



Study on the difference in the number of patients before and after the COVID-19 in a regional teaching hospital in northern Taiwan

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OBJECT

Although the COVID-19 is well controlled in Taiwan, the epidemic has a huge impact on hospital operations and the body, mind of medical staff. This study focuses on the comparison of the difference in the number of outpatients, emergency departments, and inpatients before and after the epidemic, and the difference between outpatients waiting for medicine, Which can be used as a reference for manpower adjustment when the epidemic breaks out in the future.

METHOD

In this study, the prescriptions number of outpatients, emergency departments, the number of hospitalized person-days and the waiting time of outpatients before the COVID-19 from January to December, 2019 VS during the outbreak of the COVID-19 from January to December, 2020. used Paired *T*- test, two-tailed test compares the difference between two periods.

RESULT

The results showed that the number of outpatients, emergency departments, and inpatients before and after the outbreak of the COVID-19 was significantly reduced.

COVID-19 epidemic	Before	After	<i>P</i> value
Outpatient prescriptions (thousand)	33.54	29.53	0.0001
Emergency prescriptions (thousand)	3.81	3.11	0.003
Total number of hospitalized person-days (thousand)	11.83	11.41	0.045

P value < 0.05 Significant difference

CONCLUSION

During the COVID-19 epidemic, in order to cooperate with government, reduce non-emergency medical care, go to the hospital, the number of patients in each hospital has decreased. Medical personnel have sufficient time to serve patients, but hospitals still need to consider operational performance and operating costs, and also need to reserve human energy when the epidemic breaks out again. Human resources, the above changes in the number of patients provide a reference for the hospital's manpower allocation.

RELEVANCE HPH

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Keyword : COVID-19, number of patients in hospital, waiting time for medicine