

00398 Evaluating the Impact of a Specially Redesigned Ward Environment on Functional Outcomes of Rehabilitation Medicine Patients

Rebecca Ong¹, Oh Hong Choon¹, Huang Zhilian², Fong Poh Chee¹, Sim Yok Huay Agnes¹, Sherry Young¹, Tay San San¹, Selina Seah¹, Chow Wai Leng¹

¹Changi General Hospital, ²Nanyang Technological University

Aims: We aim to examine the impact of a specially redesigned ward on functional outcomes of rehabilitation medicine patients.

Methodology: We employed a pre-post cross-sectional study design. Baseline study participants comprise 110 (72 males, 38 females) cognitively intact inpatients (subjectively scored by nursing observers) admitted to a standard medical ward from June to August 2014 at a tertiary hospital. The post study comprised of 111(72 males, 39 females) cognitively intact inpatients admitted to a specially redesigned ward for rehabilitation patients from May to August 2016. Sociodemographic and clinical data including Modified Barthel Index (MBI) (20-point scale), Abbreviated Mental Test (AMT), Morse Scores, and Braden Scale were collected from clinical notes. The difference in difference in MBI and AMT scores at discharge compared to baseline between standard ward versus redesigned ward were analyzed.

Result: The average age of patients in the standard and redesigned ward was 66.3 and 65.9 years respectively. There was a significant difference in admission MBI (standard ward: 11.8 vs. redesigned ward: 9.6) and AMT (standard ward: 8.8 vs. redesigned ward: 7.8). Patients in the redesigned ward showed significantly greater improvement in functional outcomes (changes in MBI scores from admission to discharge) compared to the standard ward (+3.7 vs. +2.6). Patients in the redesigned ward showed significantly greater improvement in AMT scores (+0.9 vs. +0.2) compared to the standard ward.

Conclusion: Our study suggests that a specially redesigned ward that encouraged cognitively intact patients who are undergoing rehabilitation to participate in functional activities may result in greater improvements in functional and cognitive scores compared to a standard medical ward.