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Developing a clinical practice guideline in long-acting antipsychotic intramuscular injection

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Background: Long-acting antipsychotics injection (LAIs) is a well-established and common treatment for mental illness. Routinely, nurses are required to make numerous decisions regarding factors during injection process but the clinical practice guidelines (CPG) are not well developed in Taiwan.

Purpose: The purpose of this study was to establish the process of nurses' injection in implementing CPG to provide nurses refer in clinical practice.

Methods: This study was completed through two stages. Based on the problems of clinical practice, a systematic review of the literature was conducted on studies published till March 2016. The following electronic databases were searched: CINAHL, Medline, Cochrane Library, PubMed, Joanna Briggs Institute, PsycINFO, EMBASE, and EBSCOhost for review. Then, two sessions of Delphi methods were conducted to understand experts' experiences with 8 Taiwan psychiatric nursing experts. The CPG was verified by experts of clinical methodology.

Results: Based on the injection process 17 issues were developed in CPG of LAIs. All of issues of CPG was deleted the items with agreement lower than 75% after Delphi method and finally obtained 16 issues. The CPG was recommended to clinical practice by psychiatric nursing experts and evaluated by three methodology experts for CGP quality.

Conclusion: It is important to update the guidelines that are available to assist nurses to make informed decisions about the injection techniques. Nurses should be encouraged to renew the injection knowledge for patient quality of care.

Biography

Mei-Ling Lin has completed her PhD from the Institute of Allied Health Sciences of Medicine, College of National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan. She is a Psychiatric Head Nurse in Tsaotun Psychiatric Center of Ministry of Health and Welfare in Taiwan and is an Assistant Professor of Nursing department in Central Taiwan University of Science and Technology. Her research interests are in psychiatric nursing and clinical ethics issues.

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