
Nurse Navigator Aged Care Model

Initiative Type

Model of Care

Status

Deliver

Added

18 August 2017

Last updated

28 August 2020

URL

<https://clinicalexcellence.qld.gov.au/improvement-exchange/nurse-navigator>

Summary

A new Nurse Navigator Aged Care Model has been developed to support the Nurse Practitioners Aged Care Nurse Navigators (NPACNNs). The Hospital In The Nursing Home (HITNH) model of care focuses on 3 main components;

- Telephone triage service providing advice and triaging of RACF residents before a hospital

admission is required (in concert with the GP). Also the response team can be dispatched out to a nursing home should the patient require assessment to prevent transportation to Toowoomba Hospital.

- Advocacy, education, training and support for RACF staff.
- Communication and Partnership with General Practices.

Key dates

Jul 2015

Aug 2017

Implementation sites

Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service

Key Contacts

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Aim

- Manage avoidable hospital admissions

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- Increased capability,, competency and confidence of Rural Aged Care Facility (RACF) staff to provide earlier proactive recognition, assessment and intervention of a deteriorating patient within the RACF.
 - Enhance partnerships and integrated working relationships between Hospital and Health Service, GPs and RACF.
 - Enhance health outcomes for aged care residents.

Benefits

- Acute response and evaluation service for residents of nursing homes in partnership with primary care providers such as GPs.
- “Virtual” admission of nursing home residents allowing acute care to be provided under the medical governance of a Geriatrician within their nursing home.
- Early Geriatrician assessment and management of nursing home residents presenting to the Emergency Department (ED)
- Admission of medically unwell nursing home residents under the care of a specialist Geriatrician.

Background

In 2015, the government introduced 400 new Nurse Navigator positions throughout Queensland. The Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service (DDHHS) has been successful in obtaining 19 of these positions – 5 of whom will be NPACNNs.

Lessons Learnt

The initial pilot has been successful with positive case study findings.

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