How can we prevent medical errors from happening?

Author

Institutional Affiliations

Author’s Note

How can we prevent medical errors from happening?

Medical errors are considered as the unintended actions or the ones that fail to achieve their expected outcomes. Patient harm due to medical errors can be at various levels such as individual or system level. Moreover, they can occur at different stages during a treatment such as a diagnosis, medication management, treatment, shared decision-making, communication and other human or technical errors. A sentinel event is defined as an unexpected turn of events that cause death, physical and psychological wounds or any other complicated adverse outcomes. Such events call for an immediate investigation about the diagnosis of cause and response upon the indication (Rodziewicz & Hipskind, 2019). The medical errors can be prevented by ensuring every measure for patient safety. It includes the improvement in the current medical procedures, prevention and evasion of adverse outcomes that might arise due to errors in the health care process.

Several practices that can be ensured in the mediation process includes prescription, and labelling of medicine correctly and double-checking before passing it on to the patients. All medications should be labelled properly either syringes, drugs, tablets, or chemicals. Human errors are always considered as an unavoidable problem in the health care process. In order to bring improvement in treatment and care strategies, it is important to identify all these errors. Errors present an opportunity to bring constructive changes and improvement in health care education. The collaboration among different health care professionals and better communication and flow of information regarding patient’s case can prevent medical errors. Medical errors in pediatric care can be prevented by reducing diagnostic and medication errors. The electronic health care records are also a cause of medical errors including mistakes in prescription and can be removed by taking out time to double-check and confirm (Daniel R Neuspiel, 2018). It is imperative to identify the root cause of medical errors and direct the preventive measurements towards that way.

**References**

Daniel R Neuspiel, M. D. (2018, July 1). Prevent medical errors in your practice. Retrieved November 16, 2019, from Contemporary Pediatrics website: https://www.contemporarypediatrics.com/article/prevent-medical-errors-your-practice

Rodziewicz, T. L., & Hipskind, J. E. (2019). Medical Error Prevention. In *StatPearls*. Retrieved from http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK499956/