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Review of Educational Tools and Awareness of Venous Needle Dislodgement (VND)

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Problem/Purpose: Haemodialysis (HD) is a routine treatment, but life threatening complications still happen, such as VND. In 2008, the EDTNA/ERCA launched a project “How to minimize the risks of VND” which produced some educational tools. We were interested in current awareness of VND and the value of the previous project. Is there a need for an additional tool?

Sample: Healthcare professionals in Nephro care.

Method: This study was based on a survey undertaken at the EDTNA/ERCA congress 2015 in Dresden. The survey was introduced during a presentation and was handed out and collected during the Conference.

Results: Survey respondents (n=81) were predominantly experienced nurses. Over half had experienced a VND at their own clinic. Two thirds assessed the risk of VND at least every month, but only 60% of these are recording the assessment in the patient’s chart. Of the respondents who had experienced a VND, 26% still did not regularly do risk assessments.

Two thirds of respondents were aware of the “12 steps to minimize the risks of VND” poster, where as only 40% were aware of the Risk Assessment Tool. A quarter had paper copies of the Risk Assessment Tool in their clinics, but almost 90% suggested that it would be helpful to have the tool in a digital format – preferably on a computer.

Conclusions/Nursing Implications: There remains a significant group who are not undertaking risk assessments for patients at risk of VND and who are not aware of the Risk Assessment Tool. There is a need for an additional educating tool to minimize the risks of VND.

We have from this data created a digital tool, an educational App, for both computers (PC and Mac) and for tablets, to help increase awareness of VND.

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