



Readmission– Why do patients keep coming back?

Emma Filipo (Senior Community Occupational Therapist), and David Kay, Head of Service, Clifton Hospital

Background

Hospital readmissions can negatively impact cost and patient outcomes (1). The study undertaken has considered the factors affecting patient's readmissions following a period of rehabilitation at Clifton Hospital in Lytham St Annes. Clifton is part of the Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Trust and is situated on the Fylde Coast. It is a community hospital that provides sub-acute care for the older person and those living with long term conditions. Patients are admitted here usually after an in-patient stay in the acute hospital at Blackpool Victoria. After a period of rehabilitation patients will be discharged home with social care support or to original support. Although the readmission rate is often presented as a measure of the performance of hospitals; it is also an indicator of the performance of an integrated health care system. (2)

Aim

- To gain a better understanding of why patients are readmitted after 30 days and who is most at risk.
- Exploring ideas on how service improvement and advances in clinical practice can be best facilitated between Clifton Hospital and patients being discharged home.

References

- (1) Holly C Felix, Fay W.Boozman College of Public Health. University of Arkanzas for Medical Sciences Published in Social Work Healthcare 2015; 54 (1) 1-15
- (2) Readmissions: a primary care examination of reasons for readmission of older people and possible readmission risk factors. Dobrzanska, L. Newell, R. Journal of Nursing May 2006; vol 15 (no 5); p599-606

This is a summary of independent research funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)'s CLAHRC NWC Programme. The views expressed are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the NHS, the NIHR or the Department of Health

Methodology

This study aims to invite up to 20 NHS health professionals working with patients with the patients in the rehabilitation setting and those working in the acute sector on readmission.

Participants will take part in an initial semi-structured interview with the researcher exploring their views and opinions on why they have been readmitted.

Some participants will then be invited to take part in a focus group to explore in more detail how clinical practice may best be improved.

Anonymised data has been gained from the coding team from HISS and Pas and summarised according to postcode to demonstrate any present health inequalities.

