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Comfort Care in Dementia

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Behavioral disturbances among patients with dementia, including agitation, aggression, and psychosis, form a constellation of symptoms referred to as behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia (BPSD). These impact heavily on resident's quality of life, caregiver stress, and management options for the team. In the United States, the National Partnership to Improve Dementia Care, established a new national goal of reducing the use of antipsychotic medications in long-stay nursing home residents by providing person centered Comprehensive interdisciplinary care. Implement National partnership's goals and CMS regulatory standards to improve Dementia Care. Improve the quality of care of residents with diagnosis of Dementia by providing person centered memory Care programs. Reduce falls and physical altercations by meaningful engagement. Reduce the usage of antipsychotics by implementing non pharmacological behavior management in Dementia related behavior. This study was conducted in four Memory care units with 108 residents at an 815-bed long-term nursing care facility. All residents in Memory Care Units from last quarter of 2014 to 3rd quarter of 2016 were individually assessed for Physical Altercations, Fall, Usage of Music and Memory and Usage of Antipsychotics.

Biography

Deepa Vinoo is the assistant director of Nursing, (Director of Memory Care), NYC Health and Hospitals "As a team leader, I had an opportunity to really change our facility's practice and culture to improve the quality of lives of residents who have dementia ... patient-centered care is the key." As director of the Memory Care Unit at NYC Health + Hospitals/Coler, Deepa Vinoo leads an interdisciplinary team that utilizes innovative techniques to effectively, holistically, and compassionately care for residents diagnosed with dementia. She has been leading award winning project "Reduction of Antipsychotics in Dementia Related Behavior'. Vinoo has spearheaded ongoing training that has updated Coler's caregiving approach to align with Alzheimer's Association best practices and has helped 95 percent of her team to earn National Council of Certified Dementia Care Practitioners certification. "Music & Memory" is a standout program led by Vinoo at Coler; this program uses familiar music to reach behind the veil of dementia in order to draw out persons hidden behind the disability and reengage them with the world. Through this and other advanced treatment programs led by Vinoo, Coler has achieved significant reduction in antipsychotic medication administered to residents diagnosed with dementia, increased engagement and satisfaction among residents' families, and fostered better interaction between residents and staff - a relationship vital to improving successful long-term care. With more than 20 years of experience as a nursing instructor administrator and clinician, Vinoo holds an MSN degree in Psychiatric Nursing. Ms. Vinoo is a board certified gerontological Nurse and a Certified Dementia Care Practitioner.

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