EDUCATIONAL INTERVENTION: IMPROVING LONG-TERM CARE NURSING STAFF COMFORT WITH UTILIZING BLADDER SCANNER

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PURPOSE

❖ Enhance staff knowledge about bladder ultrasound technology
❖ Reduce urinary tract infections and unnecessary intermittent catheterizations in long-term care facilities

BACKGROUND

❖ UTIs result in 20-30% of illnesses reported by long-term care institutions (CDC, 2017).
❖ Among the elderly, there is an increased risk for urinary retention or UTI
❖ Intermittent catheterizations cause pain, discomfort, and complications leading to hospitalization

METHOD

PLAN
Educate the staff of an LTC facility on the importance of utilizing a bladder scanner to decrease the incidence of unnecessary catheterizations and reducing UTIs

DO
Implement the bladder scanner among staff for prevention intermittent catheterizations and UTIs

STUDY
After education, the staff used the bladder scanner to decrease unnecessary catheterizations to decrease UTI rates. Additionally, the facility saved approximately 66.67% cost of supplies in September and October 2022

RESULTS

❖ Content analysis showed bladder scanners are essential for use
❖ Utilization depends on intent and behavior of user
❖ Percentage of usefulness and perceived ease of use increased after education
❖ Behavior and intention to use bladder scanner after education either neutralized too, neither likely nor unlikely or decreased.

DISCUSSION

❖ Before education and utilization of the bladder scanner, UTIs within the facility monthly were around 12; however, after the education and utilization of the bladder scanner UTIs dropped to five (58.33% decrease).
❖ The in/out catheterizations also dropped from seven a day to three.
❖ Additionally, the facility saved approximately 66.67% cost of supplies in September and October 2022

CONCLUSIONS

❖ Improve the patient’s quality of life and reduce the risk of UTIs among patients within the LTCF
❖ Improvement strategies should be embedded into the culture and norms of the facility.
❖ High level of care can only be achieved through evidence-based clinical practices and proactive and preventative strategies.
❖ Use of bladder scanners supports the commitment to improving the safety of the residents of LTC facilities, and decreasing UTIs and unnecessary catheterizations.

REFERENCES