Assisting the Acute Spinal injured Patient

Supporting the Family

for the

Smith and Nephew Forum

Orthopaedics
Impact of serious injury for the patient

- Missed information
- Impact of news
- Loss of self identity
- Re-evaluation of self
Supporting Evidence

Value of family support

- Increased growth
- Active participants
- Being there
- Getting informed
Supporting Evidence

Effects of Physical Trauma on family

- Potential to increase family stress
- May cause risk to family integrity
- Change in focus of family needed
Supporting Evidence


Needs Identified for Families

- Anxiety reduction
- Support
- Information
- Presence

More Supporting Evidence

Assessing how to involve the family

- History
- Family leaders
- How are health decisions made?
- Family problem solving techniques.
Supporting Evidence


Implementation

- Acknowledge family’s needs
- Be aware of how much the patient wants the family to be involved
- Deal with emotional aspects of the situation
- Give information
Benefits of family support

Empowerment
Summary of Initiatives

- Flexibility of boarders
- Daily multidisciplinary meetings
- Spinal Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Orthopaedic Website
- Catastrophic News
Our thanks to

Our many authors who we have references separately
Consultation with the Orthopaedic Senior Nurse Team
Orthopaedic Theatre Charge Nurse Angelina Parkin
Ashley Du Toit- Orthotics APH