

COPD READMISSION AVOIDANCE PROJECT

BACKGROUND

In Canada, COPD has the highest rate of hospital readmissions of all chronic diseases (Canadian Institute for Healthcare Information (CIHI), 2008). Hospital readmissions place a burden on patients, families, the healthcare system, and the quality of healthcare services (CIHI, 2012). The COPD Readmission Avoidance Project was established in June 2013. The goal of the project is to reduce hospital readmission rates and emergency department visits related to COPD through a collaborative relationship between the Owen Sound Family Health Team, the Community Care Access Centre, and Grey Bruce Health Services.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- 95% of patients with COPD who are discharged will have an appointment with a healthcare provider within 1 week of discharge
- 75% of patients with COPD will be placed on the COPD order set and Pathway
- 100% of patients with COPD will receive COPD self-management education prior to discharge
- Readmission rates for COPD within 30 days, when initial RFV is COPD, will decrease by 10%
- ED visits related to COPD within 30 days of last hospital presentation will decrease by 10%

Source for indicators: COPD Readmission Avoidance Project, GBHS Improvement Project Charter

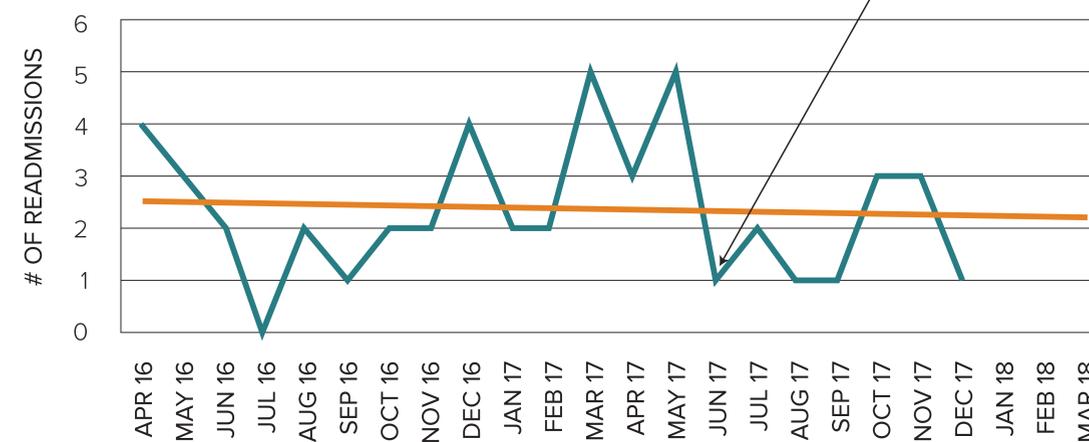
METHODS

- The Owen Sound Family Health Team is automatically notified of any FHT patient who is discharged from the hospital after admission for COPD.
- The OSFHT performs a follow-up phone call within 48 hours to all FHT patients post discharge
- The OSFHT schedules an appointment with their primary health care provider or with the respiratory therapist within 7 days of discharge.
- The RRT or physician provides home visits within 7 days post discharge for patients who are unable to come into the FHT.
- CCAC also provides a home visit from a rapid response nurse post discharge.
- The project utilizes pathways and order sets to standardize care, and performs discharge medication reconciliation prior to discharge from hospital.
- COPD project folders containing educational material and care plans are currently being distributed to the medicine and emergency units, with plans to expand distribution to surgery, monitored beds (step-down), and woman and child units.

RESULTS

COST OF CARE

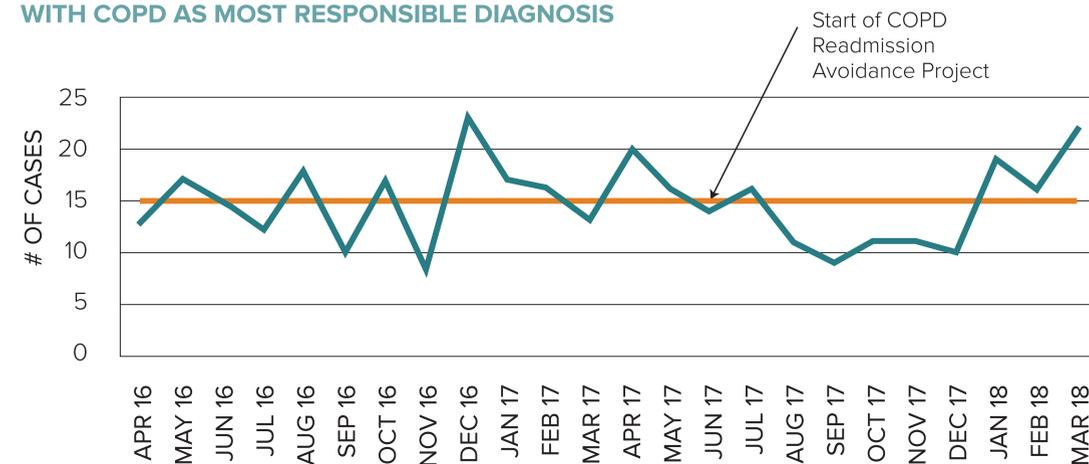
INITIAL ADMISSION Dx OF COPD WITH 30 DAY (URGENT) READMIT WITH ANY Dx



Source: Grey Bruce Health Services

POPULATION HEALTH

VOLUME OF ADMITTED CASES TO INPATIENTS WITH COPD AS MOST RESPONSIBLE DIAGNOSIS



Source: Grey Bruce Health Services

CONCLUSIONS

The COPD Readmission Avoidance Project quality improvement initiative is a joint effort of the Owen Sound Family Health Team, Grey Bruce Health Services, and Community Care Access Centre. A hospital admission for COPD triggers processes from all three collaborative partners that aim to reduce the rate of hospital re-admissions. The Owen Sound Family Health Team has been successful in providing follow-up phone calls and clinic appointments or home visits to approximately 90% of the Family Health Team patients with COPD discharged from hospital.

NEXT STEPS

- Leverage new knowledge and improved processes gained from participation in the Canadian Foundation for Healthcare Improvement INSPIRED Approaches to COPD: Improving Care and Creating Value quality improvement collaborative.
- Increase collaboration with Grey Bruce Health Services and CCAC to improve range of COPD services offered within the community and to avoid duplication of services.
- Engage physicians and allied health outside of the OSFHT to participate in a similar call-back and home visit process to improve COPD care post hospital discharge and help prevent hospital re-admissions.

REFERENCES

Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). (2008). Health indicators 2008. Ottawa, ON: CIHI.
Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). (2012). All-Cause Readmission to Acute Care and Return to the Emergency Department. Ottawa, ON: CIHI.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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