IRB Rehab Efficiency Study
4A Rehab
UPMC St Margaret
Judith Tinelli MSN, RN, ONC, CNL, CRRN
Overview

- Significance
- Purpose
- Hypothesis
- Results
  1. 3 hour rule
  2. Patient satisfaction
  3. Staff satisfaction
     - Community discharge
     - Timely rehab arrivals
- Statistics
- Clinical relevance
Three Hour Rule - CMS

- A patient may be discharged from the acute inpatient rehab unit due to non-compliance with the Three Hour Rule per day of therapy.

- The Three Hour Rule compliance is not only the preferred time spent in therapy for advancing the patients functional status but is a requirement for acute inpatient rehab and a Center for Medicare Services 2010 rule.

Significance

- Late arrivals may exclude the patient from therapy sessions.
- Noncompliance 3 hour rule may d/c a patient from rehab.
- Non adherence to schedule may decrease patient satisfaction and decrease functional progress.
- Non adherence to efficiency may decrease therapist satisfaction.
Purpose
Evaluate the effectiveness of a medication nurse 4 days per week until 9:30am for 2 months.

No FTEs added-budget neutral

Hypothesis-adding a med nurse for the morning medication pass would positively impact the on time arrival to therapy appointments by decreasing the reasons for lateness such as med administration.

Background-currently 19-30% of the patients arrive late each month

Bathroom and medications have always headed the list averaging 15-35 times/month
Results

- Medications and bathroom disappeared of the reasons for lateness list
- No medications errors
- Increased Patient & Staff satisfaction
- Increased dispositions to home
Rehab rule compliance soared to 88% during the Rehab Efficiency Study from the previous quarter which was 80-84%.
Press Ganey Patient satisfaction scores

- Availability of nurses
- Quality of night shift nurse
- Quality of day shift nurse
- Patient satisfaction overall

Chart 1: crtx

- Post study (n12)
- Study (n33)
- Pre study (n89)
Staff Satisfaction
Multi-disciplinary Survey
Monkey (n16)

Graph showing staff satisfaction levels for different scenarios:
- 6am aid
- Morning med
- Nurse
- Delay therapy 30 minutes

Satisfaction levels range from strongly agree (60) to disagree (0).
Community Discharge (n94)
Late Arrivals to Therapy

- August: 30%
- September: 20%
- October: 15%
- November: 10%
Results Summary

- Positive for Nurse Satisfaction
- Positive for Therapist Satisfaction
- Positive for Patient Satisfaction
- Positive for 3 hour rule compliance
- Mixed for patient return to community setting
- Positive for efficiency to therapy overall
- FIM (Functional Independence Measurement) change mean for the study was 19.25 as opposed to 21.9 the previous calendar year.
Clinical Relevance

- Observation of 94 patients over a period of 60 days
- Earlier start on med pass – patients not as rushed
- Diary kept by med nurse – interruptions by physicians, OT, social work, home health, missing meds, tests (dopplers, stat tests, etc) which are arranged around therapy times impeded med pass.
References


