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Conference Abstract

Does the use of the interRAI Palliative Care instrument improve the quality of palliative care in nursing homes?

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Abstract

Background/objectives: The interRAI integrated Suite of Instruments is a set of comprehensive geriatric assessments (CGAs) to support assessment and care planning in mental health, disability services and aged care. The interRAI Palliative Care instrument (interRAI PC) was developed as part of the interRAI Suite of instruments. InterRAI PC is a CGA which evaluates the diverse needs and preferences of adults requiring palliative care in all healthcare settings. Given that nursing homes are playing an increasing role in caring for older adults with palliative care needs, the aim of this study is to determine whether the use of the interRAI PC instrument improves the quality of palliative care in nursing homes.

Study population: Nursing home residents with palliative care needs.

Study design and methods: A case-matched control study for complex interventions will be conducted. Variables will be used for matching ten experimental nursing homes to ten control nursing homes. Unlike the control nursing homes, the experimental nursing homes will fill out interRAI PC during one year for all residents receiving palliative care. To assess the quality of palliative care in the experimental and the control nursing homes, both groups will fill out the Palliative care Outcome Scale (POS) before and after the intervention period for all nursing home residents with palliative care needs. The quality of palliative care will be compared before and after the intervention and between the experimental and the control groups.

Results: The pretest POS-results on the quality of palliative care in ten experimental and ten control nursing homes, will be available for presentation from December 2013.

Conclusions: Based on the results of this study, we will be able to determine whether the use of the interRAI Palliative Care instrument improves the quality of palliative care in nursing homes.

Keywords

comprehensive geriatric assessments, palliative care, nursing homes, quality

Powerpoint presentation:

<http://www.integratedcarefoundation.org/content/special-session-quality-improvement-integrated-care>
