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SHORT PAPER

Medical and Care Collaboration between Nurse and Care-worker in a 'Kantaki' Setting; Time-sampling Study

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ABSTRACT

Background: An increasing number of clients with special health care needs receive long-term mechanical ventilatory support at home. This study presents the types of care given to old-aged clients with special health care needs in a Japanese 'Kantaki' home-care institution.

Methods: The care given was followed closely using 24-hour audio-video recording.

Results: The type of care given by the nurse alone was mostly medical care, by the care-worker alone was assistance in eating, toilet, and medical care, and the care given by both together was bathing.

Conclusion: Findings are first direct evidence quantifying the type and respective amounts in such a care home for the old-aged persons with special health care needs.

<Key-words>

home care, kantaki, group home, home mechanical ventilation, special health-care needs.

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I. Introduction

Japan has the highest proportion of old-aged people in the world and has an increasing number receiving long-term home mechanical ventilation (HMV) in their home.1 Accordingly, the Japanese Nursing Association has strongly promoted multifunctional long-term care in small group homes known as Kango Syokibo Takinou gata Kyotakukaigo abbreviated as 'Kantaki', which now employ both nurses and care-workers in order to provide comprehensively care (including daytime care, visiting the client at their own home, and overnight service) for clients living at their own home with special health-care needs 2 Basically, the nurse is trained and registered as having a national qualification in the medical field, whereas the care-worker has a national qualification in the welfare field. They are differently trained and different qualified. Nurses and care-workers are expected to collaborate with each other in delivering care to a client with special health care needs such as HMV in a Kantaki. However, the collaboration (helping each other to carry out a care task together) required or delivered is not yet clear. Moreover, the types of care required have not yet to date been clearly identified and categorised. The findings from this pilot study identified and categorised the type of care required by old-aged clients with HMV - including both daytime and overnight care.

II. Methods

1. Participants

We selected one Kantaki which has been rated as a good service provider of special health-care needs by a government official report³ which is the first guidelines report that sets out a model for external and internal evaluation of Kantaki. During this study period, this local Kantaki accepted four HMV clients in overnight service. Of these, we were obtained three clients and family the informed consent for audio-video (AV) recording in order to discover the types of collaboration and how much collaboration was involved between the nurses and care-workers delivering these services. The remaining one of these four declined citing shyness.

2. Data Collection

Data were collected using 24-hour-AV recording of three participants using Kantaki day-care and overnight services. We focused on recording everything within a 1-meter radius around the client throughout the 24 hours' study period. Other data were collected with consent from long-term care insurance records and included age, sex, main disease, type of home mechanical ventilation, long-term care grade⁴, rank of dementia⁵, and activities of daily living (ADL)⁵. We collected all data during December 2016.

3. Care Classification

The type of care being delivered was categorised according to the care code ⁶⁻⁷ of the long-term care insurance system in Japan. (The types of care have a code number from 111 to 999, and these are distributed within nine larger categories of care.) The Clock Model with time sampling was used in this study. The continuous 24-hours AV recording was closely investigated, and the type of care delivered in each one-minute segment was noted, by each of two independent trained expert observers, who are the authors of this report. At the same time it was noted who delivered the care; the nurse, the care-worker, or both in collaboration.

4. Ethical Considerations

Permission for this study was obtained from the Ethics Committee of Saga Medical School Faculty of Medicine, Saga University (No: 28-12). Written informed consent was obtained from each participant, and each family also gave informed consent to participate, and agreed to the findings being published. The storage and playback of the AV recording was strictly controlled in cooperation with the administrative management staff of the Kantaki. For the awareness of other clients and their families using the Kantaki, we posted a notice describing this study, asking for their kind consideration, with our contact details, together with the implementation period, inside the Kantaki.

III. Results

1. Overview of the Direct Care

Table 1 shows basic characteristics, overview of the direct care (assistance delivered within one metre around the client). Case-A with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) was receiving tracheostomy positive pressure ventilation (TPPV) therapy, and findings showed direct care for 291 minutes; Case-B also with COPD was receiving non-invasive positive pressure ventilation (NPPV) therapy, and received the direct care for 296 minutes; and Case-C with cervical spine injury was receiving TPPV therapy, and direct care for 375 minutes.

<Table 1> Characteristics, Overview of the Direct Care

<lable 1=""> Characteristics, Overview of the Direct Care</lable> client									
characteristic		A	В	\mathbf{C}					
Age / yrs		75	74	75					
Sex		male	female	male					
Main Disease		Chronic	Chronic	Cervical spine					
		Obstructive	Obstructive	injury					
		Pulmonary	Pulmonary						
		Disease	Disease						
		Tracheostomy	Noninvasive	Tracheostomy					
Types of Hom	ne Mechanical Ventilation	Positive	Positive	Positive					
Types of Home Mechanical Ventilation		Pressure Ventilation	Pressure	Pressure					
			Ventilation	Ventilation					
Long-term ca	re grade*	care-level 5	care-level 3	care-level 5					
Rank of deme	entia [†]	IV	Ш	none					
ADL‡		C1	B2	C1					
D 1' Ct / 1 - t		2016/12/20	2016/12/21	2016/12/15					
Recording Sta	Recording Start / date time		9:52 am	10:11 am					
December Finish / data time		2016/12/21	2016/12/22	2016/12/16					
necording Fil	Recording Finish / date time		9:52 am	10:11 am					
Total of Direct Care / mins		291	296	375					
	1.Bath, Dressing, Personal appearance	58	73	41					
Distribution over the 9 function categories [§] / mins	2. Transfer, Movement	40	21	28					
	3.Food, Nutrition and Fluid replacement	39	55	36					
	4. Bathroom	27	25	5					
	5. IADL support	32	33	44					
	6. Social life support	0	6	0					
	7. Behaviour problem	0	0	1					
	8. Medical care	95	75	181					
	9. Rehabilitation	0	8	39					

^{*:} the long term care grade is an index, based on the Long-term Care Insurance System of Japan, which indicates the needs for care services. The greater the number, the longer it is expected to take care for the aged client (Not certified, support level 1 or 2, care level 1 to 5)

^{†:} the rank of dementia is an index, based on the Long-term Care Insurance System of Japan.⁵ Aged with dementia is set to zero (no dementia), or given as rank I to IVbased on the symptoms and behaviors observed in dementia.

^{‡:} the rank of ADL is an index, based on the Long-term Care Insurance System of Japan.⁵ ADL of Aged is divided into rank J to C based on the ADL status.

^{§:} Classification of care based on the Care Code 2006, Long-term Care Insurance System, which is divided into 9 function categories.⁶

2. The Type of Direct Care, and Collaboration between Nurse with Care-Worker

Table 2 shows the type of direct care. The type of direct care by the nurse only was mostly medical care (63.4%), by the care-worker only was administering food, nutrition and fluids (27.2%), and collaboration was bathing, dressing, and personal appearance (55.6%).

< Table 2> The Type of Direct Care, and Collaboration between Nurse with Care-Worker

	provider nurse/care-worker, and total duration for 3 clients								
	Nurse		Care-Worker		Collaboration		Others		
Type of Direct Care	mins (%)		mins (%)		mins (%)		mins (%)		
1. Bath, Dressing,	19	(5.1)	39	(12.1)	114	(55.6)	0	(-)	
Personal appearance									
2. Transfer,	6	(1.6)	28	(8.6)	37	(18.0)	18	(30.0)	
Movement	2.0	(40.0)	0.0	(a = a)		(o =)		()	
3. Food, Nutrition and	38	(10.2)	88	(27.2)	1	(0.5)	0	(-)	
Fluid replacement	1	(0, 2)	01	(10.0)	4	(0,0)	0	(-)	
4. Bathroom	1	(0.3)	61	(18.9)	4	(2.0)	0	(-)	
5. IADL support	65	(17.2)	39	(12.1)	3	(1.5)	2	(3.3)	
6. Social life support	0	(-)	0	(-)	0	(-)	0	(-)	
7. Behavior problem	1	(0.3)	0	(-)	0	(-)	0	(-)	
8. Medical care	237	(63.4)	68	(21.1)	46	(22.4)	0	(-)	
9. Rehabilitation	7	(1.9)	0	(-)	0	(-)	40	(66.7)	
Total mins /24hrs	374		323		205		60		

IV. Discussion

This study identified what kind of direct care and for how long was actual given in practice to old-aged clients with HMV in a Kantaki. However, several limitations exist in this study. First, we did not examine differences in care due to years of experience between nurses and care-workers. Second, we only recorded 24 hours one time; it is necessary to record the same clients several times to increase confidence in the reproducibility of the care content.

The Kantaki delivering seamless and flexible care near their house is convenient for a client with special health care needs and for their family ⁸. The previous study revealed the Kantaki was concerned over how to improve collaboration among their staff ^{9,10}. However, there are no baseline data on what constitutes collaboration in this setting, not any report on the actual practices of a nurse and a care-worker, and the care given has not yet to date been categorised clearly in any Kantaki study.

This research is the first to present baseline data to understand what is the role of the nurse and care-worker in the Kantaki, the direct care time, and the care content.

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CONTENTS

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Structure of Care Managers' Approaches to and Awareness of "Nutritional Improvement" for Care-dependent Older People Yuko FUJIO et al. p.1 A Multi-population Analysis of a Self-care Scale for Menstrual Pain: Causal Relationships between Snacking and Menstrual Pain Eriko YAMAMOTO p.18 Issues in Spousal Bereavement Support for Elderly Men in Japan Makiko YAMAUCHI et al. p.33 A Fundamental Study on Health Anxiety in the Daily Life of Visually Impaired People Living in the Community and the Actual Situation of Patient Acceptance Systems at Medical Institutions Keiko OMOTO p.48 Development of the Disability Awareness Program (DAP) scale: Centering on the Content Validity Verification Mamiko OTA et al. p.63 **SHORT PAPERS** Medical and Care Collaboration between Nurse and Care-worker in a 'Kantaki' Setting: Time-Sampling Study Yumi FUKUYAMA et al. p.74 Preliminary Study on Verb Acquisition Status and Related Factors in Children with Down Syndrome Haruna OKAMIYA et al. p.81 Experience of Reflecting Process in Graduate School for Clinical Psychologist Norimasa ITAKURA et al. p.92 CASE REPORTS / ACTIVITY REPORTS Analysis of Difficultiens faced by Home Health Nursing Practicum Instructors Reiko HATAKEYAMA et al. p.100

> Published by Asian Society of Human Services Yamaguchi, Japan

Mitsuyo SHIMOJO et al.

p.112

UDL using ICT for Inclusive Learning; Learning Support for Students with Diverse Learning Styles, Including Students who Need Special Support