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Impact of Pharmacists Interventions on Meaningful Use Criteria for Stroke

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In May of 2014 I initiated a program at Morristown Medical Center in conjunction with a multidisciplinary stroke team in which pharmacists evaluate patient charts, initiate appropriate interventions and counsel patients regarding disease state and medication management post acute ischemic stroke. The pharmacists' role in this program is targeted towards several measures of meaningful use. Those measures of meaningful use include Stroke – 2 NQF 0435, Stroke – 3 NQF 0436, Stroke – 5 NQF 0438, Stroke – 6 NQF 0439 and Stroke – 8 NQF 0440. Pharmacists ensure patients admitted with stroke are started, discharged and educated on appropriate medications including antithrombotics, anticoagulants and statins. In addition to education regarding medications prescribed, pharmacists also provide educational pamphlets to patients which address activation of emergency medical system, need for follow-up after discharge, risk factors for stroke, warning signs, and symptoms of stroke. Pharmacists record all interventions and education in an electronic database. Interventions, education, and the publically reported stroke score (pre and post implementation) are being collected and analyzed.

May 2014 – Present Stroke Education by Pharmacists

- Initiated program at Morristown Medical Center in conjunction with a multidisciplinary stroke team in which pharmacists evaluate patient charts, initiate appropriate interventions and counsel patients regarding disease state and medication management post acute ischemic stroke.
- Pharmacist's role is targeted towards the following measures of meaningful use:
- Stroke – 2 NQF 0435: Ischemic stroke – discharge on anti-thrombotics (Ischemic stroke patients are prescribed antithrombotic therapy at hospital discharge)
- Stroke – 3 NQF 0436: Ischemic stroke – anticoagulation for atrial fibrillation/flutter (Ischemic stroke patients with atrial fibrillation/flutter are prescribed anticoagulation therapy at hospital discharge.)
- Stroke – 5 NQF 0438: Ischemic antithrombotic therapy by day two (Ischemic stroke patients administered antithrombotic therapy by the end of hospital day two.)
- Stroke – 6 NQF 0439: Ischemic stroke –discharge on statins (Ischemic stroke patients with LDL greater than or equal to 100mg/dL or LDL not measured or who were on a lipid lowering medication prior to hospital arrival are prescribed statin medication at discharge.)
- Stroke – 8 NQF 0440: Ischemic or hemorrhagic stroke – stroke education (Ischemic or hemorrhagic stroke patients or their caregivers are given education materials during the hospital stay addressing all of the following:
 - Activation of emergency medical system
 - Need for follow-up after discharge
 - Medications prescribed at discharge
 - Risk factors for stroke, warning signs, and symptoms of stroke
 - Pharmacists record all interventions and education in electronic database.
 - Interventions, education, and publically reported stroke score (pre and post implementation) are being collected and analyzed.