Help the patient to recognise and respond to symptoms of infections



Overview

This standard is about helping the patient to recognise and respond to symptoms of infections.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 check with the patient what they are monitoring (temperature, weight, the quality of the urine they are passing) and the reasons why
- P2 ensure the patient knows the symptoms they may experience which herald an infection (e.g. unexplained shivering)
- P3 give written information to support what is being discussed (e.g. information booklet)
- P4 ensure the patient has written contact details of who to ring if they discover adverse findings (e.g. raised temperature, weight increase with altered urinary output)
- P5 ensure the patient understands the urgency of making contact as soon as possible
- P6 ensure the patient has their medical information on their bodies at all times (e.g. use of medicare necklace, consultant letter when travelling abroad)

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

| K1 | anatomy | and | physiology | of the | human | body |
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- K2 anatomy and physiology of the renal system
- K3 the immune system and how the body responds to infections
- K4 psychological care skills
- K5 current accepted best practice for medication of transplanted patients (e.g. NICE guidelines)
- K6 types and methods of taking different medications
- K7 the effects, side effects and potential interactions of different medications
- K8 the effects, side effects and potential interactions of immunosuppressive therapy on other health conditions, and the effect of other health conditions on immunosuppressive therapy
- K9 the pressures that transplanted patients may come up against
- K10 the rejection process
- K11 immunosuppression therapy
- K12 the likely organisms and symptoms that patients affected might experience
- K13 the current guidelines for diagnosis and treatment of infections in transplanted patients
- K14 how to adapt communication styles in ways which are appropriate to different people (e.g. culture, language or special needs)
- K15 the importance of establishing rapport and how to do so
- K16 how to ask questions, listen carefully and summarise back
- K17 the importance of encouraging individuals to ask questions and how to do so
- K18 basic awareness of the religious beliefs of different cultures
- K19 basic awareness of the effects of different cultures and religions on care management
- K20 the principle of confidentiality and what information may be given to whom
- K21 the importance of involving individuals in discussions, and how to do so
- K22 how to negotiate effectively with individuals, families and other professionals
- K23 the principles of evidence-based practice, and how to apply them

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Additional Information

External links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB4 Enablement to address health and wellbeing needs

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