



Coordination in nurse home and ambulatory setting improves treatment

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Abstract

A lot of international studies have shown positive effects when inpatient nursing and care facilities interstitialise medical coordination. Multi-professional interventions lead to better quality of care, more satisfaction of staff, and finally cost reduction. A medical coordinator is appointed for further areas of palliative geriatrics. Whose duties are:

- Crisis plan for every home resident
- Advanced care planning for an expected terminal phase
- Recording of presumed will/patient directive
- Communication with the family doctor
- Medical assessment of the overall situation at admission
- Communication with the mobile palliative team
- Education of nursing staff in palliative care

Three test care homes were able to reduce their rescue missions during the year of the project and stabilize the number of emergency doctor's visits. This was seen on comparison with the preceding year, and with the primary as well as secondary reference care homes, in which the number of emergency doctor's visits as well as rescue missions had risen in the second year.

Family caregivers' need is well noticed by nurses. Considering the good deal of time spent on counselling and advising the rate of hospitalisation due to family caregivers' overload and distress seems proportionally high. Support for family caregivers is regarded one of the core competencies in palliative care.

Medical coordination in the nurse home and in the ambulant setting improves the quality of care for the patients and contentment of the staff. The economic evaluation shows that undignified ambulance services and unnecessary emergency doctors' missions can be considerably reduced by medical coordination. Biography: Gebhard Mathis, now is an associate professor of Internal Medicine at the Medical Innsbruck. Since 30 years he is working in Palliative Care, founded as leader the Palliative station at the Hohenems Hospital. He founded and led extensive courses in Palliative Care, edited a book by Springer on this topic and gave a lot of lectures.

Publications

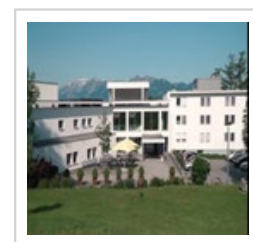
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