Hungry for a Change
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NSG 405: Senior Leadership Change Project, Spring 2020

Assessment
Opportunity:
- Implementation of a 2-item screening tool to identify patients who are at risk of food insecurity (FI) on pilot unit at Blessing Hospital (BH)

Driving Forces:
- No current method to assess patients for FI
- No fee or license required to use The Hunger Vital Sign™
- Nurse Manager of Inpatient Care Coordination (IPCC)
- Associate Nurse Manager of pilot unit

Restraining Forces:
- Altering patient profile in BAR
- COVID-19 pandemic
- Timing of the pilot

Planning
Short Term Goal:
- Implement FI screen usage on pilot unit

Long Term Goals:
- Implement FI screen hospital-wide
- Improve assessments of social determinants of health in acute care setting

Plan of Evaluation:
- Survey to IPCC and pilot unit involved

Strategies to Hardware Change:
- Educate BH staff

Implementation
Strategies for Handling Resistance:
- Explained benefits to IPCC and pilot unit staff
- Explained financial impact of FI

Actual Implementation:
- Completed literature review to support use of FI screen
- Obtained approval of pilot unit management/staff
- Obtained approval of IPCC management/staff
- Collaboration with Application Maintenance Process (AMP) committee required moving forward

Evaluation
Effectiveness of the Change Process:
- Survey patients after FI screen
- Survey IPCC and pilot unit staff

Strategies to Stabilize the Change:
- One group member to take project forward into nurse residency
- Educate BH staff
- Collaborate with AMP committee and BH staff to implement hospital-wide

References

Acknowledgements
Penny Hyer BSN, RN, Nurse Manager, Inpatient Care Coordination; Lea Ann Eigelsbach, Chief Technology Officer; Katherine Berhorst MSN, RN, CNL-C, CPA; Associate Nurse Manager; S. Sara Sullens, MSN, RN, Practice Manager, Nursing Administration