Home Visiting Programs: A Study in Return to Hospital Reduction. Gabriel Nuriel, DO

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# Objectives

- · A: Address barriers within the post acute process
- B: Increase understanding of implementing TC / Home visit programs
- C: Analyze barriers to implementation and possible solutions.

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### **Current CMS Statistics**

- 21% of all patients discharged from hospital return within 30 days.
- 32% of all patients discharged from hospital return within 90 days.
- Current CMS goals are to be below 12% irrelevant of SNF or home placement.
- · Not specific to Florida / Central Florida

## **RTH** Data

- 28% of all RTH within 30 days have a sepsis associated dx.
- 47% of patients admitted within 7 days post D/C have a AMS associated Dx.
- 15% of all RTH patients admitted within 7 days can not clarify their initial admitting dx and / or their care provided at home.

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## Post Acute Data

- Current Central Florida data shows to home vs to SNF discharge RTH rate:
  - RTH for to home d/c: 18.9% (irrelevant of hospital system)
  - RTH for to SNF d/c: 19.8% (irrelevant of hospital and SNF system)
  - Data shown is for 30 RTH rate.

### RTH s/p Post Acute

- So what is our data for patients discharged home, from a post acute setting.
  - 16% return within 7 days. All Dx.
  - · 27% return within 30 days. All Dx driven

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Case #1

 101 y/o male Pt discharged from SNF with initial Dx of pneumonia, AMS, and AFTT. Pt was on hospice prior to hospitalization. Family opted not to return on hospice. Pt completed a 14 day therapy of IV Abx. Discharged home with home health. No PCP, as Pt was on hospice prior.

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#### Post acute discharge:

Pt seen within 48 hours.

- ACP performed with family members present. No hospice yet. But Pt made DNR and DNH.
- · Home health for 30 days for med education, ROM and fall prevention.
- Mobile radiology to monitor resolution of pneumonia, CBC and BMP ordered as well.
- Pt developed 2 more episodes of pneumonia over next 6 month. Likely aspiration related. Home health initiated for IV Abx. Once a day. CBC BMP ordered QOD. CXR qWeekly.
- IV Fluids were initiated at home via IV Infusion / Home Health with second case of pneumonia. ARF improved and returned to baseline. Pt was hypotensive for first three days of 2nd episode.
- Third episode occurred 60 days later. Pt did not respond to IV Abx. Became lethargic. Hospice initiated. Crisis care put in place. Pt passed away peacefully with 5 generations of family at bedside.





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• Case #2:

 78 y/o female with DM, HTN, CKD, CHF, Atrial Fibrillation. Admitted to SNF with dx of Resp Insufficiency. Pt had in house pulmonary and ID consults. PT/OT performed for 19 days. Upon discharge Pt could not be seen by PCP within 14 days. Transitional care initiated.

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### Measures initiated

- · Home health upon discharge, with RN, PT/OT.
- · Labs to be drawn. BMP, CBC, BNP.
- Provider to see Pt within 48 hours at home. Pt seen weekly afterwards for three weeks.
- Medication list reviewed from SNF and Home health. Compared and two errors found in Metoprolol dose and frequency of Lasix.
- Med errors corrected. Pt visited the following week. Continuing to recover. Discharge note competed. PCP f/u arranged. Corrected med list and discharge summery provided.



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# **RTH Reduction Pilot**

- Started 2 years ago.
- · 482 patients seen in study.
- Measured against CMS data.
- · Methods
- · Patient must be home bound or seen for transitional care
- · Patient is to be seen within 72 hours post discharge.
- · Medication reconciliation done at each visit
- · Pathways for labs, and communication placed with each HHC that saw patients.
- · Education for each patient and / or POA for contacting staff for any medical / social need
- ACP performed upon admission for each patient.

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### Outcomes

- · 30 day all RTH was approximately 6.4%
- · 60 / 90 day RTH was at 11.3 and 14.1%
- · All time admission rate for home bound patients 4.8%.
- · Barriers
- · Education of patient and caregiver / guardian
- · Anxiety and social stimuli
- Inappropriate / Incomplete discharge from SNF / Hospital.
- · Accessible data related to recent medical event.

## **General Barriers**

- What are our barriers moving forward?
- \* Geography / patient density \*
- Scheduling
- Education of patient and / or POA Caregiver
- Partnership involvement.