

Michigan Heart Failure Discharge Documentation Initiative

The heart failure project is a partnership between MPRO, the Michigan Chapter of the American College of Cardiology (ACC) and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM). Arthur Riba, MD, and Syed Jafri, MD, are the physician project leaders. The project is supported in part by MPRO, the ACC Mid-Michigan Heart Failure Guidelines Applied in Practice (GAP) project, the ACC Michigan Chapter and BCBSM. There are 39 Michigan hospitals participating in the initiative.

The goals of the project are to improve adherence to evidence-based heart failure care standards, improve patient outcomes, and decrease readmission rates through the use of a discharge document. The discharge document will ensure that all of the required elements for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) are addressed within a quality improvement methodology. Increased documentation of patient education will empower patients with key information they can use to help manage their disease. This document could then be incorporated into Michigan hospitals' patient care documentation and treatment plans.

Background

The successful, Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI) GAP project proved that when tools were used, indicator rates improved much more significantly than when the tools were not used. Statewide rates for discharge instructions historically have been extremely low. The Heart Failure Initiative was adapted based on the successful collaborative model that was used in the AMI GAP project.

Activities

Web-ex conferences began the initiative which laid out expectations and responsibilities for the project leaders and physician champions for all participating hospitals. Learning Sessions were held in February and June. Rapid cycle PDSA (Plan, Do, Study, Act) methodology was used to facilitate the sessions, and included: detailed project planning, monitoring tool use, remeasurement, and developing strategies for overcoming identified barriers to success. Storyboard presentations by the attending hospitals allowed for sharing of star ideas as well as innovative solutions to barriers.

Data

Project leaders submit project implementation plans as well as quarterly project updates. Each individual hospital is monitoring for tool use. Baseline and remeasurement data for the discharge indicator will be obtained via CMS's QNet Exchange. Aggregate data will be used to evaluate the impact of the project. Individual hospital data will not be shared publicly or with other hospitals.



Michigan
CHAPTER



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of Michigan

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