

New **Definition**

• **Karen Zander RN, MS, CMAC, FAAN: Editor**

Readmission/ED Revisit¹ Checklist: Prevention Strategies²

Pre-admission

- Patient education and discussion about upcoming surgery, tests, treatments, meds

Emergency Department Visit

- Comprehensive assessment by ED case manager or SW on every patient during prime time
- Patient self-assessment in OBS³
- Medication Reconciliation
- Palliative Care consults in ED
- Develop program for High ED Utilizers (“frequent friends”)
- Call patients with lab and test results from the ED

Inpatient Admission

- Embed Risk for Readmission Tools in Case Management and SW Initial Assessments
- Comprehensive admission assessment, with embedded risk for readmission tool⁴
- Improve discharge instruction sheet—make more individualized rather than solely a legal document
- Don't discharge the patient until they are truly clinically stable for 24 hours-CCM
- Medication Reconciliation
- Referral to Financial Planning Counselors
- Discuss Care Transitions Checklist⁵ at least 24 hours before discharge (CCM)
- Designate specific RNs to teach patients—not everyone enjoys it or is good at it
- Require all CM and clinical staff read Hard Choices for Loving People⁶
- Use SBAR format for verbal and written handoffs- CCM
- Provide staff nurse to staff nurse handoffs to SNFs, Home Care/hospice, LTACHs, Rehab
- Work with Medical Exec to require MD Discharge Summaries to be completed on discharge or within 24 hours
- Develop SNF Capability List/Grid and distribute to EDs, IP units, all CM and SW staff⁷
- Develop Care Paths/CareMaps™/CareCalendar™ with outcomes and patient/family responsibilities for a 90-day recovery period—CCM
- Deliver discharge medications to bedside on day of discharge
- Analyze data collection tools in use and determine how much predictive value they truly have⁸

Post-discharge Health Coaching

- Visits by Nurse Practitioners⁹
- Visits by home-visiting MDs
- Visits by NP and Pharmacists¹⁰
- Schedule post-discharge appointment with PCP
- Medication Reconciliation
- Use of IT: RoundingWell, Wellbe, etc. for chronic conditions and behavioral change

Medical Home/PCP Office

- Structure immediate post-discharge visit with PCP¹¹
- Medication Reconciliation
- Embedded Case Managers and SW (for behavioral health evaluations)
- Evaluate for depression and substance abuse
- Refer for behavioral health needs/symptoms

Post-acute Continuum

(Home Care/Hospice, IRFs, LTACHs, SNFs, LTC, Medical Home RN or CM)

- Standardize form for PT/OT recommendations¹²
- Develop narrow networks of highest quality Home Care agencies and SNFs, including their use of Interact™ and their history of readmissions/ED revisits
- Care management and/or coaching by outsourced companies¹³
- Medication Reconciliation
- My Circle of Support¹⁴: Professional Helpers, Family, Neighbors, Friends, Church/Support Groups, Volunteer Groups/Clubs
- Call patients with lab and test results from last day of stay
- Better supervision of Home Health aides by RNs– CCM
- Use and/or develop condition or disease/population-specific programs in HC and SNFs
- Develop a charter with all post-acute agencies¹⁵
- Order sets per diagnosis sent to post-acute agencies

Community

- Use Area Agency on Aging for information
- Parish Nursing
- Meals on Wheels
- Referrals to Specific Community Agencies that have specialized services
- Include certified Lifecare Planners for legal, health, and financial advice
- Patient Portals to Hospital, Medical Homes, etc.

©2015 www.cfm.com

Endnotes

- 1 Benchmark is 1% for 72 hour Bouncebacks *with* an IP admit. Silverman, M, “Keeping an Eye on 72-Hour Bouncebacks; Emergency Physicians Monthly; October 8, 2014. Based on HCUP 6 state data, revisit rate within 3 days of index ED visit is 8.2%, 32% occurring at a different hospital.
- 2 “Patients with low physical function, poor self-rated health, and moderate-to-severe depression were at the highest risk of 30-day readmissions.” In Odonkor, C., Understanding the Readmissions Nexus: A Focus on the Triad of Patient, Provider, and Community Factors; *Readmissions News*; May 2015, p2.
- 3 Walsh, K. in ED Case Management: The Compendium of Best Practices: Danvers: HCPro, 2nd Ed 2014.
- 4 Charleson, LACE, SHM’s 8 P’s (Principal Dx—cancer, PNA, MI, CHF, COPD, DM; Prior hospitalization, Poor health literacy, psychological, Patient support, polypharmacy—over 8 meds—Problematic meds, Palliative care)
- 5 Coleman, E.; www.CareTransitions.org/tools for providers
- 6 Dunn, H. Hard Choices for Loving People, 5th Edition; A&A Publishers, Inc, info@hardchoices.com
- 7 Best practice from Lee Memorial Health System, Ft. Meyers, FL.
- 8 Recommendation for Seth Blumberg, MD, MPH, Consulting Associate, CCM.
- 9 www.bostonglobe.com/business/2015/05/10/new-model-aims-to-curb-health-costs-with-personal-care. Featuring Beth Israel, Boston
- 10 Vincencio, D, Silberstein, S, Capenas, A. “Preventing Readmissions with Help from Pharmacists”; June 18, 2015. Featuring Discharge Clinic of Mercy Hospital and Medical Center, Chicago; and Comprehensive Pharmacy Services.
- 11 Coleman, E. Structuring the Post-MD visit (source unable to be identified)
- 12 Idea from Lee Memorial Health System, Ft. Meyers, FL.
- 13 Navihealth, certified Geriatric Case Managers, etc.
- 14 From Overlake Hospital Medical Center. 1995
- 15 Baystate Health, Springfield, MA.