

Huntington University Doctor of Occupational Therapy Program

Project Description & Sites

- This project was completed throughout Marietta Memorial Health system at the Marietta Memorial, Selby General Hospital, and Frontier locations.
- This project provided an in-depth understanding of the continuum of care for patients and identified how education was being presented to caregivers and patients. A needs assessment was completed looking at re-admittance rates, transition location, and delivery of patient education. Recommendations were presented to the OT staff to enhance communication throughout and strengthen the delivery of education.

Needs Assessment | Literature Review

Research states that low health literacy has been shown to negatively affect health outcomes and medical self-management (Dignan & Hunter, 2015). Low health literacy is not the only aspect of patient education that needs to be considered. Educational materials should also be developed and created at a health literacy level that is average for the population and location the OT is practicing (Griffin, McKenna, & Tooth, 2006). Comprehension of written materials is pertinent in increasing the patient's quality of life after discharged from a facility.

10 weeks of data collection occurred between January 2020-March 2020

- 2 weeks of documentation review of patients between January 2018-September 2019
- 2 weeks of observation at Marietta Memorial acute care
- 2 weeks of observation at Selby Inpatient Rehab
- 2 weeks of observation at Frontier Outpatient Therapy
- 2 weeks spend discussing logistics with staff and compiling all information

Strengths present throughout each location:

- **Acute-** demonstrated strength in consistently mobilizing patients, while providing multiple options to complete selfcare and other functional activities
- **Inpatient Rehab-** strong with the creation of client-specific treatment sessions while also focusing on selfcare enhancements
- **Outpatient-** strong in the presentation of education to the patient and their caregiver while also focusing on the patients' needs each session.

Project Completion and Outcomes

- Outcome Measure 1.** Student will complete a needs assessment with recommendations for potential program design
- Outcome Measure 2.** Student will develop in-depth understanding of OT services through the continuum of care (Acute, IRF, Outpatient)
- Outcome Measure 3.** Student will develop advanced skill in facilitating professional relationships of OT staff and communication expectations of project goals

Achieved by: extensive documentation review, multiple observation hours, interviews with OT staff, updating and creating educational materials, feedback from therapy directors, and recommending new potential program design to enhance continuum of care.

Mission & Vision Statements

Vision Statement: To provide the rehabilitation teams throughout Marietta Memorial with data and artifacts to enhance their continuum of care throughout the Acute, Inpatient Rehab, and Outpatient settings.

Mission Statement: To develop in-depth understanding of OT services throughout the continuum of care in the Acute Care, Inpatient Rehabilitation, and Outpatient setting.

Future Implications for OT

To provide adequate care and enhance the quality of life for all patients, the following information presents as recommendations for future practice.

- Education/HEP materials will be numbered and standardized throughout each location
- Back to basics of completing all steps of an evaluation by utilizing documentation template: cognition, education about OT, proper mechanics
- "Per Clinical Judgement" taken off of documentation to allow for proper explanation of patient status
- Precaution sheets have been updated and printed out to allow for easy grab/use. One that has been simplified and is for patient use in room and one that can be used by OT staff for education or for patients with high cognition.



Deliverables

1. Formal presentation of findings from needs assessment
2. Formal presentation of artifacts about the presentation of education
3. Recommendations from all information collected for potential program design

KEY REFERENCES

Dignan, M., Hunter, E., (2016). Assessing and Adapting Patient Educational Materials: Addressing Low Health Literacy in an Inpatient Rehabilitation Setting. *Am J Occup Ther*;69(Supplement_1):6911515150. <https://doi.org/10.5014/ajot.2015.69S1-RP204A>

Griffin, J., McKenna, K., & Tooth, L. (2006). Discrepancy between older clients' ability to read and comprehend and the reading level of written educational materials used by occupational therapists. *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy: Official Publication of the American Occupational Therapy Association*, 60(1), 70-80.

*Full reference list and image reference list available upon request