

## **P12 - OPTIC: OLDER PERSONS' TRANSITIONS IN CARE - IMPROVING NURSING HOME TO ED TRANSITIONS**

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**Brief Description of Research or Project:** Objectives: OPTIC aims to identify: successful NH-ED-NH transitions from multiple perspectives, organizational/ individual factors related to transition success; and improvements in care for frail elderly residents during NH-ED-NH transitions. Methods: OPTIC is a mixed method researcher/decision-maker partnership study in Alberta (AB) and British Columbia (BC). Detailed transition tracking data (over 800 data points per transition) of 637 NH-ED transitions from 41 NHs were analysed to identify differential profiles of transitions based on events such as trigger for transition to acute care, resident co-morbidities, ED diagnoses, decisions to admit to hospital or return to NH, and decisional involvement of healthcare providers, residents and family members. We are developing a formula to assess successfulness of transitions, potentially avoidable transitions and factors influencing both. Results: In Phase 1, 71 participants were interviewed, and 55 transitions were tracked over a 3-month data collection pilot period. Results reflected differences by city demographics, organizational and provider characteristics, resident characteristics and other factors. In Phase 2, full data collection was completed on 637 transitions from 41 nursing homes. Descriptive findings by province (n=398 AB, n=239 BC) include: mean age in years (83.6 AB, 85.5 BC), %female (59.5 AB, 62.6 BC), %with advance directive (87.2 AB, 26 BC), %admitted to hospital (56.5 AB, 52.3 BC). Full Phase 3 analyses are currently underway. Conclusions: This presentation addresses a) implications of results and recommendations for future implementation, policy and future research, and b) challenges to capturing data from multiple sources, settings and providers across transitions, and in identifying successful/unsuccessful transitions. **Why is this research important to profile at the Research Day 2014?** Nursing Home residents frequently transition between Nursing Homes and Emergency Departments. Care during transitions is often suboptimal, and is complex due to involvement of different professionals, and this frail population's degree of dementia and other chronic conditions. The OPTIC research team is examining NH to ED to NH transitions in significant detail in order to assess successfulness of current transitions, identify potentially avoidable transitions and means to improve necessary transitions.