

Building a Bridge to Better Health Coalition

Survey Results Summary

What do you think are the top barriers to continued good health?

Medication side effects / errors

Lack of support system

- No help at home
- Lives alone
- No family
- To coordinate follow up appointments with physicians & transportation
- Depression / isolation

Lack of education

- Knowledge about illnesses / condition
- Understanding of what is needed to treat/maintain an illness
- How to self-care

Access to Care

- Universal access
- Emphasis on prevention and coordinated care
- Affordability for low, low-middle income and uninsured
- Availability of resources

Community Services

- Nutrition for older adults – other than home delivered and congregate
- Affordable, dependable, palatable transportation
- Safety in the home and community for older adults
- Meaningful activity, including volunteering

What elements are important in a successful transition of care?

Communication

- At transition, if facility to facility
- Between discharge planners at facilities
- Between discharge planner and family

Education

- How to manage illness
- Good teaching and bridge to resources
- Sources of information for family caregivers in addition to physician office nurse (such as ask-a-nurse)

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What elements are important in a successful transition of care? (Continued)

Support System

- Family involvement
- Good understanding of person's living situation and social supports

Follow up

- Plan of care
- Make sure discharge plans are in place and being followed
- To ascertain success of plan for discharge or discover problems
- At home follow up / home visits
- Warm calls to patient
- Rehab as needed
- Physician visit for discharge to home

List at least 1 area the coalition can focus efforts on to improve healthcare in East TN.

- Client Contact
- Integrate better care at home site
- Better case management of chronic illness to avoid hospitalization
- Communication between settings and patients
- Improve discharge planning
- Improve access to medical appointments
- Medication management counseling for patients
- Better eConnectivity
- Involving community resources to support patients at home
- SNF/ICF facility specializing in later stage frontal lobe behaviors for Alzheimer's disease
 - Waivers from the state on certain rules
 - Utilization of hospice for these patients as the frontal lobe behaviors typically are the herald for the end