



Japan Council for Quality Health Care

Project to Collect Medical Near-Miss/
Adverse Event Information

Medical Safety Information

No.36, November 2009

Insufficient confirmation of relevant information at the time of tooth extraction

Two cases of tooth extraction without confirming the necessary information on patient have been reported (information collection period: from January 1, 2006 to September 30, 2009; the information is partly included in "Individual Theme Review" in the 18th Quarterly Report).

The cases of tooth extraction without confirming the relevant information on patient for the tooth extraction have been reported.

Patient information which was not confirmed at the time of tooth extraction

- Implementation schedule of blood collection for an autologous blood transfusion
- Blood coagulability of the patient taking Wafarin orally

Insufficient confirmation of relevant information at the time of tooth extraction

Case 1

Blood collection from a patient was scheduled for an autologous blood transfusion one week before the surgery. At the same time, the patient who had visited the oral surgery department of the hospital since the previous year, had a tooth extracted the day before the blood collection. As a result, neither the blood collection for autologous blood transfusion nor the autologous blood transfusion could be carried out because there were not enough days left before the surgery. The primary physician in charge was not aware that the patient was having a tooth extracted, and that implementation of tooth extraction disabled the indication of an autologous blood transfusion at the hospital. Moreover, there was a lack of cooperation with the dental surgery department.

Case 2

The patient regularly administered Warfarin (warfarin potassium). At the same time, the patient regularly visited a dentist. The dentist confirmed the latest result of the blood coagulation test obtained six months ago, determined that the tooth extraction could be implemented, and conducted it. Afterwards, the dentist had to suture the wound for hemostasis because of bleeding tendency, but the bleeding still continued, and two more re-suturing were needed. The patient was found to be anemic according to the blood examination, and received such therapy as blood transfusion, etc.

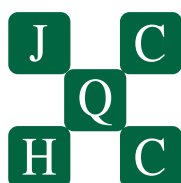
Preventive measures taken at the medical institutions in which the events occurred.

- Dentists shall confirm if the patient is in an appropriate condition for tooth extraction.
- Primary physician shall inform necessary information on patient when the patient visit a dentist.

* As part of the Project to Collect Medical Near-Miss/Adverse Event Information (a Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare grant project), this medical safety information was prepared based on the cases collected in the Project as well as on opinions of "Comprehensive Evaluation Panel" to prevent occurrence and recurrence of medical adverse events. See quarterly reports and annual reports posted on the Japan Council for Quality Health Care website for details of the Project.
<http://www.med-safe.jp/>

* Accuracy of information was ensured at the time of preparation but can not be guaranteed in the future.

* This information is neither for limiting the discretion of healthcare providers nor for imposing certain obligations or responsibilities on them.



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