

Get With The Guidelines Implementation Tips

Examples of some of the team decisions you will make:

- Map the different patient flows from ER to discharge.
- Physician and Staff education.
- Responsibility for data entry.
- Use paper tool/on-line combination.
- Map out the best data collection process for you.
- Patient teaching: who will facilitate this and what other materials (other than the ones provided in the Patient Management Tool) do you need?

Review care paths, protocols, treatment algorithms, and standing orders.

- Evaluate current protocols for compliance with the secondary prevention guidelines and risk interventions.
- Review current standing orders and current discharge plans.
- Assess hospital systems and patient education strategies currently in place.

Revise/develop care paths, protocols, treatment algorithms, and standing orders:

1. Verify guideline compliance.
2. Evaluate current processes, systems, and logistics.
3. Review new interdisciplinary systems for consistency and continuity.
4. Examine for gaps.
5. Assess process for manageability.

Watch for these statements: 1. "We have always done it this way" 2. "This won't work" 3. "Our department can't do this" 4. Any statement that begins with "Yes, but..."	Be creative – counter with: 1. "This is a great opportunity to develop a better system" 2. "We can work together to share responsibilities" 3. "This is our chance to implement new ideas and processes" 4. " We can be proactive rather than reactive"
Collaborate: This is the time for departments and hospitals that work along side of each other every day to join together and work as one team to enhance the care of every stroke patient.	

Stay on the path of Continuous Quality Improvement:

1. Review of data (quarterly minimum – monthly preferred)
 - Use the standard reports from the Patient Management Tool to identify areas in common for "non-compliant" patients
2. Review the design of your system – What works?

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