

Rehabilitation and Recovery

Chair

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Current Work Group Members

- Douglas T. Brown, MD: York Hospital, ME
- Carl Granger, MD: Uniform Data System for Medical Rehabilitation (UDS)
- Robin Hedeman, OTR, MHA: Kessler Institute of Rehabilitation
- Alyse Sicklick, MD: Gaylord Hospital, CT
- Joel Stein, MD: Columbia University Medical Center
- Christina Uzpen, OTR/L: Saint Mary's Hospital, CT



Rehabilitation Recommendations

1. All hospitalized stroke patients should be assessed for and referred to the appropriate level of post-stroke care. Whether state-based, regional or national, primary stroke centers should require the provision of basic rehabilitation assessment and services (e.g. physical, occupational, or speech therapy) and comprehensive stroke centers should be required to provide these rehabilitation services on site, or as part of a formal stroke care network with pre-specified relationships.



Rehabilitation Recommendations

3. States within NECC should develop a uniform set of stroke rehabilitation quality measures to be piloted in all post-acute settings where rehabilitation settings, such as Skilled Nursing Facilities, Inpatient Rehabilitation Hospitals, and Long-Term Acute Care Facilities. These measurements should include rates of adherence to key guideline-based interventions in the treatment of stroke patients, and appropriate targets for adherence should be established at the institutional and regional level. Inpatient rehabilitation hospitals should obtain certification in stroke rehabilitation by external credentialing agencies or seek equivalent designation. Similar criteria should be developed for the other post acute settings to permit comparable certification.



Rehabilitation Recommendations

4. Advocacy organizations should focus on ensuring that adequate rehabilitation resources exist within the NECC region, that adequate insurance benefits exist to fairly compensate for the cost of this post-acute care, and that these benefits are readily accessible to those patients who require services.



NECC Rehab Writing Project

- *Rehabilitation Recommendation #2:* Every stroke patient's functional status should be assessed during inpatient hospitalization with a standardized screening and assessment tool. NECC states should collectively select a single instrument to be used by all sites.



NECC Rehab Project Goal

- Our goal is to create a pilot study where up to 20 acute care hospitals will use a standardized functional assessment tool to consistently collect data on factors that influence patients' discharge destination.



Intervention

- We will use the Get With The Guidelines-Stroke database to collect the seventeen recommended data elements in the pilot hospitals. We will strive to select a representative sample of hospitals in our NECC region.



Outcomes

- Our outcomes will help create preliminary correlations on the strength of factors that influence patients' discharge destination from an acute care hospital.



What is Required to Participate in This Project?

- Hospitals must collect 17 data elements
- Nine of those data elements are already required fields in the GWTG tool.
- One of the data elements is the patients' scores from the Alpha FIM assessment
- Collect at least 6 months of data.



Next Steps

1. Complete necessary technical/legal steps
2. Recruit project participants
3. Distribute information on the Alpha FIM
4. Complete pilot



Interested in the Pilot Project?

- Contact Zainab Magdon-Ismail for additional information and/or to sign up for the pilot project

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General Feedback and Discussion



How can you get involved?

- Participate in the Writing Group
- Work with NECC to have your facility be a pilot facility for the project.



Open Discussion

- Efforts Across the Region
- Success Across the Region
- Barriers Across the Region



What Resources or Tools do you need?

- Tools that can be shared across NECC.
- Develop a list of needed tools
- Develop a wish list of items to be included on the NECC website
- Identify interested participants to help with collecting the tools to be posted on the website.

