Nasoenteric feeding discharge planning among cancer patients: a best practice implementation project

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Background: Enteral nutrition using nasoenteric tubes are common among cancer patients, and their utilization could be brief, but frequently the patients become dependent to this device to survive, keeping them homebound.

Objectives: to improve local practice in nasoenteric feeding discharge planning among cancer patients in a cancer teaching hospital in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Methods: The project used the Joanna Briggs Institute’s Practical Application of Clinical Evidence System (PACES) and Getting Research into Practice (GRiP) audit tool for promoting change in health practice. A baseline and a follow up audit were conducted.

Results: Baseline audit results showed that most audit criteria results indicated poor compliance (between 0% and 22%) with the current evidence, however three criteria reached high compliance (100%). After implementation of the strategies including changes to achieve higher participation of caregivers there was an improvement of the audited criteria, keeping 100% of compliance in three of them, other three showed an important improvement (22% to 50%) and only one kept a very poor compliance (0%).

Conclusions: we observed an increase of compliance to the best practices proposed by JBI in nasoenteric discharge planning, in spite of the short period of time of this project.