

Social Needs and Resources in the Evaluation and Enhancement of Discharge Support: The NEEDS Pilot Study

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Background

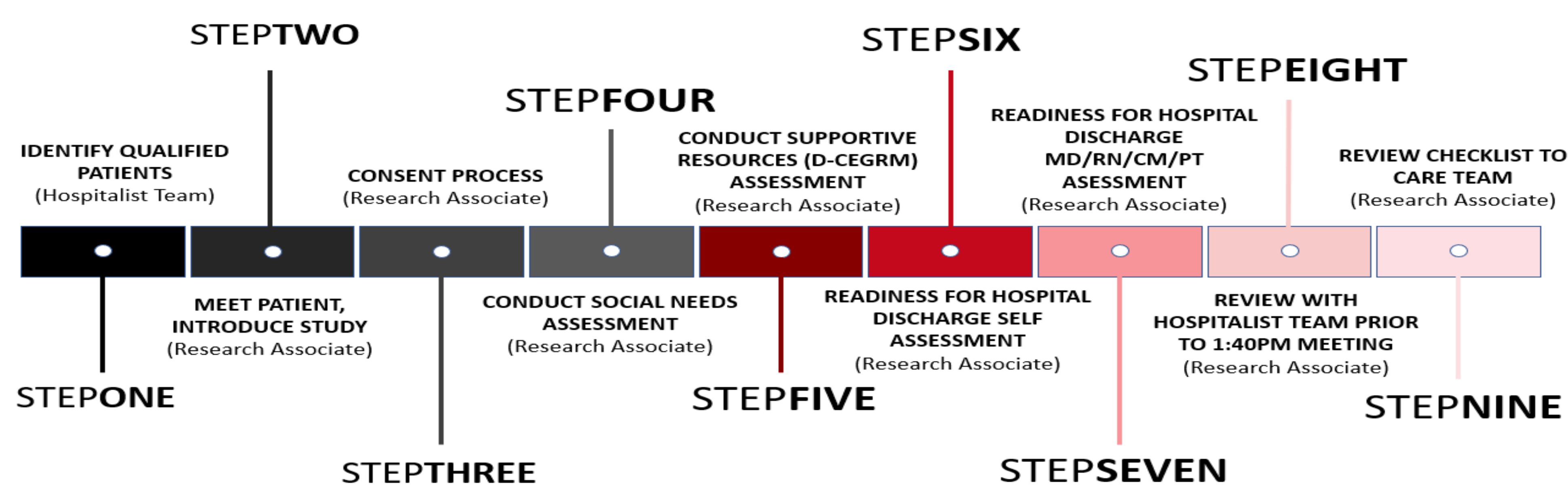
- Preventing hospital readmissions could save \$17 billion annually
- Social needs and supportive resources (SocNSuppR) play a vital role in health outcomes, but are not systematically or universally assessed
- Identifying SocNSuppR prior to discharge can allow clinical teams to address needs affecting preparation for hospital discharge

Specific Aims:

- The aim of our pilot study is to map and test a process for systematically identifying and communicating SocNSuppR to discharge planning teams.
- The aim of this report is to describe SocNSuppR communication protocol and utility of SocNSuppR assessment reported from our discharge team.

Intervention

Figure 1. SocNSuppR 9-Step Protocol



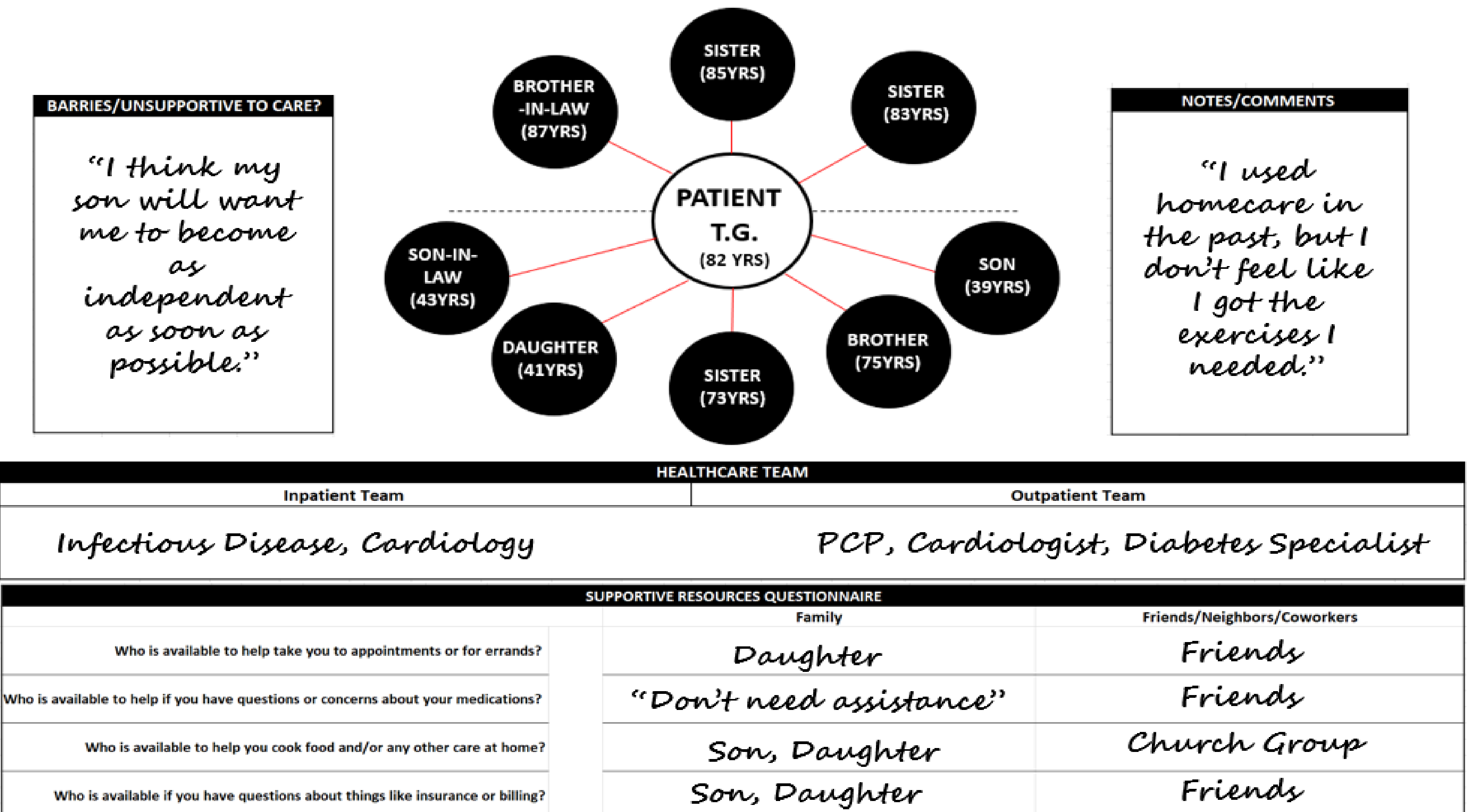
Study of Intervention

Table 1. Pilot Study Participants

Criteria	Description
Discharge Team Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitalists Case managers Nurses Therapists* Social workers* <p>*Who participated in general medicine discharge planning rounds</p>
Patient Participants	<p>Patients admitted to a general medicine team from May 2018 to June 2018 who were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 18-90 English-speaking Planned discharge back to community-based settings (vs supervised health settings) In charge of their own self-care

- Enrolled patients completed a 10-item Social Needs Survey, Interactive Support Resources Assessment (Adapted Colored Eco-Genetic Relationship Map, D-CEGRM), and 8-item Patient Readiness for Hospital Discharge Scale
- Discharge team members completed Provider-Readiness for Hospital Discharge Scale
- Assessment tools disseminated among healthcare teams by research assistant
- Discharge teams were asked if information collected was new and/or contributed to decision-making during discharge planning

Figure 2. D-CEGRM Supportive Resource Assessment



Results

- Four assessments completed
- Each uncovered information unknown to all members of the discharge team
- Physical and occupational therapy functional assessments were identified as complementary to the SocNSuppR assessment, and as a potential vehicle for integrating SocNSuppR into discharge plans
- Research assistant had to be familiar with work environment and the multidisciplinary team in order to disseminate assessment tools
- Discharge plans are initiated early in admissions process, suggesting that timeliness of SocNSuppR information will be key for multidisciplinary teams

Discussion

- Data from this pilot support the utility of SocNSuppR in discharge planning: All information collected was identified as new to all disciplines participating in discharge planning
- Preliminary data suggest SocNSuppR assessment may be a patient-centered care model with potential for improving interdisciplinary communication
- Incorporation of SocNSuppR assessment and discharge readiness measures into electronic health record will be integral to implementation of future interventions
- Future research will seek to understand how knowledge of SocNSuppR impacts decision-making around discharge, discharge processes, patient outcomes and, ultimately, hospital readmission

Acknowledgments

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