

Questionnaire survey of smoking and its cessation involving psychiatric staff member

-Psychiatric staff members' awareness regarding smoking, and relevant issues-

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Abstract

We administered a questionnaire to the psychiatric staff members in Hospital A to ask them about smoking and its cessation among patients, in order to identify the challenges to encouraging psychiatric patients to quit smoking. As a result, psychiatric staff members' awareness regarding smoking was clarified, and these members were generally aware that smoking has adverse effects on health. In addition, a high smoking rate for these healthcare providers, and differences in their awareness regarding smoking cessation, such as the benefits of smoking, acted as barriers to non-smoking support for psychiatric patients. It is necessary to raise psychiatric staff members' awareness regarding smoking and its cessation, and to adopt organizational approaches targeting smoking cessation throughout the hospital. Tottori J. Clin. Res. 6(2), 69-78, 2015

Keywords: smoking, psychiatric staff members, support for smoking cessation, benefits and health hazards of smoking, cross-tabulation

Introduction

In recent years, public awareness of smoking cessation has been promoted along with the establishment of relevant regulations. Hospital A has encouraged smoking cessation on its premises; however, the smoking rate is particularly high among patients with mental disorders¹⁾, and the psychiatric ward of the hospital has smoking rooms. Thus, measures to enforce smoking cessation for the psychiatric patients have been insufficiently taken. In this hospital, the day room of the Acute Psychiatric Ward B is equipped with a place with separate areas for smokers and non-smokers. In addition, the hospital has a non-smoking time; however, smoking-related problems, the violation of the smoking rules, and accidents (e.g., fires) constantly occur. Against this background, we herein administered a questionnaire to psychiatric staff members in order to clarify their awareness regarding smoking and its cessation among patients, as well as the issues to tackle, toward achieving smoking cessation in the hospital.

I. Definition of terms

Smoker: Individual who smokes every day or

sometimes

Non-smoker: Individual who does not currently smoke

II. Aim

To clarify psychiatric staff members' awareness regarding smoking and its cessation, as well as the issues to tackle, toward achieving smoking cessation in the hospital, by conducting a questionnaire survey involving these members.

III. Methods

1. Study period

Between April 1, 2012, and March 31, 2013

2. Study subjects

A questionnaire was administered to a total of 104 psychiatric staff members working in Hospital A. These members included nurses, psychiatric physicians, occupational therapists (OT), psychiatric social workers (PSW), clinical psychologists (CP), members of the hospital's assertive outreach team (AOT), and pharmacists.

3. Question items

The questionnaire was developed by several researchers to inquire about subjects' ideas