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What? Not Another Fall!: Reducing Falls in the Neuroscience Patient Population

Elizabeth Plante
St. Cloud Hospital, CentraCare Health, elizabeth.plante@centracare.com

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MAGNET RECOGNIZED

What? Not Another Fall!
Reducing Falls in the Neuroscience Patient Population

Elizabeth Plante, BSN, RN, CNRN, SCRN
Neuroscience/Spine Unit, St. Cloud Hospital, St. Cloud, Minnesota

Purpose Statement

The purpose of this evidence-based practice project is to reduce the fall rate from 5.52 to less than 4.80 on a Neuroscience/Spine Unit through increasing staff and patient awareness of fall risk and application of evidence-based fall prevention practices of communication, patient involvement and bedside report.

Synthesis of Evidence

- ✓ Falls are highly prevalent on neuroscience units due to functional status of the patient populations
- ✓ Patients are unaware of their current functional status
- ✓ Patients are insufficiently educated and poorly engaged
- ✓ Patients need education on admission and frequently throughout their stay
- ✓ Communication among staff is important
- ✓ Consensus that staff and patient engagement in fall prevention are vital to safety of patients

Team Members

Elizabeth Krekelberg, BSN RN CNRN SCRN
Brittney Huisinga, BSN RN
Jackie Hoyhtya MSN RN CNRN
Heather Wentland BSN RN
Tiffany Omann-Bidinger BSN RN

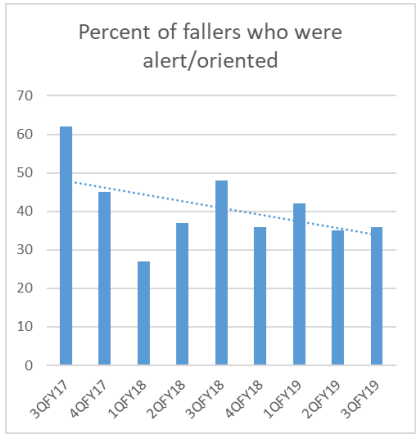
Pre/Post Measures

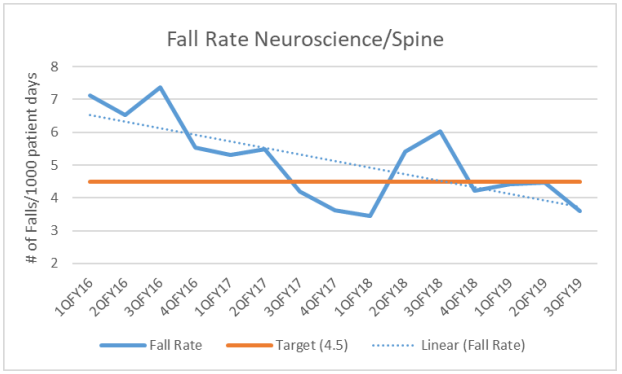
Pre Measure

Quarter	Number of Falls	Fall Rate
1QFY16	23	7.13
2QFY16	22	6.52
3QFY16	24	7.38
4QFY16	17	5.54
1QFY17	17	5.3
2QFY17	15	5.49

Post Measure

Quarter	Number of Falls	Fall Rate
3QFY17	13	4.2
4QFY17	11	3.63
1QFY18	11	3.45
2QFY18	19	5.42
3QFY18	21	6.03
4QFY18	14	4.22
1QFY19	14	4.42
2QFY19	14	4.46
3QFY19	11	3.59





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Evidence Based Practice Change

3QFY16
- ✓ Started more transparent discussions about upcoming projects and fall rates during unit meetings
- ✓ Started putting fall related information into newsletters and emails to staff focusing on current evidence and education.

3QFY17
- ✓ Began discussing fall risk, risk factors, and interventions with patient during bedside reporting to increase communication of expectations of nurse and patient (providing education)
- ✓ Add fall risk information and important interventions on the sign out report for communication with NA team members

4QFY18
- ✓ NAs included in bedside report.
- ✓ Implemented a bedside report checklist that included safety scan

3QFY19
- ✓ Trial of DeRoyal wireless chair pad alarm system that connects to Responder 5 paging to replace string personal alarms
- ✓ Approval to implement on Neuroscience/spine unit

References

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