

Involving Residents and Families in Promoting Safe Discharge from Enaya Specialized Care Center

Authors: Nina Karisse Mae Arriessgado and Benshamir Bright

Supporting Authors: Eileen Livingstone, Jose Vero Marfil, Ketki Awhad, Lincy Mariam Thomas, Shirley Vinodhini
Occupational Therapists

Overview

Occupational therapists at Enaya Specialized Care Center play a vital role in resident's care as well as in their discharge process. The purpose of safe discharge process is to assist the occupational therapist and the resident/ family members to work together and plan a safe return home by identifying any specific needs post discharge. Most common discharge recommendations from occupational therapists involve accessibility and safety in home, equipment recommendation, provision and education. However the process and its benefits have not been investigated.

Learning Objectives

The aim of this project is to improve Occupational Therapy services during safe discharge process by involving resident and families in shared decision making about their needs post discharge regarding proper equipments and education.

Methodology

- As part of the MDT , Occupational Therapist are involved in the safe discharge process from the time of initial evaluation of the resident.
- Resident's or family's goals were obtained and therapist's managements or plan of care are explained.
- Resident's need for positioning devices, splints, wheelchair or other equipments are assessed and confirmed with the resident or their f families Home situation or space is taken into consideration for any wheelchair or commode prescription by asking the family members.
- Necessary equipments or devices are prescribed and some are provided within the facility. Demonstration and education on proper application, care and other basic information's are provided to the family or caregiver.
- Residents using wheelchair are trained for functional mobility and families or caregivers for handling/ propelling the wheelchair. They are educated about its specifications/ functions and maneuverability.
- Ongoing Education was given to the family/ caregiver or resident about home programs that they can carry over at home to in preparation for discharge
- Home visits are done for residents to be discharged locally, initiated by case manager and social worker, to assess accessibility and safety of home environment. Necessary home modification are suggested to the resident's family as when needed.
- Upon discharge, therapists ensures that equipments and home programs are understood by the resident, family or caregiver. Return demonstration is done if needed.

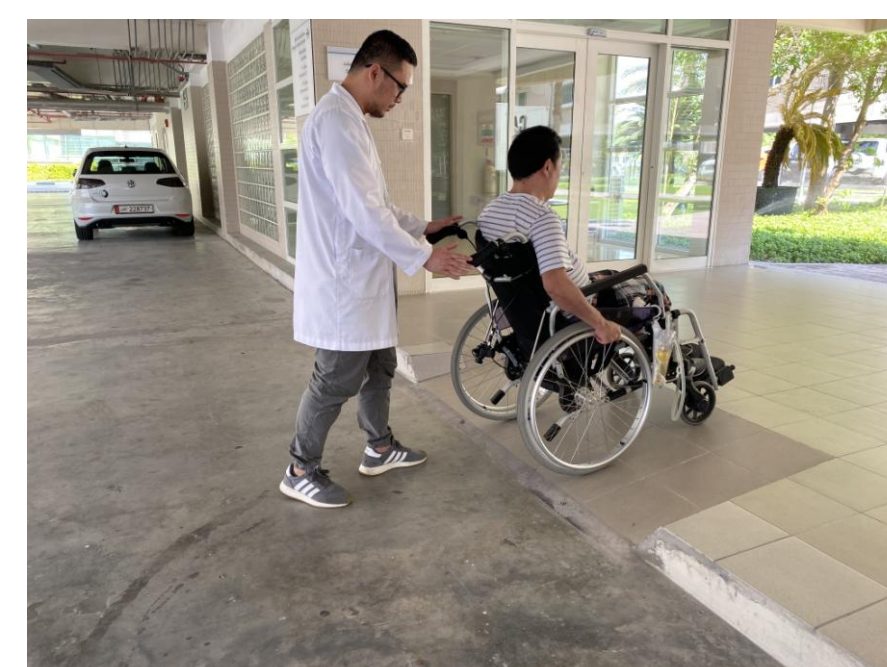
Resident and Family Involvement in Discharge Planning and Education



Household ambulation and Functional abilities



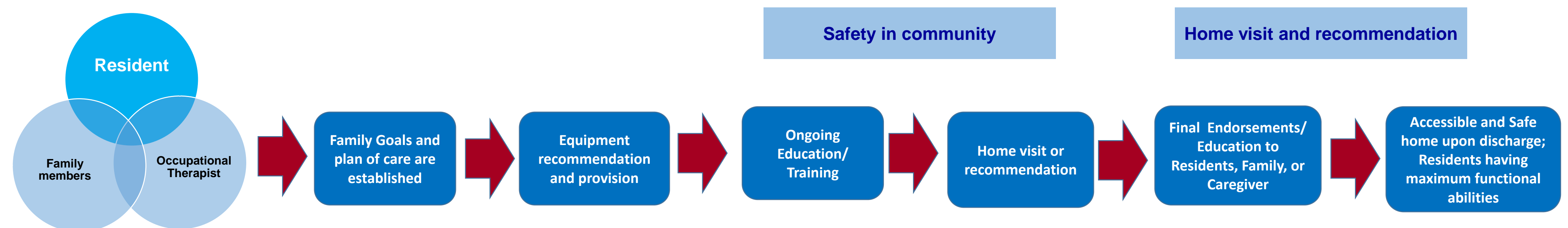
Wheelchair/ Equipment Education



Safety in community



Home visit and recommendation



Results

The process shows that the Occupational therapy discharge planning is initiated from the time of initial evaluation along with the resident and family. It also identifies that there is a continuity in discharge planning throughout the residents stay in the facility till discharge. Residents, family or caregivers are involved in the whole process from identifying their goals, to recognizing their needs and addressing all their concerns up to their home safety needs.

Conclusion

This study shows that Occupational therapy safe discharge process enables therapists to achieve a safe discharge, considering resident's level of ability, need for safe discharge and need for equipment's from the initial evaluation. Thus, Occupational Therapy discharge process creates confidence to the residents, families or caregiver upon returning home since all their needs were met and all circumstances regarding mobility and function were considered.

Recommendation

1. To further investigate the effectiveness of the current Occupational Therapy safe discharge process.
2. To evaluate the system benefit and the resident/family satisfaction on the safe discharge process.

Reference

- Waring J, Marshall F, Bishop S, et al. An ethnographic study of knowledge sharing across the boundaries between care processes, services and organizations: the contributions to 'safe' hospital discharge. Southampton (UK): NIHR Journals Library; 2014 Sep. (Health Services and Delivery Research, No. 2.29.) Chapter 4, Discharge planning and care transition.

In Collaboration with