

Workshops in Focus

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Summit

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Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation > Health Services and Policy Research

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14:00 – 16:00

Utilizing national guidelines for quality care of hospitalized patients with bariatric care needs

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Bariatric care needs can arise when a patient’s body weight is 113kg or more and/or when a patient’s body shape warrants support not offered in typically designed hospital furniture or clinical equipment. Patients with bariatric care needs are at risk in hospital settings for injury and complications due to inadequate facility design, equipment or staff competencies in their care. Health care practitioners are at risk for injury if there is inadequate appropriate equipment as well as the knowledge on how to use the equipment.

Unmet bariatric care needs results in delays in care and increased length of stay in hospital and contribute to unnecessary health care costs. A group of researchers, practitioners, designers and persons living with obesity have identified key interventions to improve the health care system’s capacity to provide quality care for hospitalized patients who also have bariatric care needs. A national guideline, tested in a moderate size, full-service hospital, has been developed for the purpose of providing staff and administrators with key resources and recommendations to assess and plan safe and sensitive care for patients with bariatric care needs. This workshop will outline key standards and recommendations required to provide quality care for hospitalized patients who have bariatric care needs. The national bariatric care guideline for hospitals will be shared, which includes strategies and tools on how to address issues including: identification of bariatric care needs; weight bias; access to bariatric equipment; safe patient handling; transportation; and communication between services/programs.

Agenda

1. Introduction and orientation of the workshop
2. Background of rationale and development of the national guidelines
3. Detailed review of the national guidelines for quality care of hospitalized patients with bariatric care needs
4. Demonstration of tools and resources associated with the guideline
5. Demonstration of how national guidelines were adapted for use in a moderate size full-service hospital
6. Questions and answers throughout the workshop and opportunities to share their ideas

Participants will be provided with worksheets that they will have opportunities to complete during the workshop for the purpose of generating ideas of how they can utilize the guidelines in the institution where they work.