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Improving Medication Reconciliation for Older Adults in Home Care

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Abstract

Purpose: Improving medication reconciliation is listed as one of the goals for quality of care and patient safety, particularly in an aging society with multiple chronic diseases.

Materials and Methods: This study enrolled older adults in home care, and the study period was January 1, 2020, to March 31, 2021. From January 1, 2020, to March 31, 2020, the medication reconciliation rate for older adults in home care was only 11.8%. After the collection of up-to-date data, Pareto charts and cause-and-effect diagrams were used to identify the following causes underlying the low reconciliation rate: lack of medication reconciliation guidance tools, lack of primary contact information, lack of implementation of home medication reconciliation procedures, and a lack of medication reconciliation information available during hospitalization. The following intervention strategies were implemented: (1) development of promotional videos on medication reconciliation and health education leaflets, (2) provision of contact cards for designated nurses in the region, (3) establishment of working standards for medication reconciliation, and (4) formulation of medication reconciliation lists.

Results: By the end of the study period, the medication reconciliation rate for older adults in home care had increased from 11.8% to 84.6%. The goal achievement rate was 151%.

Conclusion: At the 6-month follow-up after the end of the study, the reconciliation rate remained at 82.3%.

Keywords: medication reconciliation, older adult, home care

提升居家老年人用藥整合率

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摘要

目的：「提升用藥整合」列為醫療品質及病人安全工作目標之一，隨著進入高齡社會併多重慢性病，顯見整合用藥之重要性。

材料與方法：實施對象為居家老年人，本專案期間為2020年1月1日至2021年3月31日。統計2020年1月至3月居家老年人用藥整合率僅11.8%，分析用藥整合不良原因：缺乏用藥整合指導工具、沒有窗口諮詢、缺乏居家用藥整合流程、住院期間無法得知用藥整合訊息，予介入策略：一、制定用藥整合宣導影片及衛教單張；二、提供地段專責護理師聯繫名片；三、建置用藥整合作業標準；四、制定用藥整合查檢表；五、辦理單位出院準備專責教育訓練。

結果：經專案實施後，居家老年人用藥整合率由11.8%提升至84.6%，目標達成率151%。

結論：專案持續執行策略6個月，效果維持期仍有82.3%。

關鍵詞：用藥整合、老年人、居家護理