



PRACTICAL APPLICATION



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5.3 - Nurses offering oral and written information upon admission and discharge from hospital to a pediatric patient /family

CASE STUDY - DESCRIPTION

“George is coming back home”

It is time for George to come back home and the hospital healthcare staff has already met to agree with his discharge.

George is a 4 years old boy suffering from a very rare condition that, unfortunately, doctors have not been able to provide a definite diagnosis.

However, the small patient's illness leads to multiple, increasingly important aggravations, which have forced doctors to perform a tracheotomy due to respiratory problems that occurred during hospitalization and to place a central venous catheter in order to support it with intravenous infusions due to feeding difficulties that have arisen in recent times.

George has a twin sister who was born healthy, an older sister who is 7 years old and a younger brother of 6 months: his family is very close and everyone is working hard to bring him home even if with great difficulty. The time of discharge is a pleasant moment but it can also be a cause of anxiety and fear, especially when dealing with complex diseases.

Basing on what has been decided by the entire staff of the department, pediatric nurses are planning his discharge and preparing a care plan to be offered to parents so they can feel supported and gain security in the management of their child at home.



For this reason nurses have welcomed mom and dad in a room specially prepared for the interview and are informing them about the possible treatment options, trying to understand how they can be involved in the decisions.

They have prepared some procedures to train parents in the management of the venous catheter and tracheotomy and will perform practical demonstrations of the techniques to be used, making them participate, showing them what maneuvers to put in place and to make them as autonomous as possible, while leaving open the channel of connection with the hospital if necessary.

So the pediatric staff, before letting George to go home, contacted the nursing staff of home care and the pediatrician of the child to entrust them with the management of the case, providing clear and precise references to the family that can collaborate more quietly, in addition activating some kind of social assistance to partially relieve the parents from the hard work of assistance that awaits them in the future.

