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The development of a constipation symptom management clinical practice guideline for nurses in long term care facilities

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The goal of this scholarly project is to develop constipation symptom management clinical practice guidelines (CPG) for nurses in the long-term care setting. Constipation is common, often chronic, a serious problem in the elderly and results in disruptions in their quality of life. An integrative review was conducted, databases

searched include: Cumulative Index of Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), Academic Search Complete, Medline, and. Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition accessed via the Regis College Library. The purpose of this integrative review of research on constipation in LTCFs is to compare and contrast current interventions, identify risk factors for constipation, and elucidate the prevalence of constipation in LTCFs. The literature was analyzed for inclusion and exclusion criteria. The outcome of the integrative review will be the development of a Constipation Management Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG) that may support nurses in LTCFs with assessing and addressing the symptoms of constipation, consequently improving the quality of life of patients.

CPGs can be utilized to reduce inappropriate variations in practice, to promote the delivery of high quality, evidence-based health care, and provide a means by which nurses can be accountable for clinical activities.

Biography

Roberta Silva has completed her undergraduate degree at Rivier University and a Masters Degree (MSN)/education from Walden University in 2012. Presently, she is a student at Regis College completing her DNP with an education focus. She is the Director of Staff Education, infection control & Antibiotic Stewardship at a Level IV, long-term care, rehab, and short stay facility.

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