals

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Aim: To measure the impact and effectiveness of information cards in improving the knowledge and awareness of junior doctors and nurses in the management of hypoglycaemia and insulin prescribing.

Method: A questionnaire was initially designed to test existing knowledge of staff directly involved in the management of patients with diabetes, namely the junior doctors and nurses. Based on the knowledge gaps identified, pocket size information cards were given to all junior doctors and nurses across the trust, detailing the correct management of hypoglycaemia and providing basic information on the different types and duration of insulin therapy. The original questionnaire was then redistributed to assess improvement in knowledge.

Results: Out of 157 participants, 80 (50.9 %) completed the pre-training analysis and 77(49%) completed the post training analysis. 45% nurses answered all questions correctly related to insulin nomenclature and characteristics post training, as compared to 5% pre-training ($p<0.01$). 58% nurses and 52% doctors answered all questions correctly related to hypoglycaemia diagnosis and management post training as compared to 26% nurses and 16% doctors pre-training($p<0.01$).

Conclusion: This project showed significant improvement in staff knowledge across all areas. The information cards were agreed to be effective and powerful learning / reference tools. It highlights the effective and powerful role some of these simple learning tools and methodologies can play in the upskilling of basic knowledge of Diabetes amongst healthcare professionals.