


NICHE CONFERENCE


A GCNS Collaborative Transition of Care Improvement Project with Outpatient Pharmacists for Patient Medication Adherence and Safety on an ACE Unit

St John Hospital & Medical Center
Detroit, MI

APRIL 22, 2017

PROGRAM PRESENTERS
Margaret M. Romanoski, MSN, RN, AGCNS-BC
NICHE Coordinator
Julie Zablocki, BSN, RN-BC







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St John Hospital & Medical Center

- 772 Beds
- Urban regional-referral academic medical center
- Level II Trauma Center
- NICHE designated since 2003
- Exemplar status
- Part of a 7 hospital regional health system and Ascension which is the largest nonprofit in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system

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The question:

If the Medication Therapy Management team included our geriatric patient population could we reduce re-admission rates on the Acute Care of the Elderly (ACE) unit?

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Partnered with the Medication Therapy Management Team

1. Primary Investigator - GCNS.
2. The GCNS created an enrollment form and utilized the LACE Index Scoring Tool.
3. Two Outpatient Pharmacists called the patients after discharge to conduct medication review.

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This pilot project was conducted on the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Acute Care of the Elderly Unit

- Inclusion Criteria:**
- Patients >65 years old
 - >2 Maintenance medications
 - New medications
 - Agree to participate

- Exclusion Criteria:**
- ≤2 Maintenance medications
 - Refused to participate
 - Discharge to Subacute Rehab, Inpatient Rehab or Extended Care Facilities

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The Geriatric Clinical Nurse Specialist and/or the Nurse Manager:

- Approached patients and or families
- Introduced and answered questions regarding the pilot project
- Assessed and scored patients
- Scanned enrollment form and the LACE Score and emailed to pharmacists


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Although not measured patients expressed that they considered the call an extension of their hospital visit and were highly satisfied with the service.


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Next Steps/ Lessons Learned

- A grant request has been written to include 2 ACE units and will expand to include all 7 hospitals for adult inpatient units.
- A formal research protocol is being written to capture this expanded project.
- Working with finance is difficult as we speak a different language
- Think outside the box, how can existing programs within your hospital be expanded to include the Geriatric population.

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Questions?

Contact: Margie Romanoski
Margaret.Romanoski@ascension.org

Julie Zablocki
Julie.Zablocki@ascension.org

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