EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT OF A POST-GRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR TREATING WOUNDS IN TRAINEES’ CLINICAL PRACTICE

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Aim: The importance of training health-care professionals for proper clinical practice is widely recognised. However, it is also known that it is not enough to have knowledge if it is not put into practice, and it is not enough for one or two members of a team to have knowledge. It is therefore essential to develop team dynamics that lead to better practice. It is not enough to undergo training: it is important to assess its results. The aim was to alter practices through a project training programme.

Methodology: A post-graduate training programme was designed worth 60 ECTS, lasting one year, during which time 30 students were asked to attend the workplace. The work was carried out under project methodology, with supervision by lecturers in a tutorial system.

Results: 30 projects were undertaken and 30 articles relating to the intervention and results were produced and published. The 33 students enlisted 354 health-care professionals and evaluated 1119 service users. The following clinical results are worth noting:

a) Implementation of pressure-ulcer risk evaluation in 5 departments with prevalence reductions above 50%;
b) training intervention concerning evaluation of wounds and wound-bed preparation in 5 departments, involving 138 nurses, with pre- and post-training evaluation and statistically significant positive results;
c) evaluation and training in the area of documenting nursing care in 4 departments, involving 57 nurses; statistically significant improvement;
d) improved practices in the use of cleaning agents in 4 departments;
e) implementation of pain assessment standard for patients with a wound in 2 departments/34 nurses;
f) implementation of lymphoedema management standard in 1 department (10 nurses);
g) implementation of nutritional evaluation standard in one department (24 health-care professionals);
h) study of leg-ulcer prevalence in 8 health-care centres;
i) evaluation of improved practices in compression therapy (53 nurses).

Conclusion: The results justify the relevance of the project training with tutorial supervision in post-graduate training for wound treatment.