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HOME VISITS FOR IMPROVED PATIENT CARE

Mr.Philip Sebastian

Assistant Professor,

T.John College of Nursing, Gottigere Bangalore.

ABSTRACT

Home visits refers to the identification and prioritization of health needs of the individual and family at their door steps, and provision of care using the available resources. Home is not a hospital setting so most of the time the health care providers should carry the materials required for providing care.

Key Words: Home Visit, patient safety, quality care.

INTRODUCTION

Home visit can be defined as “It refers to meeting the health needs of the people at their home level.” Because studies have shown that home visits, done correctly, can promote quality, safety, and satisfaction, it is considered to be an evidence-based nursing practice.

Evidences Showing that home visits promoting the health status of the community people especially the vulnerable section of the society.

When ever the community health nurses or health care providers are visiting the homes, they can make direct observation on the home environment and based on they can give suggestions for healthy life style practices.

During home visits period the family members are relaxed and staff nurses can clarify their doubts more clearly.

Home visits will be helping the nurses to identify the care given by the family members in planning and implementing family health care services.

Home visits will be helping the community health nurses to contact with all the family members and through that they can identify the life style practices and if any changes are required can given that also.

With out active participation of the family members home visits will not give any results and during home visits nurses are focusing more on comprehensive family health care services emphasis more on preventive and promotive health care services.

REASONS AND BENEFITS OF HOME VISITS:

The major objectives of home visits are health promotion, disease prevention, bed side care.

The vast majority of the sick peoples are in the home especially the geriatric population. Through home visits nurses can identify the health problems and can able to provide health care services according to the needs of the population and through that mortality and morbidity rates will reduce.

Home visits will be considering as the back bone of all MCH services and through this we can reduce the fear and anxiety about the primi gravida mothers and they will be getting idea about JSY, JSSK. etc

During home visits Investigation can be done to rule out the source of infectious diseases, and based on that can provide necessary treatments.

Follow up services can also offer for the health problems identified at the health care institutions.

Home visits will be helpful for the identification of potential health problems and based on that can provide preventive health care services.

Home visits will be helping the nurses to identify the self care efficacy of the family members.

The home visits will be helping to identify the nutritional, immunization status, and potential health hazards of the family and based on those precautionary measures can offer to the family members.

Home visits will be helping to provide health education, clarifying the doubts of the individuals, family's and community. Most of the time the vulnerable section of the society's is not aware about the recent community welfare programmes and policies. Through the Home visits we can share proper information's regarding these schemes and it will be helpful for these sections of the society.

CONCLUSION

In India the most needy and vulnerable group of population, live in rural and urban slums where the availability of health care facilities is very less. Secondly the illiteracy and ignorance are the barriers to avail the existing facilities of health care services. Home visit is the appropriate setting of family health care where all the family members are contacted one time to inculcate health seeking behaviour in them. Home visit is considering as the backbone of community health nursing services.

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