

Implementation Strategies for Most Popular Solutions Fall Prevention Performance Improvement Project September 28th, 2006

Fall Decision Tree Guide

1. Two facilities will fax examples to the Technical Assistance Program (TAP)
2. Decision Tree Guide to be done by each provider
3. Include critical thinking and root cause analysis
4. Recreate the fall
5. Investigate disease interventions and presence of acute illness
6. Use directed questions with a check off system on the incident report
7. Refer to fall prevention performance improvement interventions for root cause
8. Initiate first level preventative interventions that are individualized to initial assessment findings

KePRO to have a type of chat room for providers to submit fall challenges and to enlist solution ideas from other providers

1. Ohio KePRO or other provider association to facilitate this project
2. Check to see if something similar is in existence
3. Post other resources for disease and fall management on this web site
4. This web site will be accessible for all long term care providers for brainstorming ideas for frequent fallers
5. All long term care facilities need to help inform others and utilize the site as tool for problem solving

Develop a fall diary for each resident on an excel spreadsheet - Assign a responsible staff member to link it to the incident report.

1. Evaluate incident report to determine what information is needed for the excel spread sheet
2. Identify who is knowledgeable about using excel (business office, human resources) in your facility
3. Use the information to identify trends and interventions

Use activities as part of fall problem solving

1. Assess residents for activity likes and dislikes
2. Keep a book for each resident containing their activity preferences
3. Use the fall tracking system to determine when activities should take place
4. Use an activity box that contains multiple activities for different cognitive levels
5. Provide pre-meal activities for each level of resident

Involve all staff in decision making – including nurse aides

1. Clarify what HIPPA means
2. Use a sign up sheet to discover who is interested in being on a team
3. Assign someone to perform nurse aide duties for assigned residents while attending “plan of care” meeting
4. Use forms to obtain input from staff who cannot attend
5. Front line staff should be part of the fall committee that meets right after a fall
6. Keep a nursing assistant book (communication book) that contains new interventions or concerns regarding residents

Assess resident for pain utilizing a pain rating scale

1. Conduct a pain assessment after each fall and for 72 hours.
2. Add pain assessment to fall assessment form
3. Evaluate the use of pain medications – determine the need for pain medication to be given routinely versus “as needed or prn”
4. Communicate with therapy
5. Be aware of weather changes causing increased pain
6. Obtain pain assessment and tools (CD-ROM) from Ohio KePRO’s website (www.ohiokepro.com)

Discuss expectations of family members prior to admission

1. Discuss expectations during the initial tour
2. Educate staff on how to do an appropriate tour
3. Ensure discharge planning begins the day of admission
4. Discuss reimbursement issues – applying for Medicaid if applicable
5. Conduct a “Home Assessment” before discharge from hospital and prior to admission to the nursing home if possible
6. Communicate admission information prior to admission to decrease time spent by family and resident during the admission process
7. Conduct the admission process in the resident’s room so the resident and family receive the same information

Trial different room layouts

1. Use therapy to evaluate appropriate layout for the resident
2. Sit in a wheelchair and look at the room
3. Put items at an easily accessible height – closet, shelves
4. Apply colored tape on oxygen tubing and assess other equipment for tripping hazards
5. Get rid of unnecessary furniture such as tray tables
6. If utilizing a mat; determine if it is a tripping hazard for the other resident
7. Use a commercial strength “Velcro” to place the mat up against then wall when resident is not in bed