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INTRODUCTION

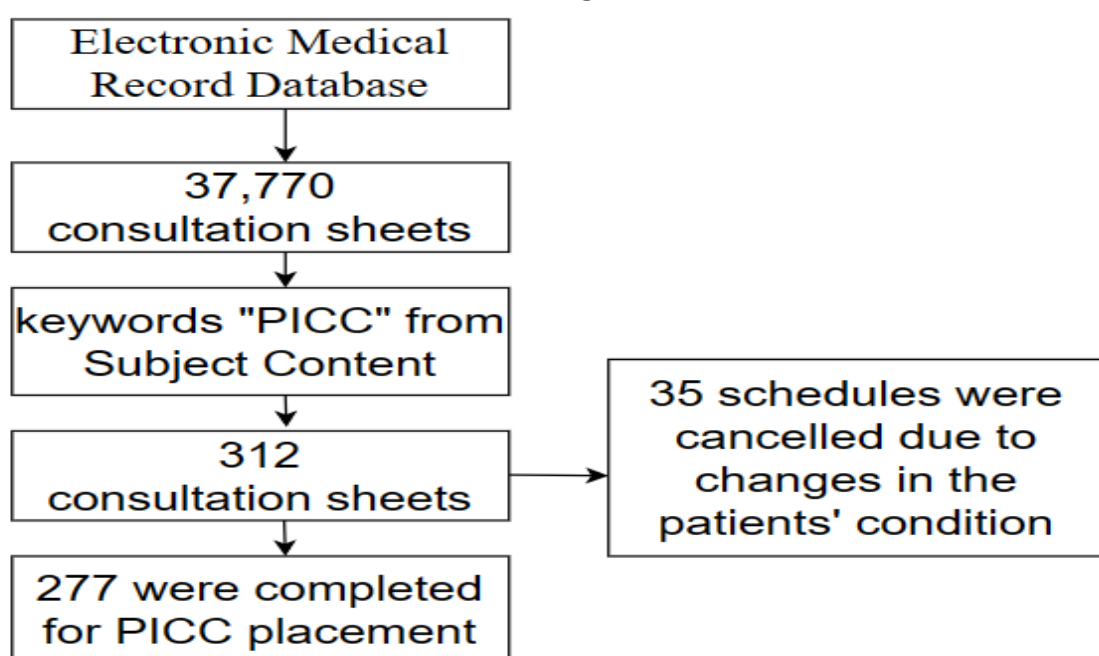
Cancer patients receiving therapy often require an appropriate central venous access to administer chemotherapy, immunotherapy and also for parenteral nutrition. Peripherally inserted central venous catheters (PICC) is one of the common central venous catheters in cancer patients. As a medical center, PICC is used not only for cancer patients, but also for patients with intensive care units and chronic infection control. PICCs are widely used for hospitalized patients and among outpatients.

OBJECTIVE

This study aimed to understand the current status of PICC and reasons for removal of PICC in our hospital, in order to make policy direction in the future.

METHODS

We performed a retrospective study looking at PICC-related complication rates in the inpatient settings over a 10-month. The consultation system in the electronic medical record database was used for data screening.



RESULTS

277 PICCs were inserted in 222 patients with an average age of 60 years (± 20.1) (1-99 years old) . The average retention days for close-end PICC were 127 days and the average retention days for open-end were 50 days. Removal due to catheter related complications such as catheter-related BSI, local inflammation(such as redness and swelling at the needle site), obstruction, or mechanical complications (such as catheter dysfunction, leakage, slippage, rupture and no blood return).

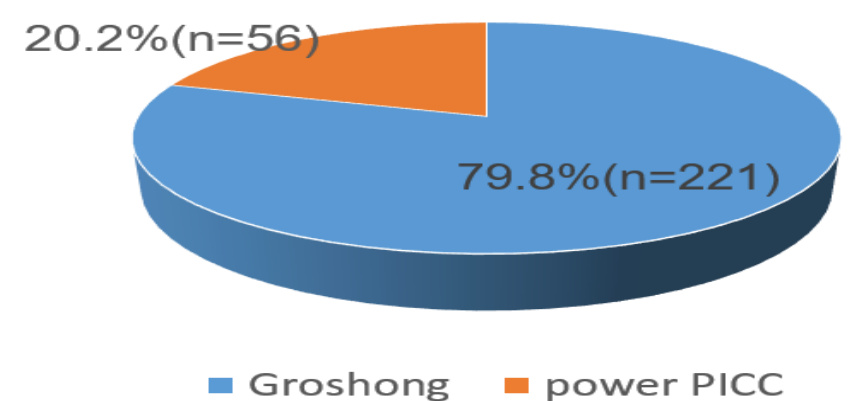


Figure 1. Type of PICC.

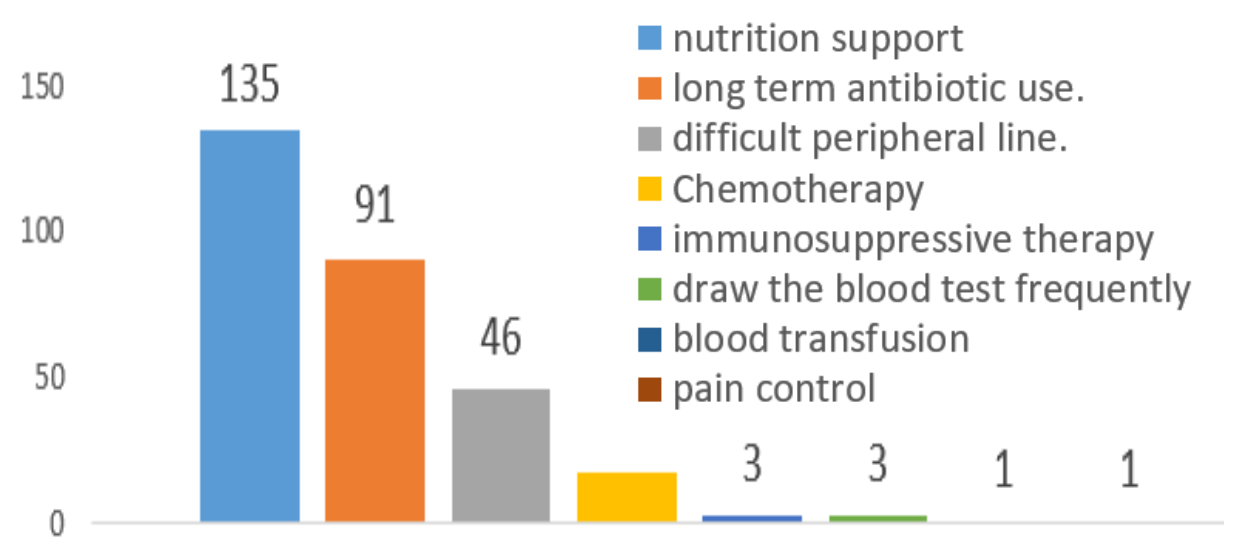


Figure 2. Reasons of PICC placement.

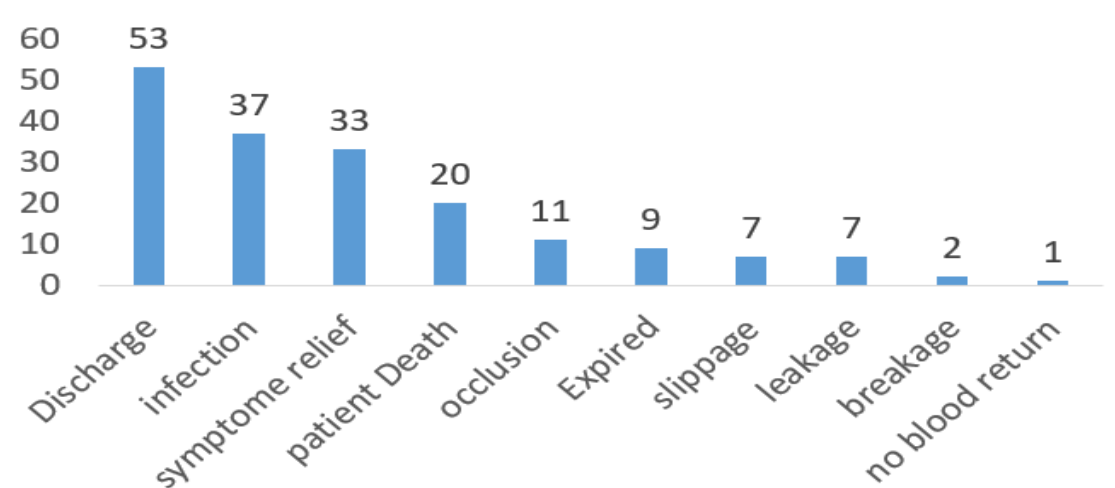


Figure3. Reasons for PICC remove.

CONCLUSIONS

As Taiwan's population ages, the age range of patients who receive PICC placement is gradually increasing, leading to an increase in the demand for home care. We hope to collaborate with community healthcare services to provide assistance in caring for the venous access of elderly patients in the future. Furthermore, providing comprehensive education and training to patients and their families is essential to ensure that they understand how to care for the PICC at home and avoid potential complications. Regular follow-up appointments or check-ups should also be conducted to detect and prevent related complications in a timely manner, ensuring the safety and efficacy of the PICC.

