

DML Excellence Awards 2016 Report

Project No: 136 – Development and Integration of an interdisciplinary Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment Document in a Dublin Day Hospital

Address: Carew House Day Hospital

Location: Ireland East Hospital Group

Brief Description (up to 200 words)

The day hospital is an interdisciplinary assessment unit for people over the age of 65. Patients are referred by their general practitioner for a Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment (CGA). The interdisciplinary team consists of geriatricians, NCHD's, clinical nurse manager, nurses, physiotherapist, occupational therapist and access to a medical social worker, speech and language therapist and dietician. Each member of the team had their own documentation of the patient's assessment and information was shared verbally during team meetings. Common areas documented by all members of the team included; reason for referral, past medical/surgical history, current medications, social history, community supports and falls history

An observational study was completed in 2013-2014 of a patient's journey through the day hospital; timings were available on direct patient contact and time spent on documentation. Nurses spent an average of 45 minutes per new patients documentation, including referrals to community services and off site rehabilitation facilities.

The results of tracer audits from 2012-2015 highlighted the need for an integrated document within the day hospital, which would decrease duplication and increase efficiency with an overall benefit to patient and staff satisfaction.

Main goal(s) and aims of the Project

Main Goal – to develop an integrated interdisciplinary comprehensive geriatric assessment document for all new patients attending the day hospital.

Aims:

- Improve efficiency
- Improve flow of communication
- Reduce duplication of information documented
- Increase patient and staff satisfaction
- Replace current referral form to off site rehabilitation day hospital

Outline of Approach – main steps taken to implement the Project

Results of tracer audits and nursing documentation audits presented to day hospital interdisciplinary team.

Acknowledged the need for an integrated document within the day hospital. All members of the team designed their specific sections. Sections on past medical history/medications/social history/collateral and MDT plan all designed by the full team. Nurse practice Development worked closely with the hospital team in the design and layout of the overall document. A draft CGA document was piloted over a two month period. Minor changes were made following the pilot and final version of document is now in use.

The CGA document has also replaced the referral form previously used when referring to our offsite rehabilitation day hospital, enhancing the quality of information they receive prior to attendance for rehabilitation.