

## **IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF INTERACT® AT BAYCREST LONG-TERM CARE HOME**

Angela Uy, Arber Kacollja, Maya Hohmann, Anna Berall, Anne Marie Shin, Carol Anderson, Jurgis Karuza, Paul Katz, Gary Naglie. Baycrest.

Contact: [auy@baycrest.org](mailto:auy@baycrest.org)

**Brief Description of Research or Project:** Baycrest has chosen to adopt the INTERACT® program as a component of an innovative strategy to reduce potentially preventable transfers to acute care. In conjunction with the introduction of INTERACT®, we are conducting a research study to evaluate the effectiveness of this program and to provide feedback to inform ongoing quality improvement. This project will outline the major steps taken to initiate the implementation of INTERACT® into the Baycrest long-term care home as well as a detailed description of the process required to establish the program evaluation structure and the plans for data collection. **Why is this research important to profile at the Research Day 2014?** Transitions between long term care and acute care facilities may have negative effects on the resident and the health care system. These negative effects include risk of iatrogenic illness or adverse events for the resident and congestion in acute hospital facilities, all of which may result in increased healthcare expenditures. Baycrest is implementing the INTERACT® program, which reduces preventable transfers to acute care facilities by enabling staff to manage resident health exacerbations in the familiar LTC home setting. To evaluate this program Baycrest will also be conducting a research study. The research study will both evaluate and support the implementation of INTERACT® to ensure the efficacy and sustainability of the program over time. The project presented at the OLTCA Applied Research Day will inform researchers, caregivers, policy makers and others on the foundational work required to bring this type of implementation strategy to fruition. Outcomes will be measured through the tracking of transfer rates, through chart review to identify residents who experience an acute change, and through interviews/focus groups and surveys with staff to gather their feedback regarding the INTERACT® program. Throughout the course of this research knowledge will be shared with point of care staff, educators, and other leaders at Baycrest. Results of the evaluation including changes in transfer rates, experiences of staff, and lessons learned will be disseminated at the conclusion of the study.