Use of an Interprofessional Medicare Wellness Clinic for Interprofessional Healthcare Education and Preventative Care

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Interprofessional Education & Clinical Practice

“Allo health professionals should be educated to deliver patient-centered care as members of an interdisciplinary team, emphasizing evidence-based practice, quality improvement approaches, and informatics.” – The Institute of Medicine

“Interprofessional education is a necessary step in preparing a ‘collaborative practice-ready’ health workforce that is better prepared to respond to local health needs.” – World Health Organization

Interprofessional practice should:
- Increase care coordination
- Provide more effective care
- Reduce costs and errors
- Optimize health services and patient outcomes

Interprofessional Medicare Wellness Clinic (IMWC)

- In addition to the Welcome to Medicare visit, or initial preventative physical exam, Medicare established an annual wellness visit for beneficiaries in 2011 (Part B)
- Reflects a shift to preventative care in addition to chronic condition care including counseling, screening, and education
- Designed as a regular preventative care visit
- TTUHSC IMWC was developed as both a clinical and educational initiative

IMWC Goals
- Early detection & preventive services
- Interprofessional teamwork & mastery education

IMWC Overview

- Initial Staffing
  - Introduce clinic, interprofessional team, and students
  - Review patient chart on electronic health record
- Patient Assessment
  - Interprofessional team members examine the patient
  - Student participation and observation
- Patient Grand Rounds
  - Collaborative recommendations
  - Student comments and questions
  - Proposed plan of care
- Patient Education and Counseling
  - Coordinates care, patient education, and counseling
  - Assesses health history, compliance with recommended vaccinations and screenings, and vital signs
  - Assesses for cognitive impairment, depressive symptoms, and suicide ideation
  - Assesses for medication compliance and interactions
  - Assesses balance, gait, and need for assistive devices
  - Assesses speech, language, cognition, and hearing

Student Education Initiative

- Train competent health professionals
- Provide leadership in the development of partnerships and collaborations to improve community health
- Develop and enhance interprofessional programs in clinical care
- Prepare graduates to be leaders in the dynamic health care environment
- Facilitate development of knowledge, skills, behaviors, and attitudes required to provide high quality, safe, individualized care within an interprofessional team

Student Perceptions

- Student attitudes toward interprofessional learning and cooperation improved after participation in the IMWC
- IMWC fostered healthy attitudes toward collaborative, team-based practice
- Increased students’ knowledge about all disciplines after participation in IMWC

Clinical Outcomes

- IMWC had a positive impact on patient wellness via referrals to address multidisciplinary preventative care
- Provided home and environmental strategies to increase safety and independence
- Provided education and training on health and compliance with medical recommendations

Student Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEAN MONTHS OF TRAINING</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>MEAN AGES</th>
<th>SD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24.66 (SD 8.55)</td>
<td>10.18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
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<tr>
<td>81% Caucasian</td>
<td>9% Hispanic</td>
<td>6% Asian</td>
<td>3% African-American</td>
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<td>28.68 (SD 8.35)</td>
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IMWC Collaborative Education and Clinical Practice

- Based on the WHO Framework for Action on Interprofessional Education and & Collaborative Practice
  - Interprofessional clinical education is a critical element in preparing a “collaborative practice-ready” health workforce
  - Collaborative practice strengthens the efficacy and accuracy of medical care, which allows for the delivery of the highest quality of care and improves patient outcomes
  - Health care educators who conceptualize, commit to, and adopt interprofessional education and collaborative practice strengthen the health system and reduce fragmentation of care

Thank You

Dr. Mitchell
TTUHSC Council of Deans
TTUHSC Department of Family and Community Medicine
School of Allied Health Sciences
School of Medicine
School of Nursing
School of Pharmacy

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Foundations of IMWC Collaborative Education and Clinical Practice