



Executive Summary

Project Proposal Team

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Problem

Duke Health hospitals are often at capacity and there are often patients who receive care in this high-cost setting who could potentially be treated at home.

When DRAH hospital is at maximum capacity, patients are boarded in the emergency room for a prolonged period of time until a bed becomes available. This is not optimal patient care. When DRAH is at inpatient capacity, patients normally accepted as direct admissions are diverted to hospitals with available inpatient beds.

Solution

We will provide Acute Hospital Care at Home (HaH) care, an innovative delivery model treating patients for hospital conditions in the comfort of their own home.

First, we will identify 10 patients who are eligible for the HaH program based on initial admission diagnosis and developed criteria. We will utilize previously developed risk/mortality screening tools from DIHI projects to identify eligible patients for this program at low-risk for deterioration. Then, the patients will be transitioned from the hospital back to their homes where we will establish a telemedicine and remote monitoring infrastructure. Finally, our health care team will visit patients in their home to provide treatment that they would normally receive in an inpatient setting.

General Criteria: Medicare patients arriving in the ED who live within 5 miles of Duke Raleigh; admissions for asthma, pneumonia, COPD, CHF, UTI, or cellulitis. Patients have otherwise stable medical conditions, live in safe homes, and are candidates for inpatient admission to Hospital or Internal Medicine.

Goals

- 1. Prove that we are able to safely provide acute care in the home.**
- 2. Increase efficient bed management at Duke Health inpatient facilities.**
- 3. Provide acute care in a more cost-effective manner.**

This project is aligned with the values of DIHI because it is a novel method of care delivery that will serve the citizens of Wake County by providing them health care in the comfort of their homes and delivering safe outcomes with improved overall satisfaction. This would improve the overall access to healthcare for the patients of Wake County and would be among the first programs of its kind in North Carolina.
