PEDI Cards, a novel tool to reduce the risks of errors in emergency nursing care to children

Guglielmo Imbriaco¹, Matteo Erbacci², Andrea Fazi³, Gaetano Tammaro¹, Giovanni Gamberini⁴, Marco Mostardini⁵, Michele La Notte⁶

¹-Emergency Department, Ospedale Maggiore, Bologna
²-Emergency Service, 118 Modena Soccorso, Modena
³-Emergency Service, 118 Ancona Soccorso, Senigallia
⁴-Italian Red Cross, Bologna
⁵-Intensive Care Unit, University Hospital of Careggi, Florence
⁶-Emergency Service 118, Bolzano

Professional experience report

Italian

Abstract
Nursing care to children during emergencies may represent a difficult challenge even for very experienced emergency nurses: in stressful situations complex operations such as calculating drug doses, diluting drugs or choosing the correct size device are at high risk of error and this may have severe consequences on the patient.

To reduce these risks and make emergency nursing interventions less time consuming, a set of cards which associate color codes to pre-determined emergency drug doses, dilutions and devices' size, according to children's length.

PEDICards (Pediatric Equipment Drug and Intubation) may represent an easy to use tool to prevent clinical risk in pediatric emergency and to reduce harms due to dosing errors and to mistaken device's size.