

Improve the completion rate of referrals for palliative care by nurses in the intensive care unit

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Objective This project aims

Improve the completeness rate of palliative care referrals by ICU nurses, ensuring eligible patients receive timely and comprehensive services, including support from the palliative care team and co-attending physicians. It also sought to implement holistic palliative measures and end-of-life care to enhance pain management and overall care quality.

Results

After implementation, referral completeness improved significantly, with consistent involvement of the palliative team and co-care physicians. Standardized pain assessments and medication management led to better pain control.



Methods The project addressed

Issues such as outdated standards, lack of guidelines, limited training, and absence of audit systems. Cancer pain assessment standards and referral workflows were revised. Standardized tools (NRS/VAS) were used to quantify pain.

Guidelines were updated to include clear referral steps involving the palliative team and co-attending physicians, covering pain control, psychological support, family consultation, and end-of-life care. Education through e-learning, multimedia, and morning case discussions strengthened nurses' understanding. An audit system ensured protocol adherence.

Conclusions

Standardized processes, continuous education, and interdisciplinary collaboration with pain managers, family medicine, and palliative teams effectively improved ICU palliative care referral completeness and quality. This model offers a practical, evidence-based reference for enhancing palliative and end-of-life care in healthcare settings. **Contact : b5973146@gmail.com**