Improving Diabetes care in Scottish Hospitals

update
July 2014

15% of inpatients have diabetes¹

There is an increasing prevalence of diabetes in Scotland. Moreover, hospital inpatients with diabetes have a longer length of stay for almost all conditions that lead to hospital admission, compared to patients without diabetes.

The Scottish Diabetes Group and the Scottish Government approached the NHSScotland Quality Improvement Hub in 2011 to test a particular approach, ThinkGlucose, which had been developed by the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement in NHS England.

Following some initial improvements to patient care we are now moving away from the ThinkGlucose brand and developing an approach for NHSScotland

This work address inpatient diabetes care, in particular the care of patients admitted to acute hospitals with a secondary diagnosis of diabetes.

OUR GOVERNANCE GROUP

The Strategic Implementation Group provides strategic leadership to the project. The group is chaired by Dr Colin Perry and includes representation from the Scottish Diabetes Group, Scotland's Executive Nurse Directors, Scottish Diabetes foot action group, Diabetes Managed Clinical Network, patients and carers and Diabetes UK Scotland.

HOW EDUCATION FITS IN

During initial testing it was found that educating all healthcare professionals in diabetes management was key to improving patient care. An education sub group chaired by Dr Stuart Ritchie has been established to:

- Map existing education provision, identify gaps and priorities areas for action;
- Promote existing educational materials, such as the Safer Use of Insulin e-learning module
- Develop further e-learning modules
- Explore the development of innovative ways to support junior doctors in insulin prescribing

MEET THE TEAM

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Reference: 1. Health and Social Care Information Centre, National Diabetes Inpatient Audit 2012 Centre
PHASE 1 (5 WARDS 3 NHS BOARDS)
Good progress was made in phase 1, with national results including:
- an increase in the percentage of patients being assessed within 24 hours
- a reduction in the number of insulin prescribing errors

PHASE 2 (12 WARDS 2 NHS BOARDS)
Activity in phase 2 included:
- spreading and reliably implementing the outcomes from the first phase to twelve wards in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, and NHS Lothian developing and implementing robust data measurement and;
- data collection systems developing materials and technology to support the earlier work.

PHASE 3
Now underway, involving further testing, spread and sustainability. This phase of the project will be completed by 31st March 2015. The project will target resources, education, clinical engagement, patient experience and measurement.

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED
What information would be helpful to you? How would you like to receive this information – flash reports, web updates, etc? To give us your feedback please email donna.davidson2@nhs.net

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