

The Effect of Vacuum Dressing and 7 Aspect Model of Care in Elderly Patients with Chronic Wounds: Case Study*

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Abstract

Elderly patients with surgical wound dehiscence got chronic wounds that needed difficult and complicated treatment. The patients were suffering with infected wounds, feeling angry, stressed, and anxious due to the long stay in hospital and increasing expenses. This may lead to fatal condition if they didn't get appropriate care and treatment. The cases were sampled purposively by selecting patients with infected wound. Data were collected using prospective method. Research instruments were personal information questionnaire, PSST and nutritional alert forms, Esaan terms of pains, and wound dressing practice. Satisfaction was analyzed using percentage. The results showed that 90% of nurses followed the wound dressing practice. The results to the patients were as follows: 1) The wound edge was narrower and shallower with less secretion. The tissue was in 100% good condition with no shedding and drought. 2) The pain was reduced to 0 with no seeping. The patients got less anxiety and felt happier so that they could sleep. 3) No infection was found. 4) Vacuum problems could be solved immediately. The patients got enough nutrition and appropriate medication. Multidrug Resistant Organisms were controlled with less pressure ulcer and no complications. 6) Primary doctor could provide knowledge and support dressing tools to patients, relatives or care giver so they could evaluate vacuum status. 7) Registered nurses and patients, relatives satisfaction were 97% and 90.90%, respectively. Expenses and time were reduced 3 and 5 times, respectively, that also reduced workload. Other significances were as follows: 1) It enhanced good cooperation between doctors, nurses, physical therapists, patients, and relatives or care giver. 2) It set standard for wound dressing to follow the same direction and got innovation from the literature review. 3) Records were well kept and well transferred among medical record, Kardex, and during shift changing.

Key Word: Elderly Patient, Surgical Wound Dehiscence, Infected Wound, Vacuum Dressing