

SHORT STAY CONVALESCENT CARE PROGRAM AND RAI-HC ASSESSMENT EVALUATION: DEMONSTRATING IMPROVED PATIENT OUTCOMES AND CARE TRANSITIONS

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Brief Description of Research or Project: Since Central CCAC initiated the Short Stay Convalescent Care Program (SSCC) in 2005, it has consistently demonstrated significant results in improving functional abilities and reducing the risk for long-term care placement. Prior to admission and prior to discharge from the SSCC, patients are assessed using the Resident Assessment Instrument-Home Care (RAI-HC). The RAI-HC supports the patient's successful rehabilitation journey, during their care transitions to and from SSCC, documenting the changes along the way. Central CCAC's success story will be shared, demonstrating the value of the SSCC, and its importance in care transitions. **Why is this research important to profile at the Research Day 2014?** Central CCAC's Short Stay Convalescent Care Program (SSCC) has improved patient outcomes and overall functional abilities and reduced the risk of premature long-term care placement since it launched eight years ago. The provincial program incorporates standardized evaluation measurement, using the Resident Assessment Instrument-Home Care (RAI-HC) assessment for pre-admission and discharge comparisons. Central CCAC's SSCC successes demonstrate a care model that offers value for patients and supports fiscal accountability within the health care system. The SSCC also enhances care transitions as patients are able to meet their rehabilitation goals prior to returning to the community setting. Central CCAC's SSCC evaluation data, the RAI-HC assessment items, client assessment protocol (CAPs) and outcome measures demonstrate improved patient outcomes and care transitions. Significant improvements in activities of daily living (ADLs), falls, risk of falls, depression and pain management contribute to better quality of life and outcomes. The Method for Assigning Priority Levels (MAPLe), a scale that predicts the need for long-term care placement, shows a significant shift to a lower level of risk upon the discharge assessment. The lower MAPLe levels validates that patient needs can be met in the community post-discharge. This presentation will review Central CCAC's patient profiles, and improved patient outcomes in relation to the cost of SSCC. It is critical for organizations to use their RAI data to validate the effectiveness of programs to ensure sustainability in a changing health care system. After eight successful years, it is time to share Central CCAC's SSCC journey.