

IMPACT OF MEDICATION RECONCILIATION IN COMPLEX CHRONIC PATIENTS

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Background and importance

Medication reconciliation improves continuity of patient care by reducing prescribing errors.

Aim and objectives

The aim of this study is to investigate the impact of medication reconciliation on complex chronic patients (CCPs) during their hospital stay.

Material and methods

A retrospective study was conducted in a tertiary hospital. CCPs admitted in General and Gastrointestinal surgery, Angiology and Vascular surgery, Urology, Nephrology and Rheumatology were included between December 2017 and February 2018 (control group, before the reconciliation implementation), and the same months of 2018-2019 (intervention group, after implementing medication reconciliation). Patients received medication reconciliation during their admission, discharge and once in primary care. Data was obtained through electronic health records and was analyzed with STATA®14.

Results

No significant differences in age or gender were found among both groups (75.3 years old $p=0.975$; 32.7% women; $p=0.217$).

Group	Intervention Group	Control Group
Patients	116	199
Hospitalization stay	9.3 days (CI: 95% 7.6 - 11.0)	8.9 days (CI: 95% 6.9 - 10.9)
	(p=0.789)	
Readmission within 30 days post-discharge	28.4%	32.2%
	OR=0.8; CI95% 0.5-1.4	
Time until readmission	12.8 days (CI: 95% 10.0 - 15.6)	11.5 days (CI: 95% 9.9 - 13.1)
	(p=0.395)	
Emergency visits	0.27 visits	0.33 visits
	OR=0.7; CI95% 0.4 - 1.2	

OR: odds ratio CI: confidence interval

Conclusion and relevance

This study shows that medication reconciliation has the potential to decrease the number of readmissions within 30 days post-discharge, days until the next admission and emergency visits. Overall, the results of this study show the positive impact that medication reconciliation has on complex chronic patients.

