

Introduction

- Accurate, evidence-based and easily accessible nutrition handouts on the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) at the St. Michael's Hospital (SMH) Academic Family Health Team (FHT) will help ensure that patients receive the right information at the right time.
- To assess the needs of team members with regard to the nutrition handouts on the EMR, a needs assessment was completed.
- The content of the current nutrition handouts on the EMR were reviewed by a team of Registered Dietitians (RDs) to determine accuracy of content and relevance to FHT practice setting.
- The needs assessment and the RD review identified areas for improvement, including: labeling, content, availability, awareness and ease of access.
- Strategies to address these areas of improvement were identified and are in the process of being implemented by the RDs of the SMH Academic FHT.

Objectives

- Provide updated and evidence-based nutrition handouts that would be accessible to all users of the SMH Academic FHT EMR.
- To identify the challenges to accessing and utilizing the nutrition handouts on the EMR.
- To identify strategies for addressing the challenges to accessing and utilizing the nutrition handouts on the EMR.
- Implementation of strategies to address challenges in accessing and utilizing nutrition handouts on the EMR.

Methods

- Designed a survey using SurveyMonkey® that consisted of six questions to assess accessibility, usability and relevance of nutrition handouts currently on the EMR.
 - This survey was distributed by email to all members of the SMH Academic FHT.
 - Team members were given two weeks to respond to the survey.
 - Survey results were collected and a team of RDs reviewed the results.
- A team of RDs reviewed the current nutrition handouts to determine accuracy of content and relevance to FHT practice setting.
- Based on the survey results and RD review, conclusions were drawn regarding accuracy, accessibility, usability and relevance of the nutrition handouts.

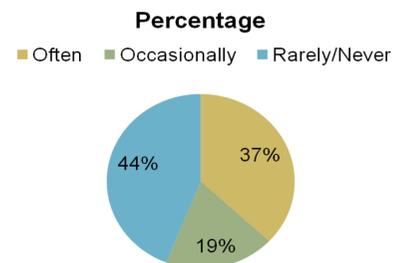
Results

Number of survey responses: 27

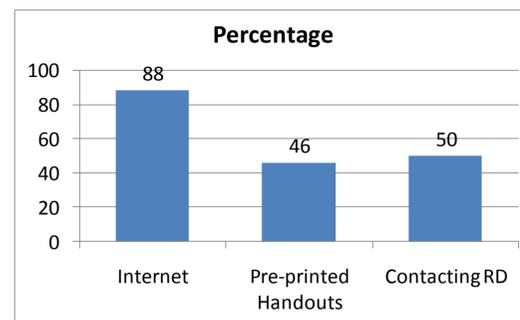
Respondents by profession:

- 18 Family Physicians
- 4 Registered Nurses
- 1 Nurse Practitioner
- 3 Allied Health Professionals

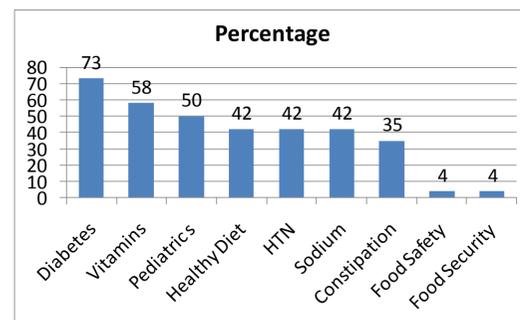
Question #1: How often do you use the nutrition handouts on the EMR?



Question #2: How do you access nutrition handouts that are not on the EMR?

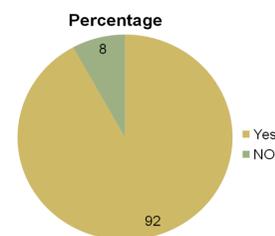


Question #3: What nutrition handouts do you use on a regular basis?

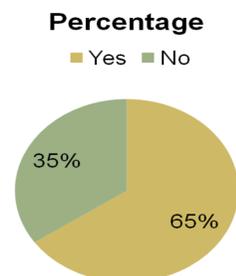


Results

Question #4: Is it easy to find the most appropriate nutrition handouts for your patients on the EMR?



Question #5: Currently some of the nutrition handouts are labeled "NUTR:", followed by the name of the resource. Does this system of labeling help you find the right resource for your patient?



Question #6: What nutrition handouts or information would you like added to the EMR?

Respondents indicated that they needed additional resources on a variety of topics including:

- Eating on a budget
- Iron supplement information for infants
- Vitamin D
- Introduction of solids for infants
- Gluten free diet
- Dietary management of gout
- Prenatal nutrition
- Eating disorders
- Dietary management of renal failure
- Weight management and weight loss

Results

- Two respondents of the survey indicated that they did not know nutrition handouts could be accessed through EMR. Suggestions for communicating this information included team meetings and team newsletters.
- Two respondents indicated that the ability to search for a handout of a specific topic using a search button would increase efficiency.
- RDs conducting a review of the nutrition handouts to determine accuracy and relevance concluded that there were several handouts that required revisions.

Conclusions

- Standardized labeling may increase efficiency and utilization of nutrition handouts on the EMR.
- Content of some nutrition handouts required updating to ensure accuracy and relevance in a FHT practice setting.
- Users need nutrition resources that are not currently available on the EMR.
- Some team members are unaware of nutrition handouts on the EMR.
- Search function for handouts on EMR may increase efficiency and utilization.

Application

To address these challenges, the following strategies are in the process of being implemented:

- Standardized labeling for nutrition handouts on the EMR.
- Content of current nutrition handouts being updated to provide accurate and evidence-based information.
- Scan of external evidence-based nutrition resources to meet the needs of our SMH Academic FHT members.
- Presentations at team meetings, use of weekly memos and informal discussions are being used to increase the awareness of handouts and disseminate the plan for addressing challenges identified by the survey.
- Unfortunately, a search option is currently not available on the EMR, so a strategy to address this challenge remains on-going.