

Implementation of Video Education to Improve Patient's Knowledge of Activating Emergency Medical System for Stroke Symptoms: Evidence-Based Practice Project on Inpatient Neurology Unit in the United States

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Abstract : Early treatment of stroke leads to higher survival and lower disability rates. Increasing knowledge to activate the emergency medical system for signs of stroke can improve outcomes for patients with stroke and decrease morbidity and mortality. Even though patients who get discharged from the hospital receive standard verbal and printed education, nearly 20% of them answer the question incorrectly when asked, "What will you do if you or someone you know have signs of stroke?" The main goal of this evidence-based project was to improve patients' knowledge of what to do if they have signs of stroke. Evidence suggests that using video education in conjunction with verbal and printed education improves patient comprehension and retention. The percentage of patients who noted that they needed to call 911 for stroke symptoms increased from 80% to 87% in six months after project implementation. The results of this project demonstrate significant improvement in patients' knowledge about the necessity of activation of emergency medical systems for stroke symptoms.

Keywords : emergency medical systems activation, evidence-based practice nursing, stroke education, video education

Conference Title : ICNM 2025 : International Conference on Nursing and Midwifery

Conference Location : Prague, Czechia

Conference Dates : March 22-23, 2025