

Conference Learnings

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CONFERENCE LEARNINGS

16th Annual NICHE Conference
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
April 10-12, 2013



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Staff Nurse 6C

Conference Topics

- Medication management concerns in dementia patients
- Site innovations for delirium/dementia
- The science of delirium
- Pharmacological management of heart failure in older adults
- Family care giver collaboration
- Palliative care for geriatric patients
- Site innovations in transitions from acute care to skilled nursing and preventing readmissions
- Eliminating continuous observations
- Multidisciplinary efforts to improve patient care and satisfaction with pain management

Learnings to Consider for LVHN

- Northwestern Community Healthcare presented their LINCT program. It stands for Liaison in nursing care transitions. Since older adults with chronic medical conditions are at the greatest risk for readmission within 30 days of discharge they assigned an RN to follow with these patients between the hospital and their skilled nursing facility to ensure continuity of care and provide education to patients and SNF staff. This helped prevent readmission and decreased their readmission rates.
- At Trinity Health they have implemented a virtual dementia orientation for all staff who deal with geriatric populations. They go through exercises that place them in the role of the dementia patient by using sensory deprivation. This helps to ensure that all new employees understand the challenges that elderly patients, patients with dementia, and their caregivers feel and face. It has helped to improve patient and employee satisfaction but having staff feel the struggle and providing more compassionate care to their patients population.

Sharing Learnings

- **Conference learnings were shared with the 6C education committee at the May 2013 meeting. A power point presentation of learning will be available to share with all unit staff members.**

Next Steps

Where the rubber meets the road

- The 6C education committee will explore the possibility of providing a unit based dementia education session for new and current staff members as well as the exploring the practicality of implementing other education from the conference.

