

Project Overview
Get With the Guidelines: Heart Failure
Michigan Department of Community Health, Heart and Stroke Prevention Unit,
Cardiovascular Health, Nutrition and Physical Activity Section
October 17, 2006

Congestive Heart Failure has been reported as the largest contributor to preventable hospital admissions. It is a disease that requires long-term, usually complex management more often in an elderly population with co-morbid conditions. The incidence of heart failure has increased and early diagnosis of heart failure is essential to prevent further deterioration. Appropriate treatment and management can lead to a higher quality of life, reduce unnecessary hospitalizations, reduce co-morbid complications and reduce deaths.

The American Heart Association recently launched a newly developed quality improvement program targeting heart failure and the Michigan Department of Community Health is providing some start-up funding to approximately 10 Michigan hospitals to implement this program. The AHA *Get With the Guidelines (GWTG) Patient Management Tool: Heart Failure*, is a ready-to-implement program that is designed to quickly and positively impact hospital patient care through consistent application of the most up-to-date scientific, evidence-based guidelines. It has an easy-to-use, online management system that fulfills hospital requirements for JCAHO and CMS reporting. Key features of the GWTG program is that it has real-time hospital-specific and aggregate benchmarking reports, compares current guidelines to patient care, generates automated patient notes and generic letters to referring physicians, downloadable data on-demand and the ability to transmit data to selected third parties. To learn more about the program go to www.americanheart.org/getwiththeguidelines.

Funding will be provided to support purchase of the program and onsite implementation. One-time funding of \$2,500 will be provided. Consultation and assistance will be available through the American Heart Association Greater Midwest Affiliate. Learning sessions will be offered for orientation and guidance in the project.

Project responsibilities include that each funded organization will:

- Purchase the AHA GWTG CHF Tool
- Attend 1-2 learning sessions
- Convene a team for the project
- Report data as described in the Patient Management Tool as well as some follow-up information.
- Report project results to MDCH : Quarterly reports and final report.

To request consideration for project funding, complete the attached application and return it to the address indicated by November 15, 2006. If you have any questions regarding the project please contact Velma Theisen at theisenv@michigan.gov.

Get with the Guidelines-Heart Failure
Application for Funding

Hospital Name: _____

Hospital Contact Person: _____

Grant Contact Person: _____

Contact Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Fax: _____

Are you a teaching hospital? yes no Hospital bed size: _____

Hospital Physician Champion: _____

Physician Champion e-mail address: _____

Person who will be responsible for data abstraction: _____

Contact Information for team members (i.e. Physician Champion, data abstractor, discharge planner, staff)

| Name | Title/Department | E-mail address/phone |
|------|------------------|----------------------|
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Please the following inventory:

Does the hospital have written protocols for CHF?

Yes No Unknown

Does the hospital have written order sets for CHF?

Yes No Unknown

Are heart failure discharge instructions provided for all eligible patients?

Yes No Unknown

Do these orders include all of the following: discharge meds, activity level, dietary restrictions, signs and symptoms of worsening heart failure?

Yes No Unknown

Is LV function measured in all admitted CHF patients?

Yes No Unknown

Does the hospital have the capability of measuring left ventricular ejection fraction by AHA, ACC standards? I.e. radionuclide ventriculography, MRI, Echocardiography (2-dimensional or 3-dimensional) Contrast left ventriculography, technetium myocardial perfusion imaging?

Yes No Unknown

Is an ace inhibitor and/or ARB prescribed at discharge for all eligible patients with LVEF < or = 0.40, in absence of documented contraindications or intolerance.

Yes No Unknown

Are beta blockers prescribed at discharge for all eligible patients with LVEF < or = 0.40 in absence of documented contraindications or intolerance.

Yes No Unknown

Is smoking cessation counseling provided to all eligible patients (current or recent smokers)?

Yes No Unknown

Is the smoking cessation counseling documented in the chart and on the discharge instruction sheet?

Yes No Unknown

Does the staff have access to educational materials related to smoking cessation for both staff development and patient education?

Yes No Unknown

Does the hospital have a formalized smoking cessation program or a liaison you refer to regularly?

Yes No Unknown

Does the hospital have the commitment and support of the medical staff, nursing staff, medical records, pharmacy, diagnostic testing, all involved departments and personnel for this project?

Yes No Unknown

Does the hospital have the capability to track readmissions of GWTG congestive heart failure patients over a 12 month period?

Yes No Unknown

Can you enter data for 20-30 CHF patients within 1-2 months of the project starting?

Yes No Unknown

Please give the number of CHF patient admissions in 2005 _____

If your institution were selected for this project what do you hope to accomplish with this GWTG-CHF quality improvement program?

CEO signature

Date

Physician Champion

Date

GWTG Hospital Coordinator

Date

Please submit this application no later than November 15, 2006.

Send fax to:

**Michigan Department of Community Health
Cardiovascular Health, Nutrition and Physical Activity Section**

Attn: Jill Scott-Gregus

Scottj1@michigan.gov

Fax: (517) 335-8593

Phone: (517) 335-9596