

Abstract

This project attempted to reduce readmissions of HF patients at an 81-bed acute care community hospital, located in the Midwest, through the implementation of a comprehensive checklist that uses interdisciplinary evidence-based interventions upon the admission of all HF patients. This checklist was used by the patient's care team during the hospitalization to individualize care in an attempt to improve the patient's recovery outcome and to decrease the likelihood of readmission within 30 days of discharge. If the trend in readmissions for HF patients at this community hospital continues to increase, the financial costs to the facility and the health burden to the patients will negatively impact the community.

Keywords: HF, hospital readmissions, checklists, heart failure treatment and medication, pharmacological treatment, diagnostic assessment, and transitional care