Analysis of the Outcomes of Comprehensive Clinical Pharmaceutical Care for Breast Cancer Patients

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Introductions

According to Taiwan Health Promotion Administration, breast cancer has been the lead in Taiwan Cancer Registry since 2008, also, accounted for the highest rate of early detection. Traditionally, pharmacists provide pharmaceutical care through reviewing and dispensing the prescriptions, little effort was made to provide comprehensive pharmaceutical care such as complete medication education or precautions remind when having those medications. It would definitely impact the care program and the treatment outcomes, moreover, might influence the quality of life of patients. Our objective is to provide active interventions and comprehensive pharmaceutical care to breast cancer patients to improve patient safety and care outcomes.

Methods

Researcher retrospectively collected the data of patients from January to December 2016. Enrollees all received the comprehensive pharmaceutical care, including standardized care processes, multiple education materials, and teach-back technique. Pretest and posttest of medication knowledge, patients and families perceptions were collected for quality improvement.

Results

A Total of 2,681 patients (80.3% outpatients, 13.1% inpatients, 6.6% phone contacts) were included in this study. The top 3 frequently asked questions were adverse effects of medications (35.3%), diet precautions (18.2%), information needed to be concerned when on medications (11.5%). 97% of patients fully understood the medication related care program after interventions. 100% of patients satisfied with medication education provided by pharmacists, even, 78.6% felt extremely satisfied.

Conclusions

The medication treatment for breast cancer is getting more individualized day by day, and patients and families are often eager for knowledge about their diseases. Through the strategy of implementing the comprehensive pharmaceutical care, it has shown significant outcomes in not only improving the perceptions of patients and families, but most important of all, the patient safety.