

2nd EuroSciCon World Conference on

Pediatrics

July 26-27, 2018 Amsterdam, Netherlands

> Ped Health Res 2018, Volume: 3 DOI: 10.21767/2574-2817-C1-006

MAINTENANCE OF BALANCED TRACTION CARE CHART TO MINIMIZE COMPLICATIONS OF FEMORAL FRACTURE IN CHILDREN

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emoral shaft fractures are among the most common diaphyseal fractures in children and traction is a method of initial stabilization before definite treatment. Birmingham Children's Hospital uses a balanced traction care chart introduced locally to monitor traction care and this study is to assess traction care chart and whether or not this reduces traction related complications. A total of 10 patients over 8 months were audited in terms of average duration of traction, neurovascular status and pressure areas check, incidence and treatment of pressure sores, documentation of pain score, documentation of type of stool, regular check of skin traction and suspension, check x-ray and action needed depending on score.

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Categories	
Age	1 to 14 years
Average duration of traction	10.7 days
Average duration of traction in hip Spica	12.6 days
Traction daily check documentation	10
Neuro-vascular status check	10
Pressure area check documentation	10
Incidence of pressure sore	04
Any treatment for pressure sore	03
Traction check list used	10
Position of patients checked daily	10
Daily Documentation of pain score	10
Documentation of type of stool	10
Skin traction bandage, foot clearance and traction cords tension checked regularly	10
Suspensions-knots and weights checked regularly	10
Check x-ray done < 3 days	08
Action needed depending on score	04

Categories	Previous	current
Skin traction and suspension check daily	1/13(08%)	10/10(100%)

Table: Data record for traction care chart



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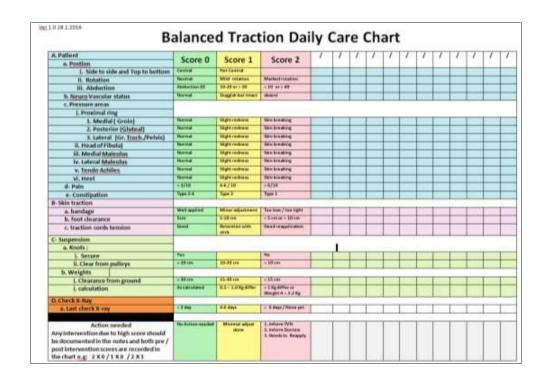


Figure: Balanced Traction Daily Care Chart