

Nursing Interventions for Infection Prevention in Postoperative Incisions of Gynecological Cancer Patients: A Critical Analysis

Abstract

Gynecological cancer surgeries are commonly performed to manage and treat women with these malignancies. However, postoperative complications, particularly surgical site infections (SSIs), can hinder patient recovery and well-being. This article provides an analysis of the effects of infection factors and nursing care for postoperative incisions in gynecological cancer patients. Patient-related factors, surgical technique-related factors, and healthcare facility-related factors contribute to the development of SSIs. Effective nursing care measures include preoperative education, infection control measures, wound assessment and care, proper antibiotic administration, nutritional support, pain management, and emotional support. By understanding these factors and implementing appropriate nursing interventions, healthcare professionals can reduce the risk of SSIs and enhance the recovery process for gynecological cancer patients. Collaboration among healthcare providers is crucial to establish standardized protocols and guidelines for optimal postoperative care, improving patient outcomes in gynecological cancer surgery.

Keywords: Gynecological cancer • Infection prevention • Nursing interventions

Introduction

Gynecological cancer is a prevalent form of cancer affecting women worldwide. Surgical intervention is often necessary for the management and treatment of these cancers. However, postoperative complications, such as surgical site infections (SSIs), can significantly impact the recovery and well-being of patients. Understanding the factors contributing to SSIs and implementing appropriate nursing care is crucial in minimizing these complications. This article aims to analyze the effects of infection factors and discuss the essential nursing care measures for postoperative incisions in gynecological cancer patients [1].

The influencing factors of postoperative incision infection in gynecological tumor patients were analyzed, and then targeted high-quality nursing intervention programs were developed. It is helpful to improve the curative effect of gynecological tumor surgery. At the same time, nursing intervention is an important way to prevent perioperative infection. Giving targeted nursing intervention before, during, and after surgery can effectively prevent and reduce surgical infection [2].

Infection factors in postoperative incisions

Several factors contribute to the development of SSIs in gynecological cancer patients. These factors can be categorized as patient-related, surgical technique-related, and healthcare facility-related.

Patient-related factors include comorbidities, smoking, malnutrition, immunosuppression, and poor personal hygiene. These factors weaken the immune system [3], impair wound healing, and increase susceptibility to infections.

Surgical technique-related factors involve the duration of surgery, type of surgical approach and adequacy of sterile techniques during the procedure. Prolonged surgeries and inadequate sterilization can introduce bacteria into the surgical site, leading to SSIs.

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Healthcare facility-related factors include the cleanliness and maintenance of the operating room, appropriate use of prophylactic antibiotics, and adherence to infection control practices. The presence of multidrug-resistant organisms in the facility can significantly increase the risk of SSIs [4].

Nursing care for postoperative incisions

Effective nursing care plays a crucial role in preventing and managing SSIs in gynecological cancer patients. Here are some essential nursing care measures:

Preoperative education: Provide thorough education to patients regarding the importance of maintaining hygiene, wound care techniques, and the signs and symptoms of infection. Empower patients to actively participate in their own care [5].

Infection control measures: Ensure strict adherence to infection control protocols, including proper hand hygiene, the use of personal protective equipment, and aseptic techniques during dressing changes or any invasive procedures.

Wound assessment and care: Regularly assess the incision site for signs of infection, such as redness, swelling, increased warmth, discharge, or foul odor. Follow the prescribed dressing regimen, ensuring a clean and sterile environment during dressing changes [6].

Proper antibiotic administration: Administer prophylactic antibiotics according to the prescribed protocol. Ensure timely administration, appropriate dosage, and duration of therapy to prevent bacterial growth and infection.

Nutritional support: Collaborate with the nutritionist to provide adequate nutritional support to patients, ensuring optimal wound healing and immune function. Monitor the patient's nutritional status and offer dietary counseling as necessary [7].

Pain management: Provide adequate pain management to promote patient comfort and encourage early mobilization. Effective pain control can reduce the risk of postoperative complications by enabling patients to take deep breaths and ambulate promptly.

Emotional support: Address the psychological and emotional needs of gynecological cancer patients. Encourage open communication, provide counseling services, and connect patients with support groups to help them cope with the challenges of their condition and surgical experience [8].

Discussion

The detection rate of gynecological malignant tumor is increasing, which is a serious threat to women's life and mental health. Once gynecological tumor is diagnosed, it is difficult for patients to accept it within a short period of time, and they bear great psychological pressure. The common treatment method for gynecological tumors is surgical resection, but this type of surgery, especially for patients with malignant tumors, not only takes longer. And the operation is more complicated, involving many organs, and usually causing great trauma to the patient. In addition, surgical treatment has trauma and incision, and incision infection is a common complication after surgery. Once the incision has symptoms such as redness, swelling, dehiscence, and discharge, it will reduce the treatment effect, affect the prognosis, and prolong the hospital stay [9]. In severe cases, it can cause systemic infection, organ failure, and life threatening. Therefore, to analyze the influencing factors of incisional infection after gynecological tumor operation is of great importance to prevent infection. The prevention of postoperative incision infection is not only related to clinical operation and medication but also plays an important role in nursing intervention. Through this study, it was found that time to get out of bed; postoperative eating time, postoperative exhaust time, hospital stay, and quality of life were the main influencing factors of postoperative incision infection in gynecological tumors. The goal of nursing is patient satisfaction, social satisfaction, government satisfaction. The whole nursing process requires nursing staff to provide continuous, satisfactory, and whole-process nursing services. Changing the situation where patients or their families hire nursing workers to make up for the lack of nursing work and improve the nurse-patient relationship [10-12]. The control group's time to get out of bed, postoperative eating time, postoperative exhaust time, and hospital stay were longer than those of the study group.

Conclusion

Preventing SSIs in gynecological cancer patients requires a multifaceted approach, combining patient education, infection control measures, and diligent nursing care. By identifying the infection factors and implementing appropriate nursing interventions, healthcare

professionals can significantly reduce the risk of SSIs and enhance the recovery process for these patients. It is essential for healthcare providers to work collaboratively to develop standardized protocols and guidelines to ensure optimal postoperative care and improve patient outcomes in gynecological cancer surgery.

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