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An innovative nursing approach to caring for an obstetric patient with Rape Trauma Syndrome - A case report

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This case report identifies the innovative nursing approach used to facilitate care for an obstetric patient suffering with Rape Trauma Syndrome during labor. Rape Trauma Syndrome (RTS) is a post-traumatic stress disorder that can be triggered by routine procedures experienced during childbirth. An explanation of RTS, signs and symptoms, and how to avoid retraumatization during intrapartum care will be addressed. A case report is presented from a provider perspective to illustrate the seriousness of this disorder and the importance of delivering respectful care. A new approach to obstetrical routines is warranted in order to avoid further traumatizing the woman with RTS. Nurses' creative and innovative thinking is highlighted by the description of how a YouTube video on Foley catheter placement was used to instruct a patient, allowing her to perform self-catheterization following epidural anesthesia. A brief examination of smart-phone use, obstetrical websites, and Healthy People 2020 objectives is also included.

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Tackling accident and emergency attendance crisis: Nurses roles in the case for change

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The challenges of providing a comprehensive National Health Service (NHS) in the UK has never been more demanding. It is well documented that migration and an ageing population with increasing complex needs both add to the growing pressures on Accident and Emergency (A&E) departments. Alongside this, many people have difficulty navigating and gaining access to urgent care services within the community, which accounts for the disproportionate rise in attendances at A&E. The emergence of the Nurse using telephone triage in 999 call contact centers is relatively new in determining alternative solutions for an overstretched ambulance service. Nurses, alongside their Paramedic colleagues are now determining whether the 999 caller requires a visit to A&E by ambulance, or could be dealt with more appropriately by referral to another service within the community. In order to evaluate this, funding was obtained by South East Coast Ambulance NHS Trust to carry out a small scale study to explore the scope of practice of nurses in telephone 999 call contact centres, develop and deliver appropriate training for this enhanced role determine the impact on service provision. Findings prior to and following a bespoke training course suggest there is improvement in the confidence and ability of these Clinicians. Those who had undergone the training were using the NHS pathways software more efficiently; thereby reducing the amount of time spent on 999 calls; fewer ambulances were being dispatched to 999 calls; and an increase in referrals were made to alternative community services.

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