Effectiveness of Implementing Evidence-Based Practice for Traumatic Patients at the Accident and Emergency Department (AED) of Srinagarind University Hospital, Kohn Kaen University
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Problem
In order to save trauma patients, a rapid and effective response is needed. If the trauma nursing team is inadequately skilled, indecision will likely delay response time and/or complications may result from incorrect decisions.

Evidence
Search terms included: trauma, suctioning, shock, hypoxia, fluid resuscitation, traumatic wound and trauma nursing. Eight relevant research studies classified as level A, 5B and 2C were found.

Strategy
The present study followed the clinical nursing practice guideline (CNPG) for traumatic patients, including the sections on: 1) Triage; 2) Primary survey; 3) Secondary survey; and, 4) Pre Discharge.

Practice Change
In the CNPG, Trauma Life Support (TLS), the nurses role includes: triage, management, monitoring, planning of care and approach; airway management; and cervical spine protection. Oxygen must be adequately perfusing the brain; such that any patient with a GCS of 8 or less may need intubation and effective suctioning. Any external hemorrhage must have direct pressure applied. Two large-bore intravenous lines established and 2L of crystalloid rapidly infused in adults. To prevent hypothermia a warm blanket should be applied and warm intravenous infusion given. Psychological support should be given.

Evaluation
All (100%) of our trauma nurses were required to attend the TLS training program. Trauma level 1 is a 1-hour course on rapid response and covers resuscitation. The required response for standard care was 95% with no complications and increased customer satisfaction (for an average customer response of 80%).

Results
A total of 81 patients were attended, most (87.8%) at Level 3, followed by 9.8% at trauma Level 1 and 2.4% at Level 2. The result suggests that the CPG decreased complications and increased satisfaction. The CPG clearly linked nursing practice with a high standard of care.
Recommendations
We should focus one or two interventions and evaluate nursing outcomes (e.g., traumatic wound dressing).

Lessons Learned
Evidence-based practice for trauma care helps to coordinate and supervise nurses at the AED and to instill quality TLS in nursing team.

Keywords:  Evidence-based practice, Clinical nursing practice guidelines, trauma patients

Bibliography