

Improving the Transition of Care for Patients with Hepatic Encephalopathy

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Today the delivery of healthcare interventions may become fragmented without a consistent focus on fostering an efficient transition of patient care as the patient experiences his or her unique patient journey. Patients may be challenged by an inability to comprehensively understand their diagnosis, implement all aspects of the continuing care plan or, even, realize which provider will guide their care as they transition through the healthcare continuum. One group that may experience many of these challenges are those who have been diagnosed with hepatic encephalopathy (HE).

This presentation will focus not only on the challenges faced by patients diagnosed with HE but also on the steps the care coordination team might employ to effectively manage this complex brain dysfunction and support the patient throughout their healthcare journey.

Objectives:

- Explain the impact of a diagnosis of hepatic encephalopathy (HE) including the high risk of recurrence, and the cognitive damage it may cause.
- Discuss the economic impact of patients presenting with HE on the healthcare system.
- Consider the major issues and barriers associated with the discharge process that may result in patient readmission.
- Review established Standards for Transitions of Care and specific steps for implementing those Standards in patients diagnosed with hepatic encephalopathy