Combine Best Practice Guidelines (BPG) with Documentation Optimization (DocOpt) to Improve Processes

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**Description**

Best Practice Spotlight Organizations are health care organizations committed to implementing and evaluating BPGs developed by the Registered Nurses’ Association of Ontario (RNAO), which enriches professional practice of health-care providers and enables the achievement of consistently positive patient outcomes.

At Humber River Hospital (HRH), clinical care is guided by BPGs and evidence-based practice, which is then documented into electronic medical records (EMRs). A multidisciplinary DocOpt team was formed to improve documentation by integrating BPG recommendations into the EMR. Through DocOpt, nursing admission documentation was standardized to improve efficiencies, promoting the quality, safety, patient-centeredness, and cost effectiveness of care.

**Actions Taken**

BPGs contain risk assessments, which are completed upon admission. To promote standardization and consistency in documentation, the risk assessment from the following BPGs were integrated into the new DocOpt admission screen: Falls Prevention, Pressure Injury (PI), and Pain Management.

Quality indicators were utilized to measure implementation success.

**Summary of Results**

Implementation of BPGs into DocOpt admission screens showed improvements in all three BPG assessment documentation rates:

- 25% improvement seen in PI assessment completion rates
- 57% improvement seen in Pain assessment completion rates
- 2% improvement seen in Falls assessment completion rates

**Lessons Learned**

Aligning BPGs into DocOpt admission screens ensured higher compliance rates in various risk assessments, resulting in improvement in monitoring and patient care.

**Figure 1.** Pressure Injury, Falls, and Pain Risk Assessments on Admission showed an increase rate of risk assessment completed in medical/surgical units after implementation in June 2022.

**Figure 2.** New EMR admission screens that incorporated BPGs risk assessments (right) include the options to view all interventions simultaneously while old Admission Assessment (left) did not allow users to view interventions and did not include PI, Pain & Fall assessments.