

00161 Acute Geriatric Daily Board Ward Round (DBWR) – a Quality Improvement Activity (QIA) in a Tertiary Hospital, Singapore

Varman Surendra Doraiswamy, Balasubramanian Diraviyam, Tan AWB, Sidhu GK, Lim SPW, Li Fuyin, Long SL, Kenneth G Villan

Changi General Hospital

Aims: Inter-professional communication is the core of healthcare delivery and a key to an efficient in-patient care. Effective discharge encompasses efficient communication and teamwork amongst doctors, nurses and allied healthcare teams. A preliminary analysis of discharges from Geriatric Wards (GRM) showed that our readmission rates were high compared to non- GRM wards, along with a low “before 1130 am” discharges, (hospital wide initiative aims for discharges before 1130 am), primarily as a result of ineffective communication amongst teams.

Methodology: Hence, a QIA visioning a safe, patient-centric discharge, to improve overall communication amongst teams; with a primary aim to improve discharges before 11.30 am and 30-day readmission rate, without an increase in mortality and average length of stay (ALOS), was conceived and implemented in our GRM ward; aided by Daily board ward round (DBWR), check-lists and educational training to relevant stakeholders.

Result: Discharges pre & post DBWR implementation, 4 months, were 348 vs post -board 318. ALOS 12.1 vs 11.8; mortality 20 (5.6%) vs 23 (6.5%); 30-day re-admission 63 (26.2%) vs 41 (18.2%); Early ward discharges (<11.30 am) were pre -board 36 (11.1%) vs 56 (19.1%).

Conclusion: ALOS remained same; however noteworthy improvements in early discharges (<11.30 am) and 30 day re-admission rates, with a stable mortality rate have mandated us in sustaining DBWR as ongoing QIA. We believe, with appropriate training, supervision and participation, DBWR has contributed significantly to improve communication, understanding and consolidation of day-to-day ward tasks amongst healthcare staffs; necessitating future refinements including electronic versions of board to improve user-friendliness and adoption all across Hospital.