

8.12 Quality improvement initiative to improve knowledge on home oxygen therapy amongst physiotherapists and nurses in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital

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Background: Home oxygen should be administered by competent healthcare providers who possess the knowledge, skill, and judgment/abilities to make clinical decisions regarding the administration of oxygen. This poster aimed to assess the knowledge and practice of health professionals towards oxygen therapy.

Methods: Collation and analysis of pre and post nursing and physiotherapy staff surveys following education on home oxygen therapy and provision of a home oxygen therapy resource folder.

Results: Confidence amongst nurses discharging patients home on oxygen improved from 35.3% to 61.5% and ability to seek information on oxygen equipment/prescriptions increased from 41.2% to 80.8%. Physiotherapists scored 100% both pre and post in accessing appropriate documentation and gathering information regarding oxygen equipment/prescriptions. Their knowledge on types of oxygen equipment increased from 80% to 100% and those providing written information to patients on discharge with home oxygen increased from 80% to 90% (see table 1).

Conclusions: Physiotherapist knowledge on home oxygen therapy remains at a very high level in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital. Nursing knowledge has improved across all but one category however high staffing turnover has highlighted the need to conduct quarterly education sessions to maintain staffing knowledge on the topic. The home oxygen therapy folder has proved to be a useful resource for staff in the hospital.

Keywords: Home Oxygen Therapy, Oxygen resources, Education

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Table 1. Physiotherapist and nursing survey results pre and post education and implementation of an oxygen resource folder

| | Confident in discharge with new home O ₂ | | Received education on home oxygen before | | Knowledge on where to access documents to order Home O ₂ | | Knowledge on different O ₂ equipment types | | Knowledge on where to contact about O ₂ equipment or flow rate | | Provided written information to patients on home O ₂ | |
|--|---|--------|--|---------|---|--------|---|--------|---|--------|---|--------|
| | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| Physio Pre-education n=5 | 100% | 0% | 100% | 0% | 100% | 0% | 80% | 20% | 100% | 0% | 80% | 20% |
| Physio Post-education n=10 | 90% | 10% | 100% | 0% | 100% | 0% | 100% | 0% | 100% | 0% | 90% | 10% |
| Nurse Pre-education n= 17 | 35.30% | 64.70% | 0% | 100% | 41.20% | 58.80% | 11.80% | 88.20% | 41.20% | 58.80% | 0% | 100% |
| Nurse Post-education n=26 | 61.50% | 38.50% | 19.20 % | 80.80 % | 42.30% | 57.70% | 23.10% | 76.90% | 80.80% | 19.20% | 7.70% | 92.30% |
| Combined Nursing and Physiotherapists Results Pre-education n=22 | 50% | 50% | 22.70 % | 77.30 % | 68.20% | 31.80% | 27.30% | 72.70% | 54.50% | 45.50% | 18.20% | 81.80% |
| Combined Nursing and Physiotherapists Results Post-education n=36 | 68.60% | 31.40% | 40% | 60% | 57.10% | 42.90% | 37.10% | 62.90% | 85.70% | 14.30% | 28.60% | 71.40% |