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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

The Effect of Diabetes Case Management and Diabetes Resource Nurse Program on Readmissions of Patients With Diabetes Mellitus

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Abstract:

Aims: Patients with diabetes have higher readmission rates than those without diabetes, yet limited data on efforts to reduce their readmissions are available. We describe a novel model of inpatient diabetes care, expanding the role of diabetes educators to include case management, and establishment of a diabetes resource nurse program, aimed at increasing the knowledge of staff nurses, and evaluate the impact of this program on readmission rates.

Methods: We performed retrospective analysis of 30-day readmission rates of patients with diabetes before (July 2010 – December 2011), and after (January 2012 – June 2013) starting the implementation of this tiered inpatient diabetes care delivery model.

Results: We analyzed 34,472 discharged patient records from the 18-month preintervention period, and 32,046 records from the 18-month post-intervention period. The overall 30-day readmission rate for patients with diabetes decreased significantly from

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