Utilizing Meditech Group Notes for Electronic Documentation of Diabetes Education Classes

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Lessons Learned

- Meditech Group Notes is useful for documenting on group services, reducing redundancies while streamlining documentation.
- There is great potential for Meditech Group Notes to expand into other clinical areas. Considerations include adjusting for technological literacy, user preferences, and comfort with digital documentation.

Description

Traditionally, Certified Diabetes Educators (CDEs) at Humber River Hospital (HRH) used paper documentation and entered each patient’s Electronic Medical Record (EMR) to write notes. The Meditech Group Notes functionality allows clinicians to document notes on multiple patients concurrently and save them into EMRs. Co-facilitators are able to jointly document on this note, which contains a shared standard section and a personalized portion. To align with HRH’s efforts towards healthcare digitalization, Meditech Group Notes was introduced in January 2021 for CDEs to document on various outpatient courses. This reduced the environmental footprint and the time spent on documentation.

Actions Taken

- Reviewed the contents, paper materials, and workflows of 8 classes in the Diabetes Education Centre.
- Collaborated with stakeholders to create a Group and Individual Note in Meditech (Figure 1) for each class.
- Trained CDEs on using Meditech Group Notes.
- Surveyed staff to gain understanding of overall satisfaction.

Summary of Results

- On average, staff spent less time on documentation for each group class and per patient (Figure 2).
- 50% of staff reported increased satisfaction in documentation process (Figure 3).
- 100% indicated they would recommend this tool to others (Figure 4).
- Paper documentation reduced by 100%, which improved the environmental footprint.

Figure 1. Example of Meditech Group Notes screen displaying the Group and Individual Note sections.

Figure 2. Average time spent on documentation before and after using Group Notes.

Figure 3. CDE staff satisfaction rating of documentation process for classes before and after using Group Notes.

Figure 4. CDE recommendations scale for using Group Notes to document educational classes.