

# Using Patient Activation to Transition Patients from Hospital to Home

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## Background

Stroke affects an estimated 795,000 people annually in the U.S. It is one of the highest contributors to Medicare costs (Lichtman et al, 2012). Case Managers as Care Coordinators lead in health care innovation as government and commercial payers impose financial penalties on hospitals and health care providers for quality and patient satisfaction indicators (Coleman, et al, 2004). Case Management can influence avoidable costs and partnership with providers (Jack et al, 2009).

- Case Manager Key Roles**
  - Care coordinators
  - Med reconciliation
  - Arranging physician appointments
  - Assessing for home safety
- Ohio Coverdell Stroke Program**
  - State wide Centers for Disease Control Funded
  - Improve the quality of stroke patients' care transitions
  - Reduce preventable complications
  - Support the reduction of stroke patients' preventable hospital readmissions

**Old** vs **New** Healthcare Relationship:

- Information Asymmetry → Information Symmetry
- Passive Patients → Active Patients
- Paternalism → Participation
- Paternal Physician → Collaborative Health Care Team

Nurses develop strong relationships with patients, and their families  
Joint Commission 2008 Consensus Stroke Performance measures mandates that nurses educate stroke patients on:

- Personal risk factors for stroke
- Signs and symptoms of stroke, and how to access the Emergency Management System
- Stroke prevention
- Medication
- Follow up care

## Methods

### Project Tools

- Judith Hibbard's Patient Activation Measure (PAM)
  - 13 question measurement instrument
- Eric Coleman's Patient Activation Assessment (PAA)
  - Four Columns
    - Medication Management
    - Red Flags
    - Medical Follow Up
    - Personal Health Record (PHR)

### Levels of the Patient Activation

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Blended & Overwhelmed	Becoming aware, but still struggling	Taking action	Maintaining behaviors and pushing further
Passive and lack confidence	Some knowledge	Have the key facts	Adopted new behaviors, but may struggle with stress or change
Weak goal orientation	Health is largely out of their control	Building self-management skills	Maintaining a healthy lifestyle is a key focus
Poor adherence	Strive for best practice behavior	Goal oriented	"I'm part of my health care team"
"My doctor is in charge of my health"	Ability to set simple goals "I could be doing more"	"I'm part of my health care team"	"I'm my own advocate"

Hibbard, Greene & Overton (2013)  
↑ Increasing Levels of Activation

## Results

### Cost Benefit Analysis

2013 Lost CMS Reimbursement due to readmissions \$12,500

	Social Workers & Administrative Assistant	Education Nurse	Total
Productive Hours	48	260	308

Salary Social Workers & Secretary	\$2,296
Salary Education Nurse	\$0
Overhead and Supplies	\$1,000
Total	\$3,296
Payment Loss 2012	\$12,500
Return on Project Investment	\$9,304

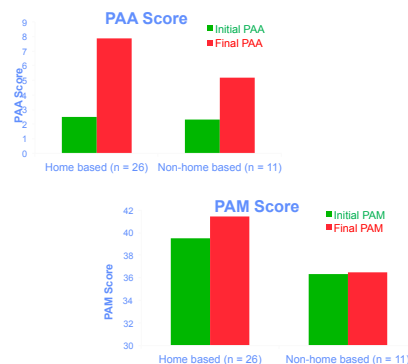
## Results

### Project Findings Demographics: Complete Data Set June – Sept 2013

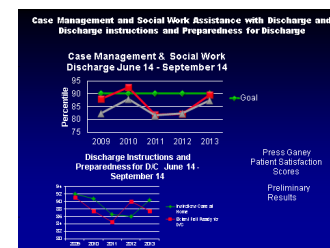
- Complete data set was available for 37 (55%) out of 67 patients
- Age:
  - 71 years (mean)
  - 74 years (median)
  - 32 – 94 years (range)
- 18 females and 19 males
- Length of Stay:
  - 16 days (mean)
  - 16 days (median)

Readmission Rates decreased by 10% for Project Stroke Patients compared to the previous two years June-Sept

Initial and Final PAA and PAM Scores per discharge disposition  
PAA scores pre-teaching compared to scores post-teaching improved significantly  $p < 0.005$  (paired t test)  
Patients with a PAA score above 7 and a PAM score above 40 were discharged home vs. an extended care facility



## Results



### Analysis of Project Outcomes

Trending toward positive outcomes in

- Readmission Rates
- Patient Satisfaction Scores
- PAM and PAA useful tools in evaluating
- Patients safe discharge home
- Risk for readmission

