Be Autonomic Aware... Avoid a Scare

E. Wallace, L. Croxon, S. Lewis, S. Carrig, K. Lennon, E. Smith, R. Flynn,
National Rehabilitation Hospital, Rochestown Avenue, Dún Laoghaire, Dublin Ireland

Aim of Study
To provide information on Autonomic Dysreflexia (AD) that both medical/non-medical personnel have the ability to understand. A visual tool has been designed to achieve this ... a picture story.

Objective
To audit that any medical/non medical personnel will be able to identify;
- Individuals at risk of AD
- Main causes of AD
- Signs and symptoms
- Emergency treatment

Material Methods
- The Framework “Plan Do Study Act” was used throughout the process
- One page visual tool was designed with a focus group
- A simple questionnaire was distributed to (N167) to identify the knowledge level pre/post viewing poster

Group Identities
- OPD spinal cord injury T6 or above
- Advocate Groups
- Non-Medical Control Group 1
- Nursing Profession

Questionnaire
- Who can get AD?
- List the most common cause
- List signs & symptoms
- What management is necessary?

Comments Received on Audit

Nurse:
- Simple straight forward
- Useful for teaching
- Good for patients and family

Patient:
- Clear at a glance
- Please can I have a copy
- Can I have it as an app?

Non Medical:
- I never thought about people in wheelchairs and their issues
- Does everyone know about this?

Advocate Group:
- Where can we get a copy?
- Concise and important

Material Methods
- The Framework “Plan Do Study Act” was used throughout the process
- One page visual tool was designed with a focus group
- A simple questionnaire was distributed to (N167) to identify the knowledge level pre/post viewing poster

Results of Audit

Participants with / without prior knowledge

Limited prior knowledge / no prior knowledge

Overall Result

Series 1 = % with prior knowledge
Series 2 = % with no prior knowledge
Series 3 = Control group % Correct responses after viewing poster

Special thanks to the CEO Derek Green & Eilish Macklin for their ongoing support