

HOME HEALTH CARE DIABETIC FOOT EDUCATION, EXAMINATION AND TREATMENT (FEET) PROJECT



PROBLEM :Home Health Care has more than 900 patients on the case load, 60% of them have diabetes. We found that only 47% of these diabetic patients was educated on foot care and no system was in place for foot screening and this was important in order to identify and manage the risks

AIM: To increase the percentage of diabetic patients educated on foot care from 47% to 75% from 1st quarter of 2012 to 4th quarter of 2013 and to initiate a system for foot screening for early identification and management of risk from 1st to 4th quarter of 2013

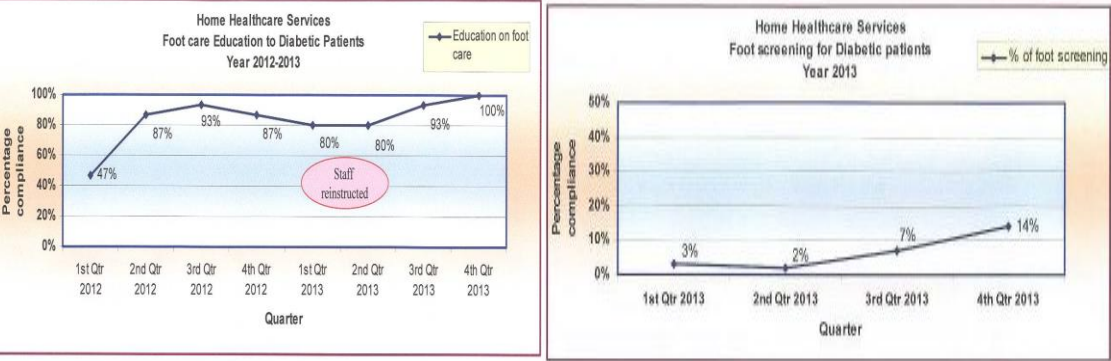
Intervention:

- *Trained nursing staff on importance of basic foot care education by utilizing PDSA cycles
- *Developed a pocket guide for the staff including 5 educational points : Foot examination, Foot hygiene, Good glycemic control, Appropriate foot wear and Avoid smoking
- *Provided educational pamphlets
- *Developed and implemented teach back tool
- *Developed and implemented diabetic foot care pathway which is approved and posted on the intranet
- *Competency assessment of nursing staff on diabetic foot examination in coordination with HMC podiatry clinic
- *Conducted inter-rater reliability test
- *Established diabetic foot risk register electronically
- *Referred patients to appropriate disciplines



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RESULTS



CONCLUSIONS:

Currently there are limited screening facilities for community patients with diabetes who have mobility problems. Most of the screening are been conducted in a hospital setting which require patients to travel. This project begins to address some of these issues for people at home with limited mobility

NEXT STEPS:

- * To sustain the improvement in foot care education and to continue to use the teach back tool for foot care education
- * To perform foot screening to all diabetic patients on HHCS caseload