

## 00397 Evaluating the Effects of a Specially Redesigned Ward Environment on Patients' Activity and Satisfaction Levels

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**Aims:** The objective of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness of a specially redesigned ward environment for rehabilitation in increasing activity levels and satisfaction levels compared to a standard medical ward.

**Methodology:** The study employed a before-after cross-sectional design at a tertiary hospital. 92 patients were admitted to a standard medical ward from January to March 2014 at baseline while 100 patients were admitted to a specially redesigned ward for rehabilitation patients from May to July 2016. Observers were stationed in the wards to record patients' in-bed and out-of-bed activities at 15 minutes intervals on weekdays, which were coded into ten categories (doing nothing, eating without assistance, eating with assistance, personal hygiene, medical, talking, sleeping, therapy, self exercises, others). A patient satisfaction survey was administered to patients before discharge. Activities were analyzed as percentage of the total observed time points in a day. Descriptive analyses were performed for the satisfaction surveys.

**Result:** The average ages of the observed patients at baseline and after were 64.4 and 63.4 years respectively. More out-of-bed time points (16.6% vs. 11.9%) were observed in the redesigned ward compared to the standard ward. Therapy contributed most to the out-of-bed activities for both wards (Pre: 6.0%, Post: 7.6%). Overall, patients' satisfaction with the redesigned ward was higher (100% vs. 94.9%) although 28.6% of patients reported inadequate support to aid independent movement in the redesigned ward.

**Conclusion:** An adapted redesigned ward environment increased activity among patients. Design of the ward to allow a closed circuit for therapy walking activities encouraged patients to use structural support to walk independently within the ward.