## Organizing the work of a child nurse at the rheumatology department

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**Relevance.** During the period of 2000-2010, the prevalence of rheumatic diseases in children aged 0-17 years increased by 1.4 times in the Russian Federation.

**Objective:** to optimize the nurses' work with children suffering from rheumatic diseases.

Patients and methods. The department receives children diagnosed with juvenile idiopathic arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, systemic scleroderma, polyarteritis nodosa and other systemic vasculitis, which belong to the group of autoimmune diseases associated with the serious condition of patients. Lack of treatment often leads to disability and death of the patients.

The capacity of the department is 61 beds. During a year, 1400 children aged 0 to 17 years are examined and treated at the department, 88% of them receiving high-tech medical care.

Specific demands are made for the organization of the nursing personnel's work: control, knowledge, skills and competence.

The study used the following methods: analytical, statistical, psychodiagnostic, organizational design (adjustment of technological cooperation between the charge and treatment nurses, junior nurses, matrons and the department's medical personnel).

**Results and discussion.** The department employs 34 people, including the head of the department, 8 doctors, 19 nurses and 4 junior nurses, 1 matron, and 1 educator.

The objective of the nursing personnel is a clear implementation of the doctor's appointments, which include:

- Intravenous infusions (their introduction is made through liniomaty, infusion pumps, and peripheral catheters, which shortens the time of injection and the possible side effects);
- Blood sampling using modern disposable vacuum systems that provide comfort and safety of staff and patients (vacuum systems allow to conduct blood sampling into several tubes simultaneously using a completely closed method).

When caring for patients with autoimmune diseases, the nurses must have the knowledge and competencies, allowing them to identify the first signs of the exacerbation of the underlying disease, infection joining or symptoms of acute adrenal insufficiency appearance.

For this purpose, nursing staff offer classes on the use of new drugs and methods of their introduction, and on the study of their possible side effects.

The nursing staff carries out a set of measures defining the treatment-recovery algorithm at the department associated with specific nosologies.

Factors that should cause wariness in a nurse include a rise in body temperature, the appearance of a bright blush on the face and / or a skin rash, pale skin, sometimes with an earthy shade, lethargy, drowsiness, drop in blood pressure, denial of food. Patients are often negative, whining, impatient.

Nurses practice communication skills with children and their parents as part of a specially designed program, the aim of which is the prevention of occupational stress.

At the department for seriously ill and immobilized patients the nursing staff conducts training sessions with parents, teaching them how to care for their children and contribute to their subsequent rehabilitation.

Several issues were detected during the analysis of nursing staff activities, such as: duplicating work, implementing appointments, violating ethical norms of communication between nurses, patients and their parents. The department conducts special training sessions, where it presents special films, and offers analysis of nurses' errors in their work with patients.

Integrated work and qualifications of medical staff allows to discharge from hospital 98.8% of children with clinical improvement. The qualifications level and work integration demonstrated by our medical staff make it possible to en sure that 98% of children leave the hospital with a clinical improvement.

**Conclusion.** The use of organizational design technology allows to optimize the work of nursing staff, reduce the number of days of hospital stay and increase the bed turnover.

Increasing the professional competencies of nurses is advisable to be carried out in the form of training sessions with the presentation of themed films.

High quality medical care should include super-modern treatment together with a model of the nursing process that focuses on continuous improvement of professional competences.

## RECOMMENDED LITERATURE LIST

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